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CONNECTICUT'S

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

A FIVE YEAR LOOK

AT TRENDS AND ISSUES

1984-1988





STATE OF CONNECTICUT
WILLIAM A O'NEILL GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

APRIL 1990

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT MANAGEMENT AND JUSTICE PLANNING DIVISION

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CONNECTICUT'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM:

A FIVE YEAR LOOK AT TRENDS AND ISSUES

1984-1988

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

ANTHONY A. MILANO, SECRETARY WILLIAM H. CARBONE, UNDER SECRETARY

APRIL, 1990

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT MANAGEMENT AND JUSTICE PLANNING DIVISION

TO: Honorable William A. O'Neill, Governor,

Members of the General Assembly, and

Interested Persons

FROM: William H. Carbone, Under Secretary

Management and Justice Planning Division

Office of Policy and Management

DATE: March 19, 1990

SUBJECT: Summary of the findings and policy implications of the report,

Connecticut's Criminal Justice System: A Five Year Look at Trends and

Issues 1984-1988

Respectfully submitted with this memo is the report, Connecticut's Criminal Justice System: A Five Year Look at Trends and Issues 1984 - 1988. The report is intended to provide the executive and legislative branches of government with information that will assist you in your continuing efforts to support and develop long and short range plans for ensuring the public's safety.

For the period 1984 - 1988, the report addresses: crime trends, law enforcement, judicial processing, corrections, and juvenile justice. The report provides a data-based analysis of these key areas and identifies notable trends. These trends, and their policy implications, are summarized below.

CRIME TRENDS IN CONNECTICUT

Although not all crimes are reported to, or come to, the attention of the police. the record of criminal activities which are reported by the local police agencies through the Uniform Crime Reporting system has become the most complete and reliable source of crime statistics available. The Crime Analysis Unit of the State Police compile the reported information and are the principle source for the crime data presented in the report.

Over the past five years, reported crime in Connecticut has been increasing. The report illustrates the type and location of this growth in crime rates, and makes particular note of the following trends:

Crime in the state's three largest cities, particularly violent crime, is growing at an alarming rate. In 1988, the crime rate in Hartford, Bridgeport, and New Haven was three times the rate of the rest of the state:

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- o Significant increases occurred in murder, aggravated assault, and motor vehicle theft, with the greatest increases occurring in 1987 and 1988;
- o Property loss due to crime made particularly big jumps in 1987 and 1988;
- o Guns were increasingly being used for assaults, with major increases being seen in 1987 and 1988.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

In 1988, there were 100 law enforcement agencies operating within Connecticut's borders. As a group, these agencies' sworn officer strength gained by 7% during the five year period. The report identifies several significant trends in law enforcement. They are:

- o The number of persons arrested has grown even faster than reported crime, growing by 46% for all offenses in five years;
- o The report notes that about one in five reported crimes is cleared.
- o The biggest growth in arrests has been for drug offenses (89%), motor vehicle theft (83%), aggravated assault (77%), and murder (40%);
- o The biggest growth in the number of persons arrested occurred in 1987 and 1988, e.g., drug arrests rose 34% between 1987 and 1988.

JUDICIAL PROCESSING

As a result of the increasing number of crimes being reported, and the rapidly increasing arrest rates, the judicial processing system has been affected by significant increases in caseloads. The increases in caseloads for prosecutors, public defenders, judges, probation officers, and other court personnel have placed extraordinary burdens on the the judicial processing system. The report notes that:

- Serious felony cases added to Superior Court increased by 46 percent from FY 83/84 to FY 87/88. The number of serious felony cases disposed increased by 11%.
- o Less serious cases added (handled by the geographic area courts) increased by 33%. The number disposed increased 26%.
- o The caseload of the Office of the Chief Public Defender increased by over 80%.
- o The Bail Commissions's Supervised Pretrial Release Program grew by 159%.

o While average caseloads for probation officers have remained at over 150 per officer, the trend of note during this period was an increase in the ratio of active to inactive cases. This ratio has changed from a 54% active caseload in 1986, to 67% active caseload in 1989. This is a particularly significant increase as probation officers spend little time on inactive cases. From 1983/84 to 1987/88, probation failures rose from 14% to 20%.

CORRECTIONS

Connecticut is unusual in that it is one of only six states that has a unified corrections system. All correctional facilities and many related community programs throughout the state are administered by the Department of Correction. Increases in crime, arrest, and conviction rates have had an extraordinary impact on the correction system. The report documents this impact and highlights the following developments:

- o The total population under the supervision of the Department of Correction has grown by 88% since 1985.
- o Since 1985, the confined inmate population grew by 50%, a growth made possible by the addition of over 3500 prison and jail beds.
- o Among the confined population, the fastest growing offense category was for drug offenses; between 1985 and 1989, this offender group went from 11% to 27% of the total population.
- o The report notes that of the population under Department of Correction supervision: 93% are male; 60% are between the ages of sixteen and twenty-nine; 48% are black, 23% Hispanic, and 29% white; and 50% come from the three largest cities (Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport).
- o The average sentence length for the most frequent offenses grew by 28%.
- o These increases required the use of the Supervised Home Release Program as a means to cope with institutional overcrowding and avoid an emergency release. As a result, since 1985 the Supervised Home Release Program grew by 585%, with most of the growth in 1988 and 1989.
- A total of 6,000 new beds are under construction or planned for completion by 1992. However, even with these new beds, an 8,000 bed shortfall is predicted for 1992. Note that, the Prison and Jail Overcrowding Commission, in their 1990 report, made recommendations which, on implementation, will close this gap.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

The report observes the fact that the total number of juveniles 10-15 in Connecticut, and the total number of juveniles arrested, has been declining since 1984. However, the report also focuses on several alarming trends in the juvenile justice area. They are:

- o The number of juveniles arrested for violent offenses has been increasing since 1984.
- o Arrests for aggravated assault and motor vehicle theft have climbed dramatically; arrests for rape, murder, arson, driving under the influence, weapons violations, and drug violations have also increased.

These trends are particularly disturbing in light of the fact that juvenile crime is more prevalent in Connecticut's three largest cities. The report points out that:

- o Although only 14% of the state's youth population aged 10-15 reside in Connecticut's three largest cities, one out of every four juvenile arrests occurs in these cities.
- o More than half of all juveniles arrested for violent offenses (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault) were arrested in one of the three largest cities.
- o The crime prone population aged 10-15 in the three largest cities is expected to grow by 40% between 1990 and 2000, while in the remainder of the state this population is expected to grow only 26%.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There is no indication that the trends described in this report are abating. During the eighties, Connecticut's government has responded to increases in crime, particularly drug related crime, by proportionally expanding criminal justice system resources. This commitment has been expensive (during the period 1981 - 1990 there was a 269% increase in spending for the criminal justice system; see Figure i, page vii of the report), and often stressful for the system. The commitment has, however, prepared the state to move forward with a balanced set of initiatives that will not allow criminal activity to go unpunished, and that will take on the root causes of drug abuse. The report provides a planning focus for use in developing the short, intermediate, and long range initiatives that will begin to reverse the trends of the eighties.

SHORT RANGE

The criminal justice system must continue to receive the necessary resources to arrest, prosecute and incarcerate criminals who threaten the safety of our citizens. The integrity of the criminal justice system must be maintained. Its deterrent value and its punishment function cannot be compromised. The report's portrayal of increasing criminal activity, particularly drug related crime, emphasizes the importance of the State continuing to invest in the criminal justice system. This will mean more judges, prosecutors, public defenders, probation officers, correction guards, and other staff and facilities necessary to move the burgeoning caseloads.

The State must ensure that the current 6,000 bed prison expansion program proceeds without delay; and must support additional bed expansion as needed. The additional prison space is necessary to deal with current and projected overcrowding, reduce institutional capacity to manageable levels, and help insure meaningful sanctions against criminal offenders.

Alternatives to incarceration such as supervised home release, halfway houses, alternative incarceration centers, and various pretrial initiatives are critical components of the state's effort to manage the prison overcrowding problem. They must continue to receive adequate staff and support services to assure that released offenders are supervised and held accountable for their behavior. These programs, although not perfect, have a high success rate of over 80%. Were they to be abolished today, it would take 9 or 10 new correctional centers to house this group.

Courts must have at their disposal a range of punishments that provide fair and just sanctions to make punishment fit the crime. A complete range of options beginning with fines, community service, restitution and probation, and finally prison, our most severe and limited punishment option, must be available to the state's law enforcement authorities. It is only through such measures that the guilty can be punished in a way which deters future criminal activity, and thereby protects the public in the most cost effective manner possible. P.A. 89-383, An Act Concerning Sentencing and P.A. 89-390, An Act Concerning Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse are both excellent vehicles for assuring diversion of appropriate offenders. Every effort should be made to insure that these vehicles are fully utilized.

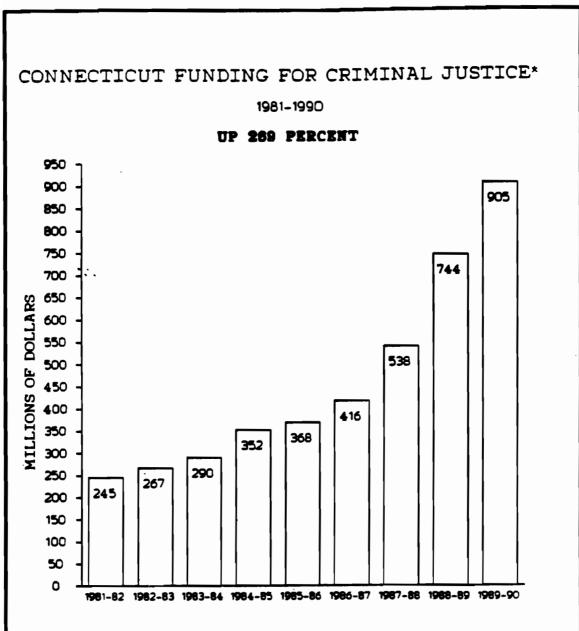
INTERMEDIATE

The State must expand treatment services for drug and alcohol offenders. Clearly, a majority of crime is directly linked to substance abuse. Without treatment, many substance abusers prey upon innocent people in an effort to support their habits. By expanding treatment services, the State will reduce the present crime and drug problem and also invest in the future solution. Drug treatment is both a humane and cost effective approach to solving the drug problem and is essential to our efforts to break the drug/crime cycle.

LONG RANGE

Drug education is the long range answer to beating the substance abuse problem. It must be a part of the curriculum in every grade and in every school in the state. It must be integrated into every workplace and community organization. A major coordinated drug education initiative aimed at cutting demand can be the state's best weapon against supply. Special prevention efforts will be required for high risk populations, including the children and siblings of drug abusers and those who live in high crime areas.

A new government/business corporation called the Governor's Partnership To Prevent Substance Abuse or "Drugs Don't Work", will distribute more than \$3 million to schools, universities and workplaces to foster drug prevention programs. Reaching Connecticut citizens in their workplaces should not only affect adults who are abusers or potential abusers, but also as parents. Drug education will affect demand and demand will affect supply -- and the combination of these two factors should positively influence the projected deficiency in prison beds, and the operating efficiency of the criminal justice system.



Source: State Budget for Fiscal Years 1981-82 through 1989-90 *Includes Appropriations and Bond Authorizations

Figure i

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INTRODUCTION

This report deals with the trends in crime and law enforcement in Connecticut during the five year period between 1984 and 1988. The effects of the changing crime rate and nature of criminal activities and number of persons arrested upon the judicial and correctional systems is also explored, as well as the implications of these findings for the entire criminal justice community. The areas of reported crime, enforcement, prosecution, adjudication and disposition are explored in a thorough and rational manner.

Chapter one covers the changing nature of crime in Connecticut during the last five years. The crime rate in Connecticut is compared to the nation as a whole and with New England. The crime rate for Connecticut's three largest towns is compared to the crime rate for the remainder of the state. Law enforcement, particularly as it pertains to clearance of crimes by arrest, is the subject of chapter two. The number of persons arrested for various crimes will be illustrated. The number of juvenile arrests versus adult arrests will also be covered. Chapter three will cover the judicial system, including prosecutors, public defenders, courts, the bail commission and adult probation. Chapter four explores the expansion of the correctional system in the last five years. Chapter five covers the juvenile justice system and includes both arrest data and juvenile court referral information.

CHAPTER ONE: CRIME TRENDS IN CONNECTICUT

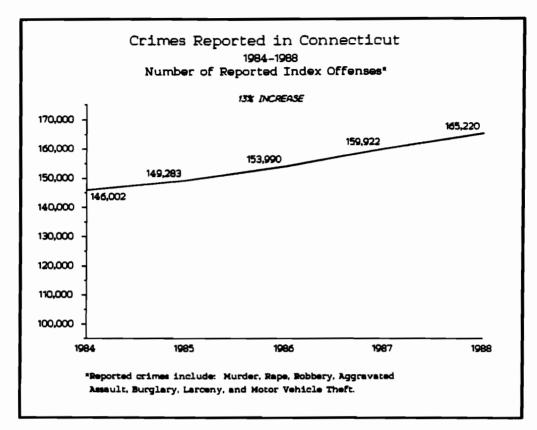


Fig. 1.1

CRIME TRENDS IN CONNECTICUT

Although not all crimes are reported to or come to the attention of the police, the record of criminal activities which are reported by the local police agencies through the Uniform Crime Reporting system has become the most complete and reliable source of crime statistics available. Local police departments report crimes, arrests, and related activities to the Crimes Analysis Unit of the Connecticut State Police, who publish the data annually and forward it to the FBI, who compile crime data on a national level.

There are eight index offenses in the uniform crime report program: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft.

The sources of data for this section will be <u>Crime in Connecticut</u>, <u>Annual Reports</u> for 1984-1988, <u>Crime in the U.S.</u>, <u>Uniform Crime Reports</u>, 1984-1988, and unpublished data from the Crimes Analysis Unit of the Connecticut State Police.

This section of the report will show the crime trends and the nature of this criminal activity in Connecticut for the five year period from 1984-1988. Data relating more specifically to police activity, such as crimes cleared and persons arrested, will be included in the section on law enforcement.

THE NUMBER OF REPORTED INDEX OFFENSES HAS RISEN 13% BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988. (See Figure 1.1).

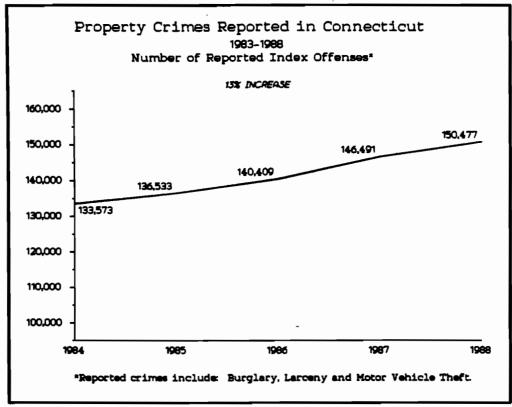


Fig. 1.2

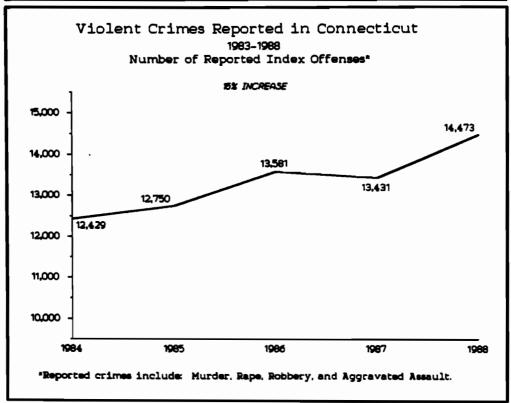


Fig. 1.3

The number of REPORTED PROPERTY CRIMES HAS INCREASED BY 13% SINCE 1984. However, the number of REPORTED VIOLENT OFFENSES HAS RISEN BY 16%. (See Figures 1.2, 1.3).

HOW DOES CRIME IN CONNECTICUT COMPARE TO CRIME IN THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE, AND TO THE NEW ENGLAND REGION? Figure 1.4 shows crimes reported per 100,000 population for the seven index offenses for the United States, New England, and Connecticut. The crime rate has been rising in all three, and all have followed the same trend. However, THE UNITED STATES HAS THE HIGHEST RATE, NEW ENGLAND THE LOWEST, WITH CONNECTICUT IN THE MIDDLE. THE RATES OF GROWTH FOR THE FIVE YEARS HAVE BEEN 13%, 10%, AND 8% FOR THE UNITED STATES, CONNECTICUT, AND NEW ENGLAND, respectively.

Figure 1.5 (next page) shows the property crime rates for the United States, New England, and Connecticut. For 1986, the property crime rate in Connecticut approached that in the United States, but for the remaining years, Connecticut's rate was well below the national crime rate. The New England property crime rate is below that of the United States and Connecticut for all five years.

Figure 1.6 indicates the crime rate for violent crimes in the United States, New England and Connecticut. Both Connecticut and New England have violent crime rates which are nearly identical for the the five years and significantly below the violent crime rate in the United States as a whole.

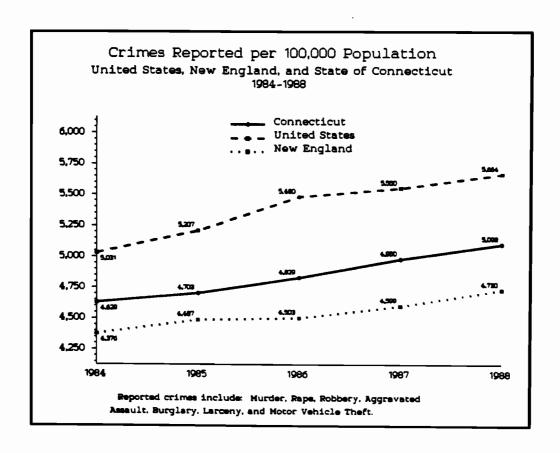


Figure 1.4

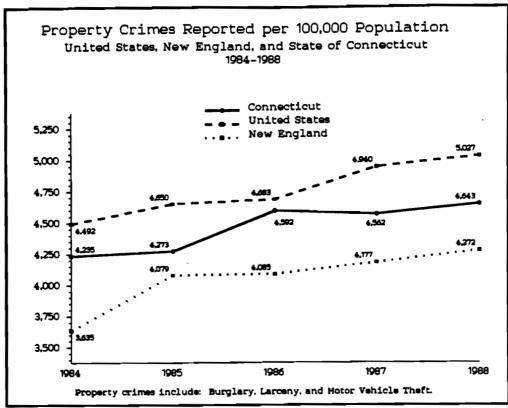
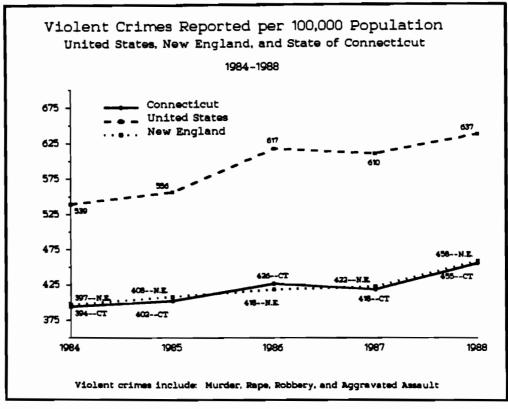


Fig. 1.5



The property crime rate in Connecticut is about halfway between the rate for the United States and New England. THE VIOLENT CRIME RATE FOR BOTH CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND IS ABOUT TWO THIRDS AS HIGH AS THE VIOLENT CRIME RATE IN THE UNITED STATES AS A WHOLE.

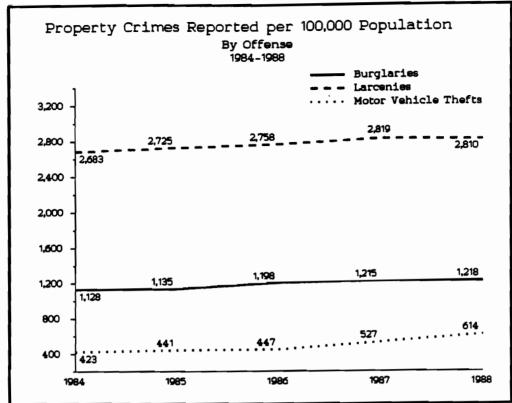
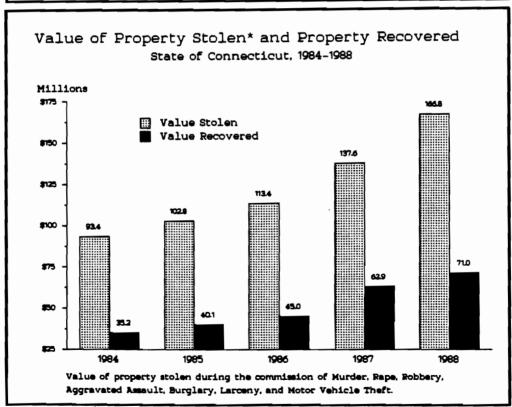


Fig. 1.7



As Fig. 1.7 indicates, THE MOST FREQUENTLY OCCURRING PROPERTY OFFENSE IS LARCENY. Figure 1.8 indicates that THE VALUE OF PROPERTY TAKEN DURING THE COMMISSION OF A CRIME HAS BEEN INCREASING.

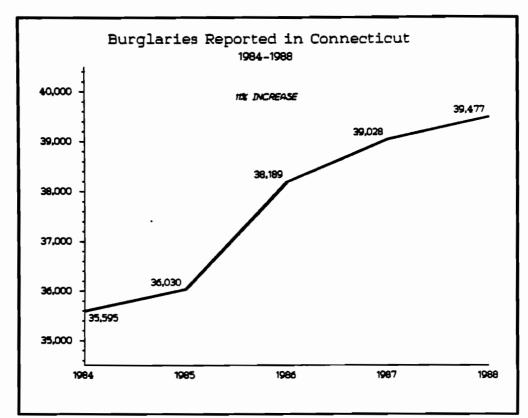
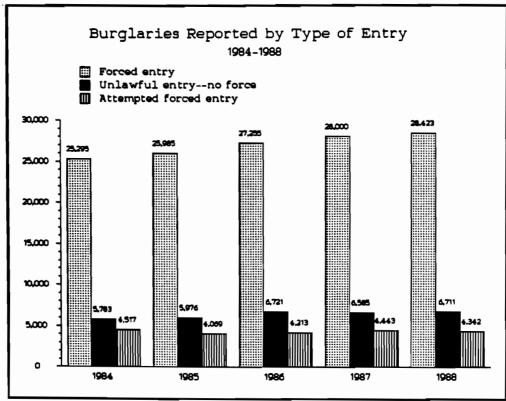


Fig. 1.9



THE NUMBER OF REPORTED BURGLARIES HAS INCREASED 11% during the five years, with most of the increase since 1986. NEARLY THREE FOURTHS OF ALL BURGLARIES OCCUR THROUGH FORCED ENTRY.

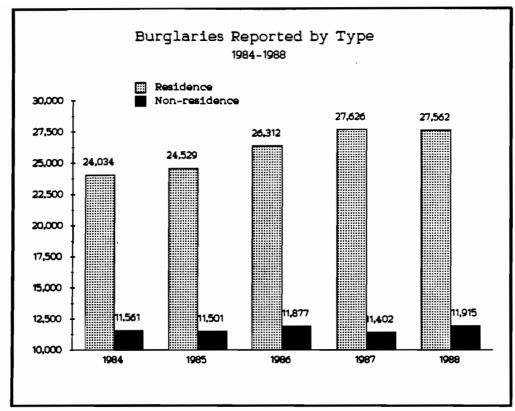


Fig. 1.11

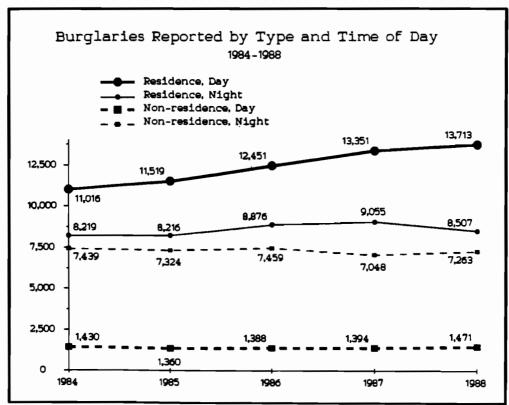


Fig. 1.12

Most of the increase in the number of reported burglaries has been burglaries of residences. (See Fig. 1.11) RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES BY DAY HAVE BEEN THE FASTEST RISING TYPE OF BURGLARY, as indicated in Fig. 1.12.

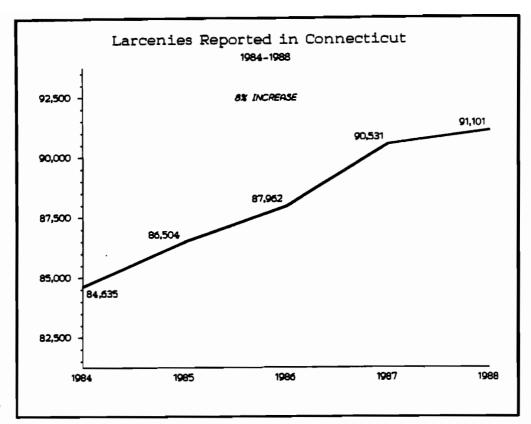
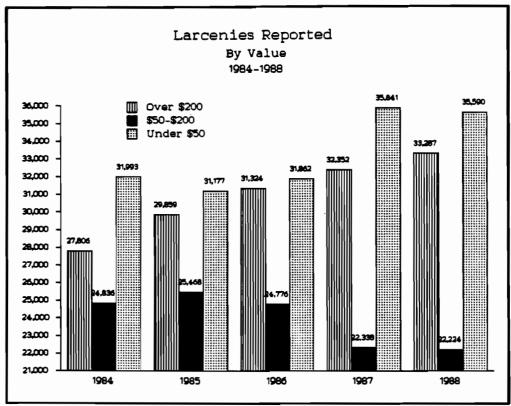


Fig. 1.13



Reported larcenies have been increasing steadily since 1984. THE NUMBER OF REPORTED LARCENIES VALUED OVER \$200 IN 1988 INCREASED 20% OVER THE NUMBER REPORTED IN 1984, as indicated in Fig. 1.14.

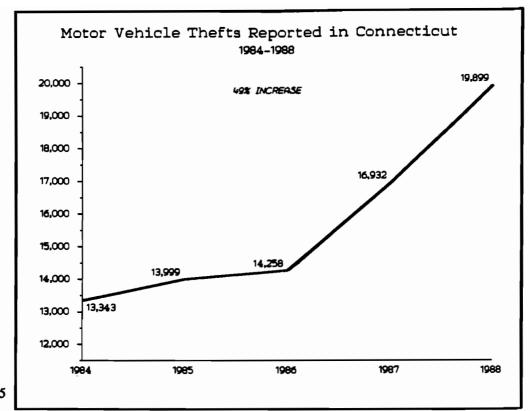
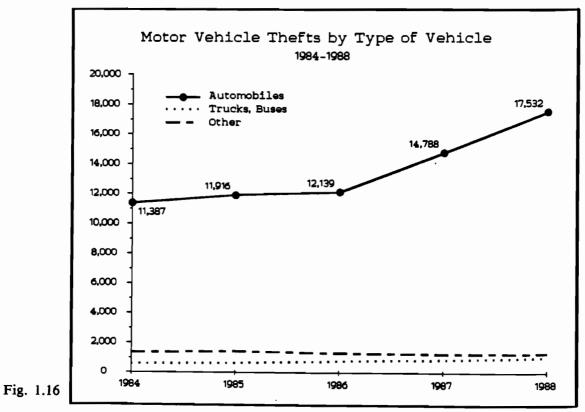


Fig. 1.15



MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS HAVE INCREASED 49% SINCE 1984, WITH THE BIGGEST JUMPS IN 1987 AND 1988. Most thefts are of automobiles, which account for the large increases in reported thefts during the last two years. (See Fig. 1.16).

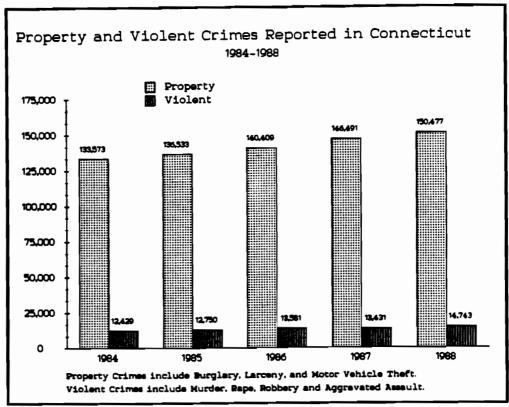
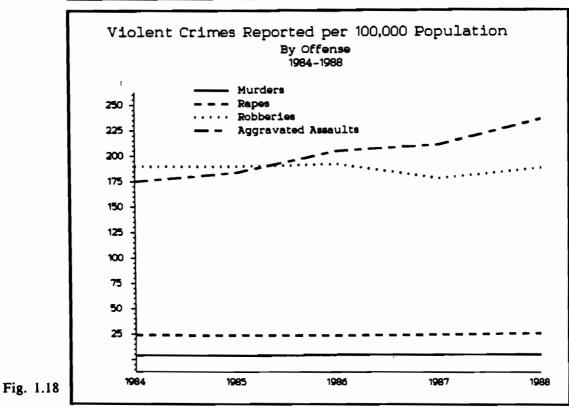


Fig. 1.17



REPORTED PROPERTY CRIMES OUTNUMBER VIOLENT CRIMES BY TEN TO ONE. There are nearly eight robberies or aggravated assaults reported for each murder or rape, and that THE NUMBER OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS REPORTED HAS SURPASSED THE NUMBER OF ROBBERIES.

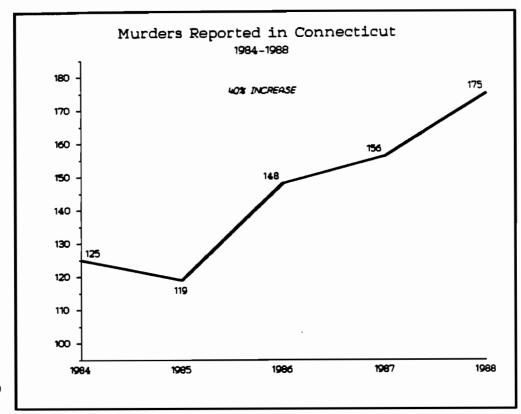


Fig. 1.19

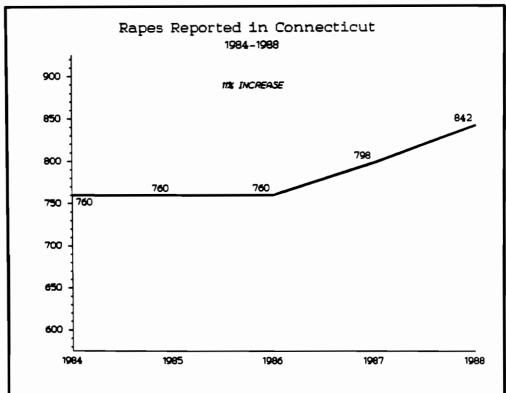


Fig. 1.20

THERE HAS BEEN A DRAMATIC 40% INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MURDERS REPORTED SINCE 1985. (See Fig. 1.19). The number of rapes reported has increased in 1987 and 1988, after holding steady for three years, as indicated by Fig. 1.20.

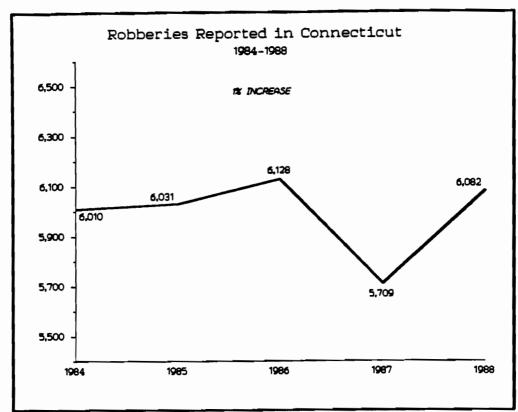
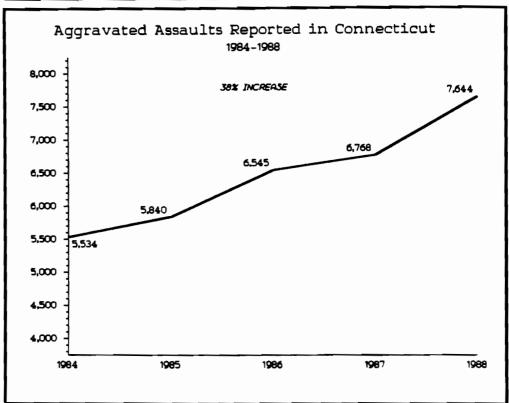


Fig. 1.21



The number of reported robberies dropped substantially in 1987, but regained in 1988. THE GAIN IN REPORTED ROBBERIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS IS 1%. (See Fig. 1.21). AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS HAVE BEEN CLIMBING STEADILY SINCE 1984 AND SHOW A GAIN OF 38%.

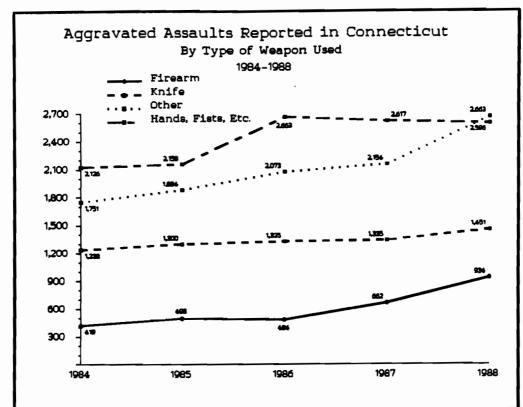


Fig. 1.23

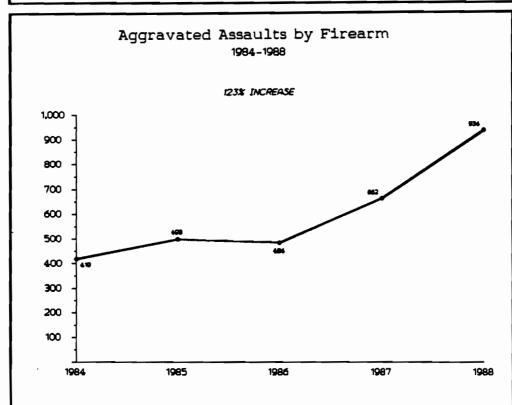


Fig. 1.23 shows the type of weapon used most frequently in committing aggravated assaults is now 'other'. THE BIGGEST INCREASE IN 1988 IN TYPE OF WEAPON USED DURING AN AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WAS IN THE USE OF FIREARMS, SHOWING A GAIN OF 123% IN FIVE YEARS.

IS CRIME IN CONNECTICUT DISTRIBUTED EVENLY THROUGHOUT THE STATE? High population density has been linked to an increased crime rate and Connecticut is no exception to this. Connecticut has no major metropolitan areas such as New York, Boston, Chicago, or Los Angeles, but it does have significantly higher crime rates in its three largest towns. Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven make up only thirteen percent of the state's population, but account for more than thirty-one percent of all reported crimes in the state. Other factors which may be more prevalent in larger cities and which may be linked to higher crime rates are high levels of unemployment, poverty, single parent families, high drop-out rates from school, overcrowded housing, and closer contact with the drug culture and other criminal elements.

FOR THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1984-1988, CONNECTICUT'S THREE LARGEST TOWNS HAD AN AVERAGE CRIME RATE THREE TIMES HIGHER THAN THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE. (See Fig. 1.21). FOR VIOLENT CRIMES, THE RATE WAS EIGHT TIMES HIGHER IN THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS. The robbery rate was twelve times higher in the three largest towns and the murder rate was ten times higher. Aggravated assaults occurred six times more frequently and rape five times more frequently in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport.

For the specific property crimes, motor vehicle theft was five times more likely to occur, and burglary and larceny three times more likely to occur and be reported.

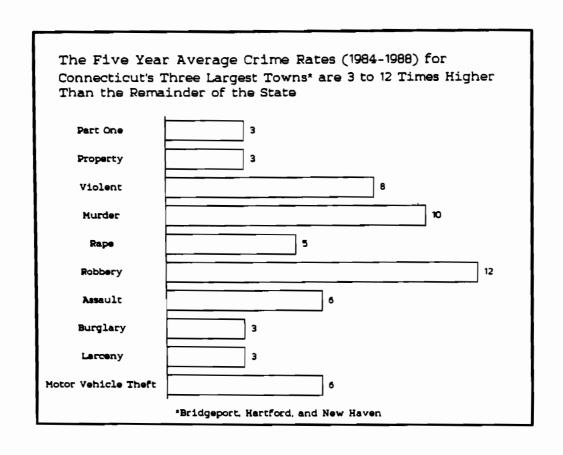


Fig. 1.25

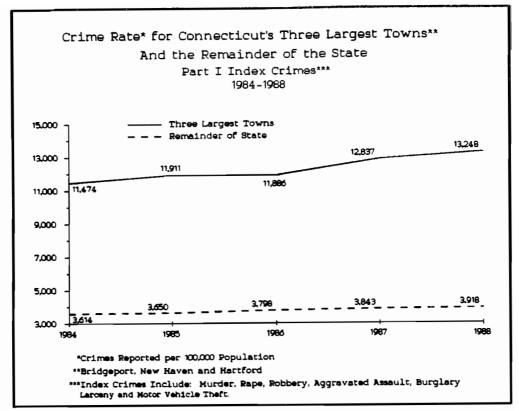


Fig. 1.26

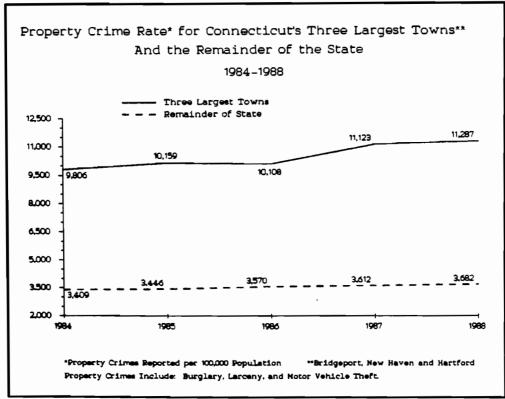


Fig. 1.27

THE CRIME RATE FOR CONNECTICUT'S THREE LARGEST TOWNS INCREASED 15%, WHILE THE CRIME RATE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE INCREASED ONLY 8%. In 1988 the crime rate was more than three times greater in the three largest towns than in the remainder of the state.

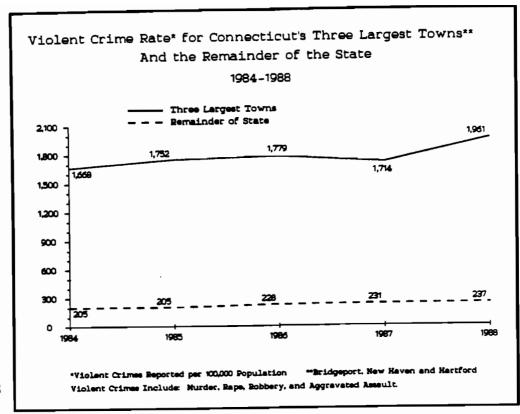
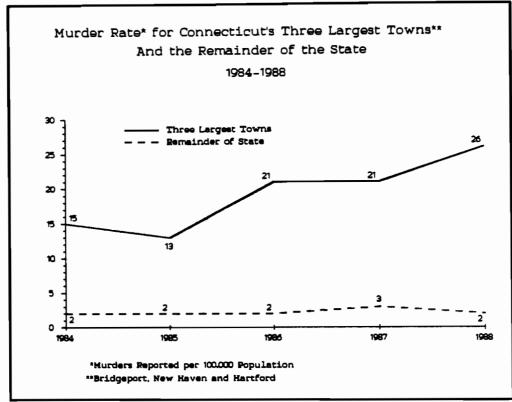


Fig. 1.29



The gap between the three largest towns and the remainder of the state in the area of violent crime continues to widen. FOR THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS, THE MURDER RATE HAS DOUBLED SINCE 1985.

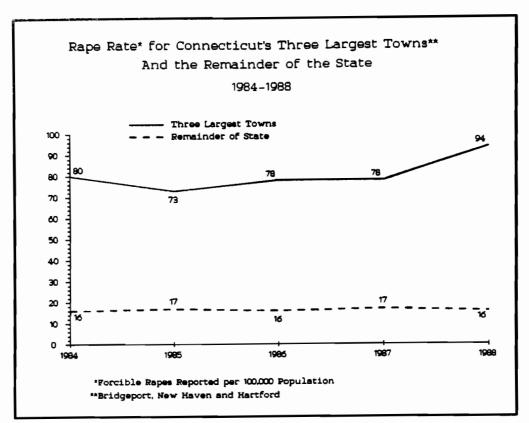


Fig. 1.30

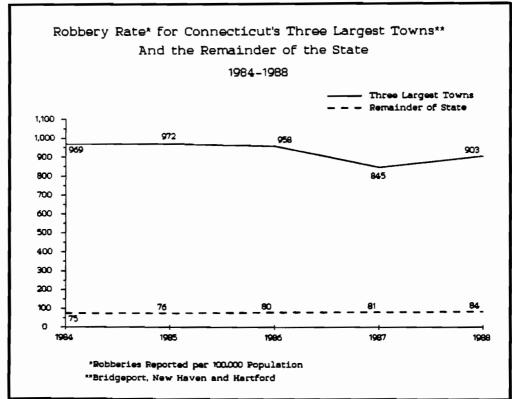


Fig. 1.31

The rape rate for the three largest towns has grown by 18%, while the rate for the remainder of the state has been stable. THE ROBBERY RATE FOR THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS HAS DROPPED BY 7% AND THE RATE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE HAS GROWN BY 12%.

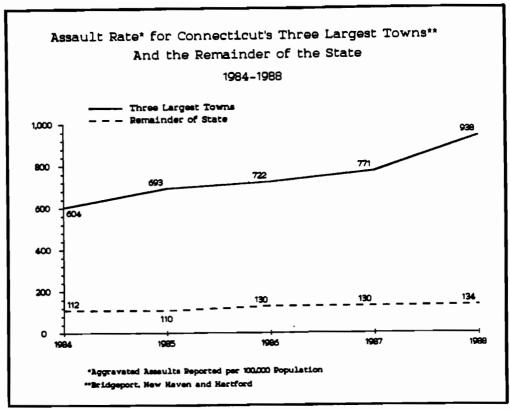
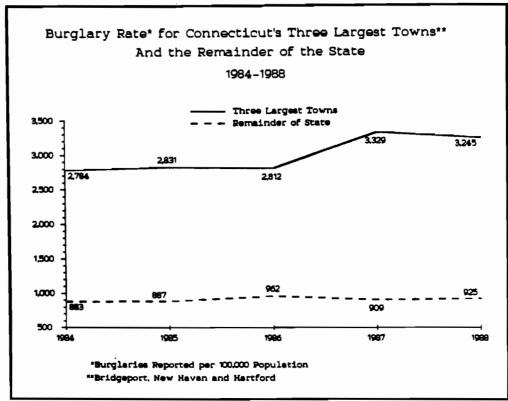


Fig. 1.32



THE GAP BETWEEN THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS AND THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE IN THE AGGRAVATED ASSAULT RATE HAS BEEN WIDENING DRAMATICALLY. The three largest towns have had a 17% increase in burglaries since 1984, while the remainder of the state has gained only 5%.

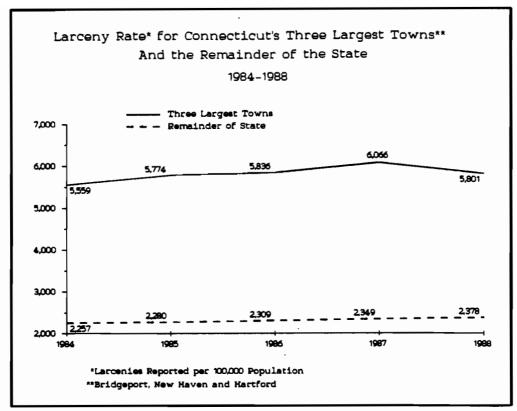
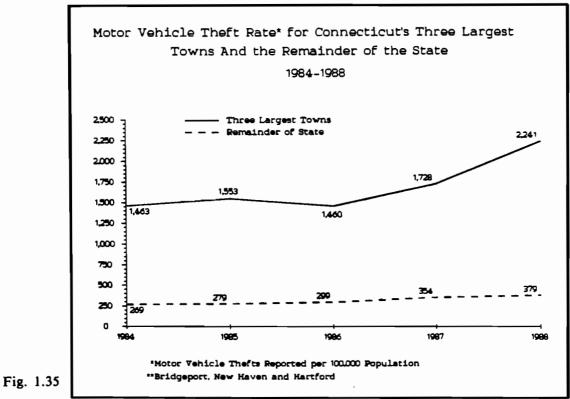


Fig. 1.34



THE MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT RATE FOR THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS HAS INCREASED 53%; FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE, THE MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT RATE HAS INCREASED 41%.

PERCENT INCREASE IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMES REPORTED IN CONNECTICUT, 1984 - 1988

TOTAL PART ONE OFFENSES	13%
PART ONE PROPERTY	13%
PART ONE VIOLENT	16%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	49%
MURDER	40%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	38%
RAPE	11%
BURGLARY	11%
LARCENY	8%
ROBBERY	1%

PERCENT INCREASE IN THE CRIME RATE, 1984 - 1988 FIVE LARGEST TOWNS VS. REMAINDER OF STATE

TOTAL PART ONE OFFENSES	FIVE LARGEST 15%	REMAINDER OF STATE 8%
PART ONE PROPERTY	15%	8%
PART ONE VIOLENT	18%	16%
MURDER	73%	0%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	55%	20%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	53%	41%
RAPE	18%	0%
BURGLARY	17%	5%
LARCENY	4%	5%
ROBBERY	7%	12%

Chapter One: Crime Trends in Connecticut

Summary of Highlights

- * The number of reported index offenses has increased by 13% since 1984.
- * Violent offenses have increased by 16%, compared to the 13% increase in property offenses.
- * Reported property crimes outnumber violent crimes ten to one.
- * The value of property taken during the commission of a crime has been increasing, with the biggest gains in 1987 and 1988.
- * There has been a dramatic increase in the number of motor vehicle thefts in 1987 and 1988.
- * Nearly three-fourths of all burglaries take place through the use of forced entry.
- * The biggest increase in the number of reported burglaries is in day time residential burglaries, with the biggest gains since 1986.
- * The number of larcenies valued over \$200 has shown a steady and significant increase for the years 1984 through 1988.
- * There has been a 40% increase in the number of murders reported between 1984 and 1988.
- Aggravated assaults have increased by 38% since 1984.
- * The number of aggravated assaults by firearm increased by 123% between 1984 and 1988; most of the increase (93%) took place in the last two years.
- * Connecticut's three largest towns (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven) had an average crime rate three times greater than the remainder of the state. For violent offenses, the rate was eight times higher.
- * The gap in the crime rates between the three largest towns and the remainder of the state continues to widen, with the biggest jumps taking place in the last two years.
- * The total part one crime rate for the three largest towns has increased 15% between 1984 and 1988; the same rate for the remainder of the state has increased by 8%.
- * The largest gaps between the three largest towns and the remainder of the state are the reported rates for robbery, murder, aggravated assault, and motor vehicle theft.
- * Although the robbery rate for the three largest towns is substantially higher than for the remainder of the state, the rate in the three largest towns is declining, while the rate for the remainder of the state is increasing.

CHAPTER TWO:

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Connecticut has 169 towns and some additional boroughs ranging in size from around a thousand to nearly 150,000. Eighty-two towns do not operate their own police departments, but rely upon the Connecticut State Police to offer police protection. In 1988 there were 100 law enforcement agencies operating within Connecticut's borders. Of these, eight were operated by universities, and the remainder were operated by towns or boroughs, Amtrak, DEP, and the state police. The largest of these agencies is the Hartford Police Department with a total of 614 full time employees. The smallest, which consists of six members, is operated by the University of Connecticut's Avery Point Campus.

Fig. 2.1 shows the number of full time sworn police officers operating in the state during the five years from 1984 through 1988. The number of full time sworn officers increased significantly in 1987, and there was a gain of 7% between 1984 and 1988. In 1988, there were a total of 7,216 full-time sworn police officers, and an additional 1,600 civilian personnel statewide. The total number of full-time law enforcment personnel for 1988 was 8,816.

Among the duties of the law enforcement officer is the enforcement of state and local laws and the protection of citizens from the acts of criminals. One measure of the effectiveness of law enforcement is the number or percent of reported crimes which are cleared (i.e. solved by arrest or other means.) Information about persons arrested has implications for the community and the local law enforcement agency, as well as those components of the criminal justice system which become involved following arrest.

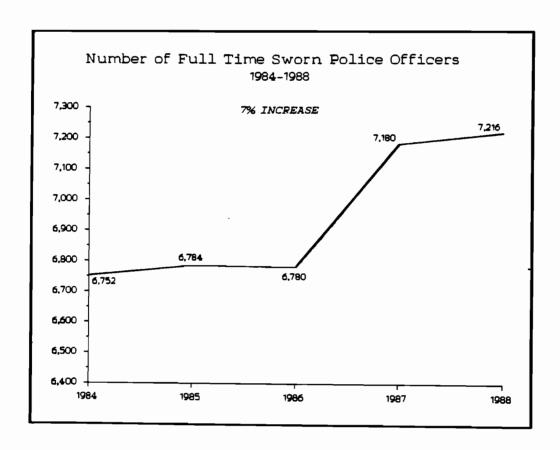


Fig. 2.1

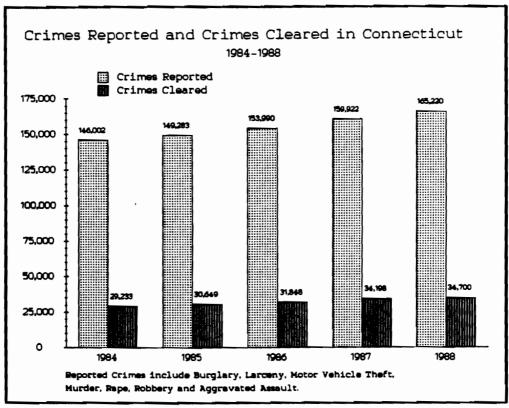
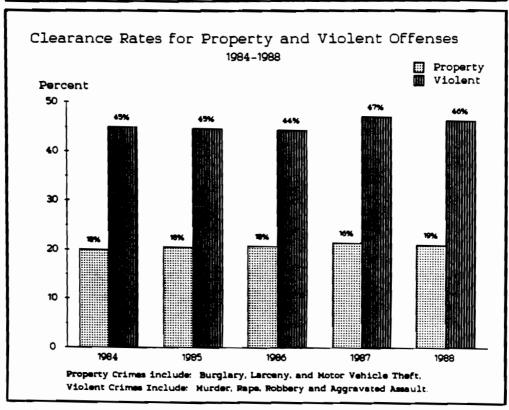


Fig. 2.2



ONLY ABOUT ONE IN FIVE REPORTED CRIMES IS EVER CLEARED. (See Fig. 2.2.). Clearance rates for violent crimes are about twice the clearance rate for violent offenses. (See Fig. 2.3)

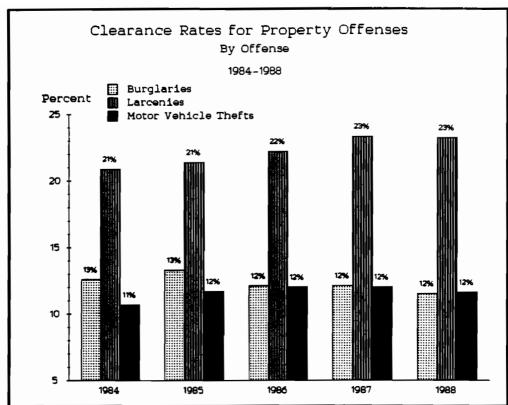


Fig. 2.4

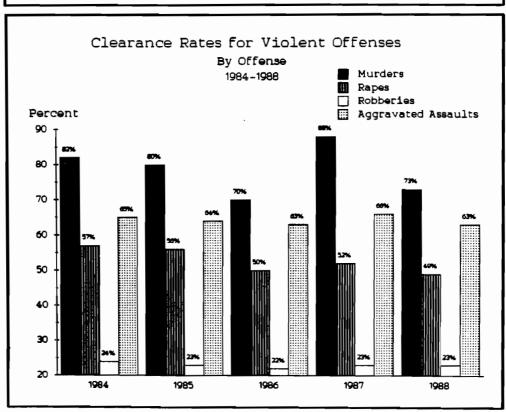


Fig. 2.5

The clearance rate for larceny is about double the clearance rate for other property offenses. MURDER IS THE MOST LIKELY VIOLENT CRIME TO BE CLEARED AND ROBBERY IS THE LEAST LIKELY.

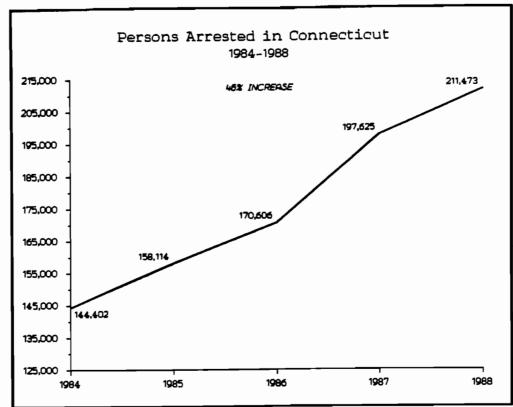
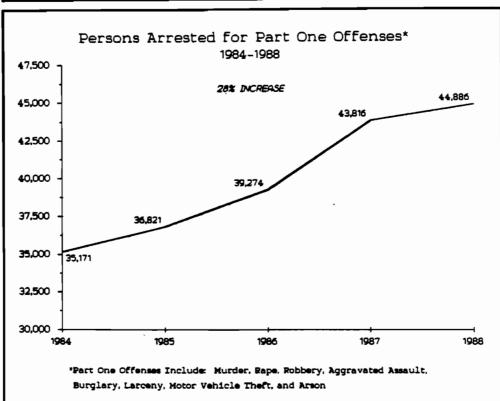


Fig. 2.6



THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED FOR ALL OFFENSES HAS INCREASED 46% IN FIVE YEARS. The number of persons arrested for more serious crimes has increased by 27%.

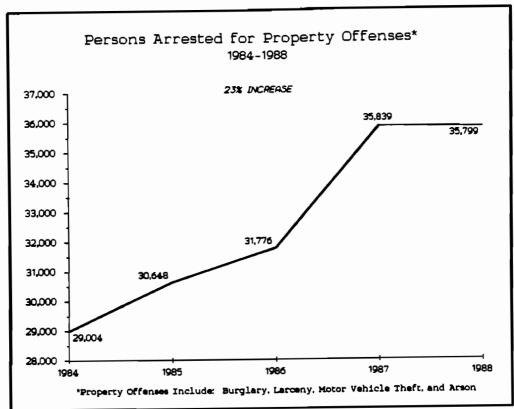
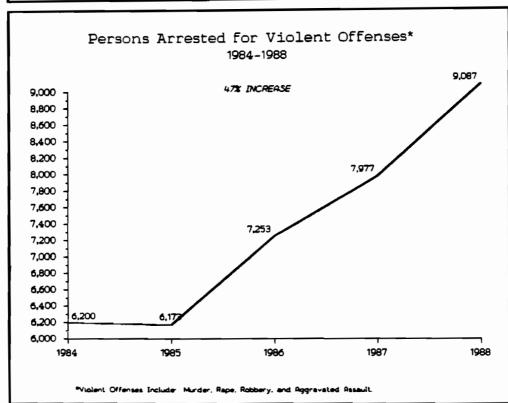


Fig. 2.8



The number of persons arrested for property offenses dropped slightly in 1988 after increases in 1985, 1986, and 1987. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED FOR VIOLENT OFFENSES HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY SINCE 1985.

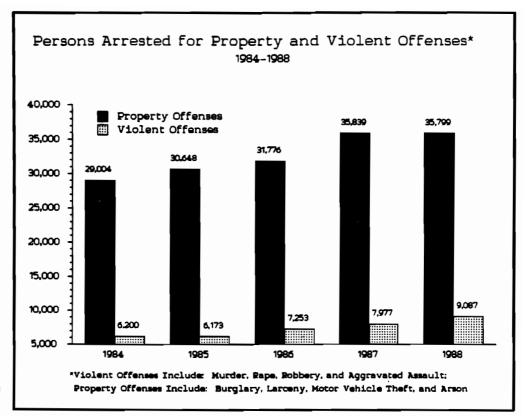
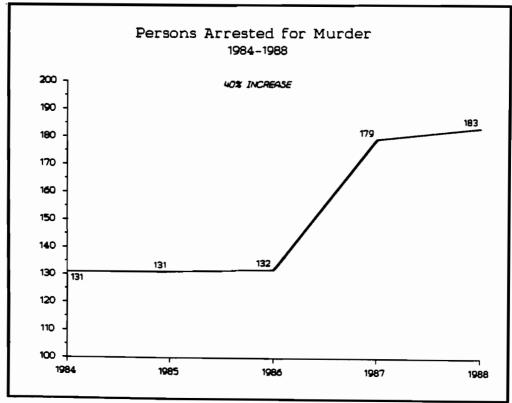


Fig. 2.10



For every person arrested for a violent offense, four are arrested for a property offense. The number of PERSONS ARRESTED FOR MURDER HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN 1987 AND 1988.

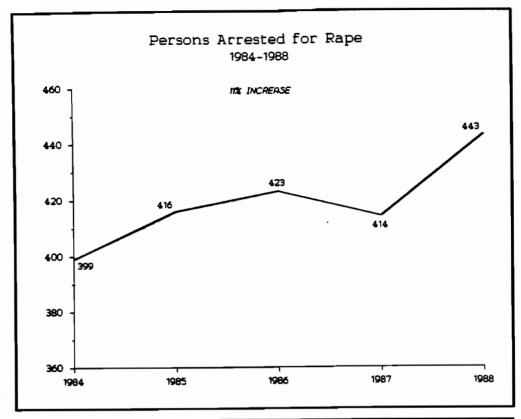
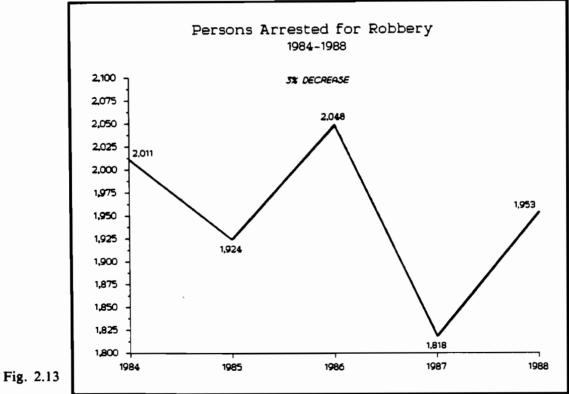
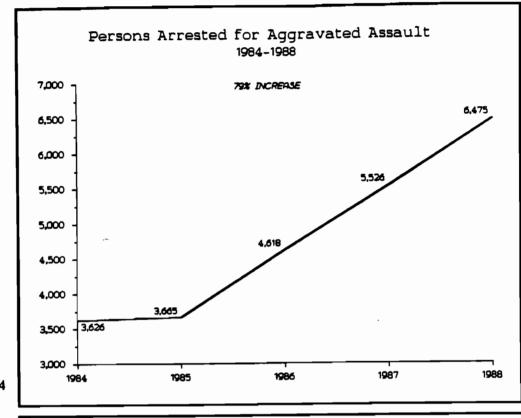
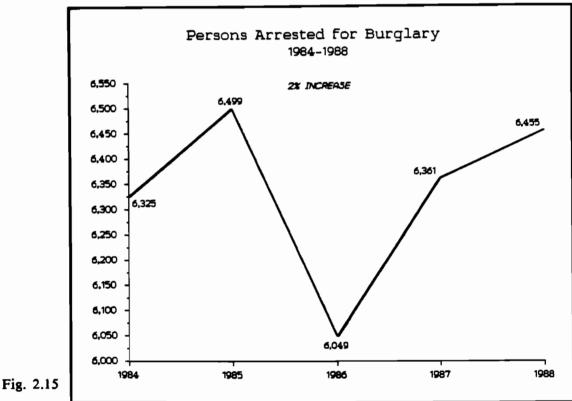


Fig. 2.12

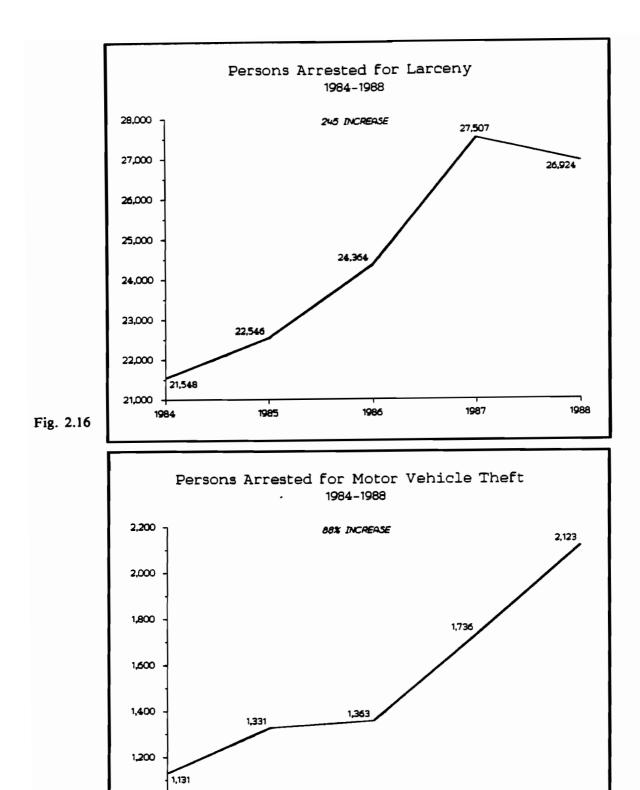


The number of persons arrested for rape increased at a modest rate for the five year period. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED FOR ROBBERY DECLINED 5% BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988, but showed wide variations in 1985, 1986 and 1987.





THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY SINCE 1985. The number of persons arrested for burglary made a 2% gain following a dramatic decline in 1986.



The number of persons arrested for larceny dropped slightly in 1988. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED FOR MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT INCREASED DRAMATICALLY, with the biggest gains made in 1987 and 1987.

1,000 | 1984

Fig. 2.17

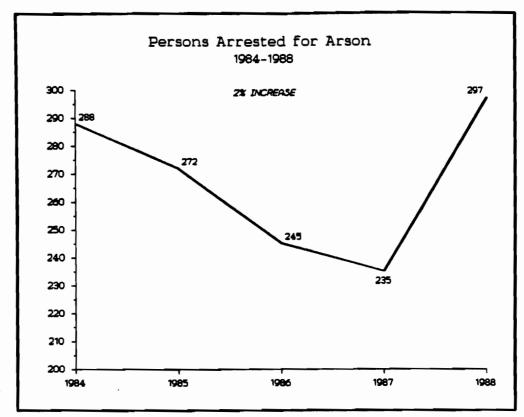
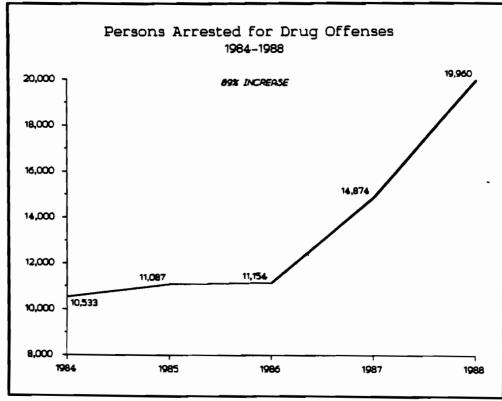


Fig. 2.18



The number of persons arrested for arson made a big jump in 1988, after dropping for three years. The NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED FOR DRUG OFFENSES INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN 1987 AND 1988.

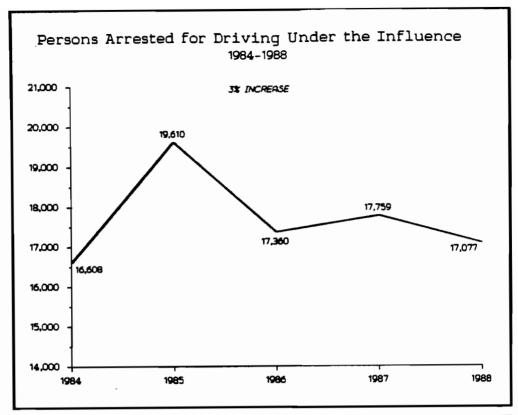
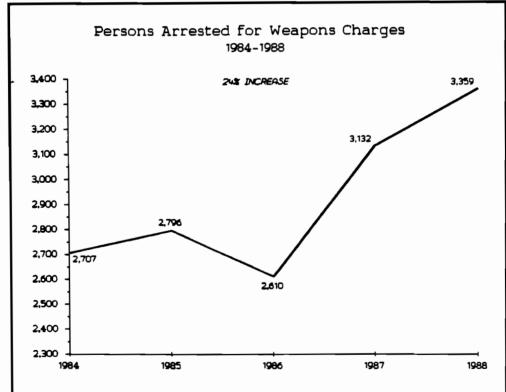
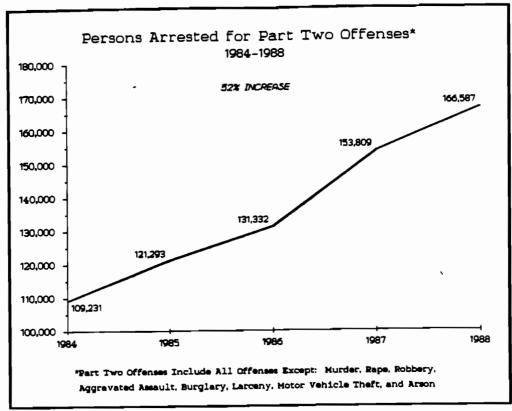


Fig. 2.20



The number of persons arrested for driving under the influence has increased only 3% in five years. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED ON WEAPONS CHARGES HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN 1987 AND 1988.



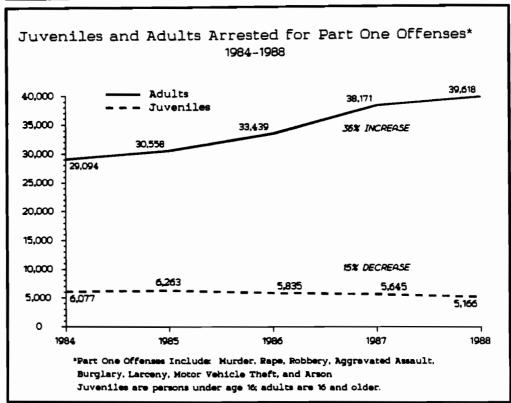


Fig. 2.23

The number of persons arrested for the less serious offenses increased 52% in five years. JUVENILE ARRESTS FOR PART ONE OFFENSES HAVE DECREASED BY 18% OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD.

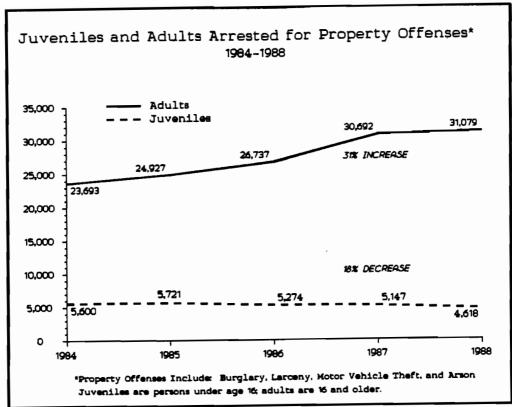
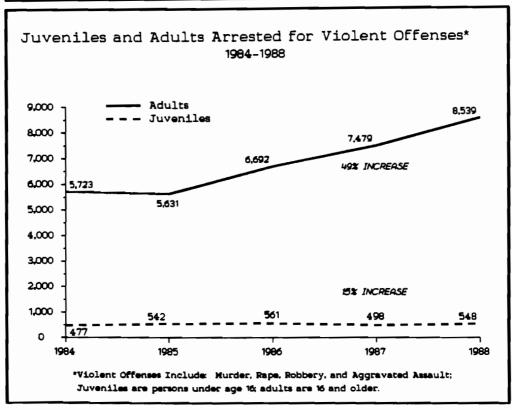


Fig. 2.24



For property offenses, the number of adults arrested has increased by 31%, while the number of juveniles arrested has dropped by 24%. APPROXIMATELY ONE OUT OF EVERY SEVEN ARRESTEES FOR A PROPERTY OFFENSE IS A JUVENILE; ONE OF EVERY TWENTY VIOLENT ARRESTEES IS A JUVENILE.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED PERCENT INCREASE BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988

All Offenses	46%
Part One Property	23%
Part One Violent	45%
Part One Total	27%
Part Two	52%

NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED PERCENT INCREASE BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988 BY OFFENSE

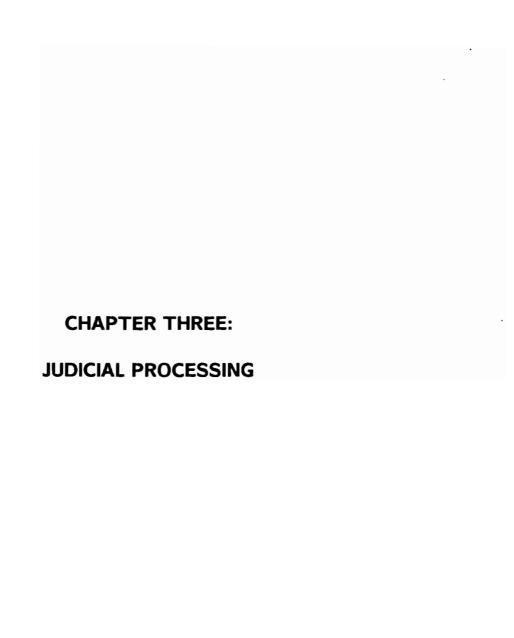
Drug Offenses	89%
Motor Vehicle Theft	83%
Aggravated Assault	77%
Murder	40%
Larceny	24%
Weapons Violations	23%
Rape	10%
Robbery	5%
Driving Under Influence	3%
Burglary	2%
Arson	2%

Chapter Two: Law Enforcement

Summary of Highlights

- * The total number of full-time law enforcment personnel in Connecticut in 1988 was 8,816.
- * Only about one in five reported crimes is ever cleared.
- * For every person arrested for a violent offense, four are arrested for a property offense.
- * The number of persons arrested for all offenses has increased by 46% since 1984.
- The number of persons arrested for violent offenses has increased dramatically since 1985.
- * The number of persons arrested for aggravated assault has increased 77% in five years; most of the increase came after 1985.
- * The number of persons arrested for murder has increased 40% since 1984, with the biggest jump in the last two years.
- * The number of persons arrested for weapons violations increased significantly in 1987 and 1988.
- * The number of persons arrested for robbery declined 5% in five years.
- * The number of persons arrested for drug offenses has increased 89% in five years; most of the increase was seen in 1987 and 1988.
- * The number of persons arrested for property offenses dropped slightly in 1988 after three straight years of increases.
- * The number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft has increased 83% since 1984; the biggest jumps were seen in 1987 and 1988.
- * The number of persons arrested for driving under the influence has dropped for three straight years.
- Juvenile arrests for part one offenses have dropped 18% since 1984.

The data for this chapter was obtained from <u>Crime in Connecticut</u>. Annual Reports. 1984-1988, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Connecticut Department of Public Safety, and additional data supplied by the program.



COURTS

The Supreme Court, Appellate Court, Superior Court, and Probate Court make up Connecticut's judicial system. All courts except the Probate court are state funded. The governor nominates judges, except probate judges who are elected, from a list of candidates compiled by the Judicial Selection Commission. The legislature appoints judges to the Supreme Court, Appellate Court and Superior Court.

The Chief Justice presides over the Supreme Court and is responsible for the Judicial Department's operations. The Chief Justice also directs the assignment of supreme court cases, authors opinions, designates a panel member to author the court's opinion and presides over Supreme Court conferences. The Chief Justice has authority to designate, among the constitutional state referees, state trial referees and to appoint attorney trial referees from among qualified members of the bar.

The Appellate Court is the intermediate court of appeals. Generally, the Appellate Court hears matters not directly brought to the Supreme Court.

The Superior Court is Connecticut's sole trial court of general jurisdiction. It has five major trial divisions: criminal, civil, family, juvenile and housing. Connecticut is divided into twelve judicial districts and 22 geographical areas. Major criminal matters, major civil matters and dissolution of marriage cases are heard at the judicial district court locations. The major criminal matters include A, B, and C felonies. Minor felonies (class D), misdemeanors, motor vehicle cases and small claims matters are heard at the geographical area court locations. Juvenile matters are heard at fourteen court locations.

Fig. 3.1 (next page) shows the number of serious criminal cases added and disposed by Connecticut courts. Cases added increased 46 percent from FY 1983-84 to FY 1987-88. Cases disposed increased only 12 percent in the same time period. The number of cases added exceeded the number disposed by over 1000 in FY 87-88.

The number of less serious cases added, those handled by Part D of the Geographical Area locations, increased by 33 percent from 115,098 in FY 1983-84 to 153,187 cases in FY 1987-88. The number of Part D cases disposed increased 26 percent in the same period, from 111,663 to 141,241. The number of cases added exceeded the number disposed by nearly 12,000 in FY 87/88.

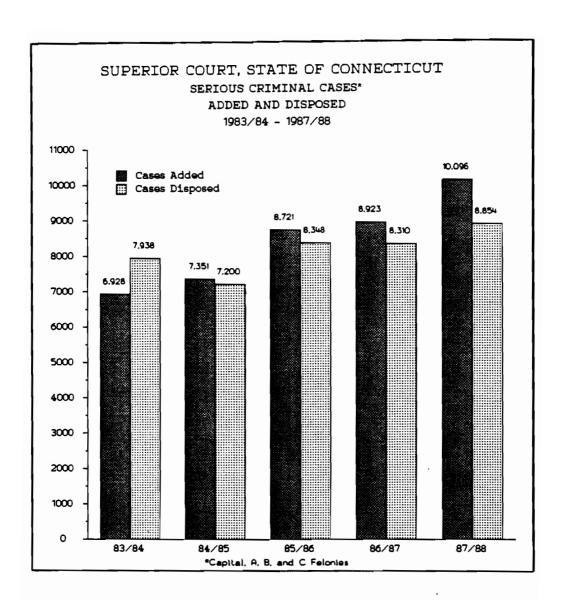


Fig. 3.1

BAIL COMMISSION

The Office of the Bail Commission is part of the Judicial Department. It's primary purpose is to make or recommend conditions of release as necessary to secure a defendant's presence in court. In order to carry out this mandate, they must conduct an interview in order to determine the least restrictive form of bail necessary to assure the defendant's appearance in court. The bail commission must verify the information gained from the interview, recommend or set the conditions of release, notify released defendants of their court appearance dates, supervise defendants released on non-financial conditions, inform the court of any violation of release conditions, and administer the pre-trial alcohol education program.

The number of interviews conducted by the Office of the Bail Commission has increased 85% between 1984 and 1988. The number relased on their own recognizance, or under non-financial conditions of release, has also increased by 72%. (See Figs. 3.2, 3.3, next page.)

The Pretrial Alcohol Education Program was designed to provide the first time offender arrested for driving under the influence an educational program regarding the effects of drugs and alcohol upon driving ability. In administering this program, the Bail Commission must make assessments and recommendations with respect to admission, supervise defendants while in the program, and monitor any further treatment required before the court case has been disposed. During the 1987/88 fiscal year, there were 12,043 application to the program and 11,218 admissions.

In response to prison over-crowding being experienced in Connecticut's correctional system, the Office of the Bail Commission has expanded its Supervised Pretrial Release Program, including Correctional Center Re-interviewing. This program allows the release of certain offenders from pretrial detention under special conditions, such as substance abuse treatment, electronic monitoring or curfew restrictions. The number of defendants released under this program has grown from 2,419 in FY 84/85 to 6,257 in FY 87/88, an increase of 159%. (See Fig. 3.4). Beginning January 1, 1986, the Bail Commission began re-interviewing defendants who were being held in lieu of bond at correctional centers on D felony or misdemeanor charges. The purpose of this screening is to determine if new information has emerged or conditions have changed which might allow a lower bond or non-financial release. Fig. 3.5 shows the number of re-interviews which have occurred since January 1, 1986, and the percent of those re-interviewed who gained release.

As a result of these efforts, the accused population has dropped slightly from 16.2 percent of the total Department of Correction supervised population on January 1, 1986 to 15.3 percent of the total supervised population on November 1, 1989. While the total sentenced population has grown from 5,832 to 12,558 (115%) in this time period, the accused population grew from 1,131 to 2,263 (100%).

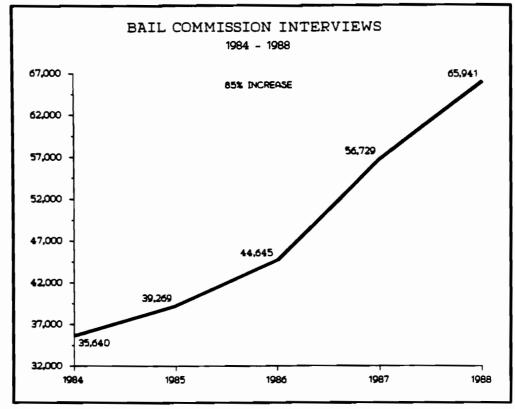


Fig. 3.2

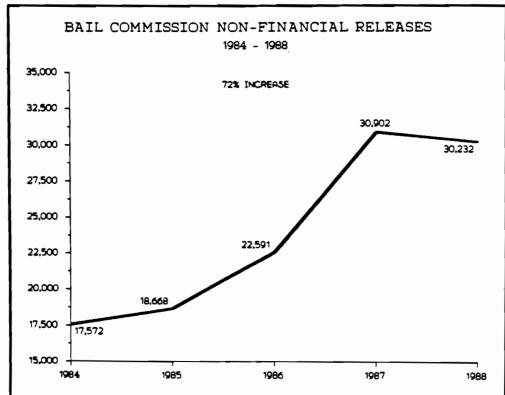


Fig. 3.3

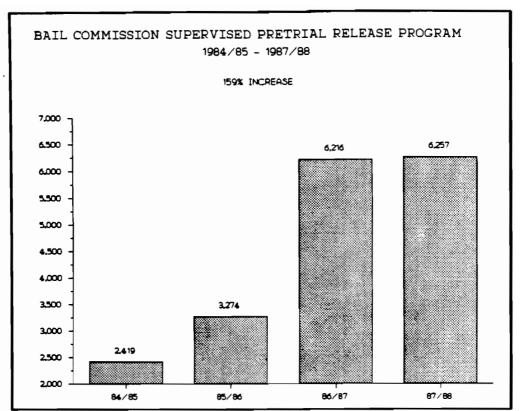


Fig. 3.4

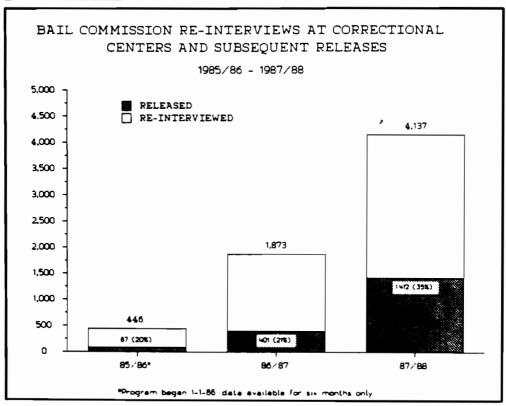


Fig. 3.5

ADULT PROBATION

The Office of Adult Probation is also part of the Judicial Department. It conducts presentence investigations, eligibility investigations for youthful offender applicants, and supervision for defendents placed on accelerated rehabilitation, regular probation, or intensive probation. The increase in the volume of criminal cases and the overcrowding of Connecticut's prison and jail facilities have had a negative impact upon the workload of the Office of Adult Probation. The total probation caseload has gone from 44,111 on July 1, 1984 to 46,493 on July 1, 1988, a gain of 5 percent. However, those on active supervision have grown from 54% of the caseload on July 1, 1986 to 67% of the caseload on July 1, 1989. (See Figs. 3.6 and 3.7.) There has been a significant increase in the number of felons on probation, from 11,003 on December 31, 1984 to 20,327 on December 31, 1988.

In June, 1984, the total average caseload per probation officer was 282. In FY 87-88, the Office of Adult Probation received 40 additional probation officers, lowering each probation officer's caseload to 227 in June, 1988; however, the average active caseload per officer has risen from 134 in June of 1986 to 142 in June of 1988.

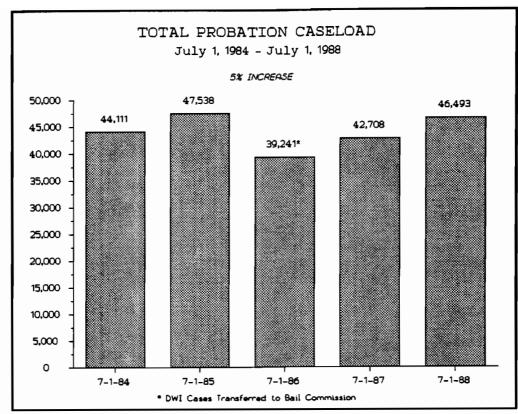


Fig. 3.6

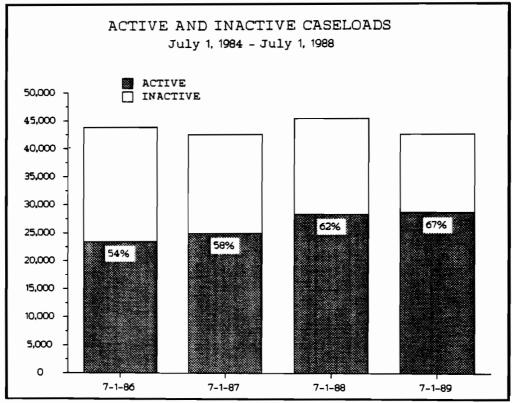


Fig. 3.7

PROSECUTION

Under Article 23 of the Connecticut Constitution, the Division of Criminal Justice is in charge of the investigation and prosecution of all criminal matters in the superior court. The Division is in the executive branch of state government. It is the duty of the Division of Criminal Justice to prosecute all crimes and offenses against the laws of the state and any ordinances, regulations and by-laws of any town or municipality. It participates in all appellate, post-trial and post conviction proceedings.

The administrative head of the Division of Criminal Justice is the chief state's attorney, who is appointed for a term of five years by the Criminal Justice Commission. The Criminal Justice Commission, of which the Chief State's Attorney is also a member, has six other members nominated by the governor and appointed by the general assembly. The Commission appoints all prosecutors. The chief state's attorney has two deputy chief state's attorneys appointed for four year terms by the Criminal Justice Commission. There are twelve state's attorney's, one for each judicial district, and as many assistant state's attorneys and deputy assistant state's attorneys in each district as necessary to conduct the court's business. The state's attorneys are appointed for eight year terms by the Criminal Justice Commission.

Among the duties of the chief state's attorney are: to administer, direct, supervise, coordinate and control the operations of the division; to adopt and establish rules and guidelines; enter into contracts; conduct long-range planning, research and evaluations; staff development; coordinate activities with other agencies; receive and administer federal funds; maintain accounting, budget and personnel matters. The chief state's attorney and state's attorneys may sign warrants and applications for grand jury investigations or extraditions. The chief state's attorney appoints four chief inspectors to assist the state's attorneys statewide wih investigations concerning criminal offenses and in procuring evidence for the state. All law enforcement agencies are required to cooperate in investigations conducted by the Division of Criminal Justice.

Each state's attorney must present appropriate charges to the court, collect all forfeited bonds and fees owed, and issue subpoenas for witnesses. In cases where a death has occurred, the state's attorney must identify and notify the next of kin of the victim regarding the arrest, arraignment release from custody and all court proceedings of the defendant in the case. (Description of the Division of Criminal Justice summarized from Connecticut General Statutes 51-275a-51-288.)

PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE

The Commission on Public Defender Services appoints the chief public defender and deputy chief public defender. The commission also appoints a public defender for each of the twelve judicial districts, a public defender to handle appellate matters, and as many assistant public defenders and deputy assistant public defenders for each district as the criminal or delinquency business of that court district requires.

The court will appoint a public defender, assistant public defender, or deputy assistant public defender to represent an indigent defendant in any of the following: a criminal action, a habeous corpus proceeding arising from a criminal matter, an extradition proceeding, or any delinquency matter. The public defender, assistant public defender, or deputy assistant public defender must conduct a financial investigation to determine indigency.

The chief public defender supervises the deputy chief public defender, and all public defenders, assistant public defenders and deputy assistant public defenders. Other duties include the establishment of divisions, facilities and offices, and selection of other personnel deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the public defender services. (Description of Public Defender Services summarized from Connecticut General Statutes 51-284-51-300.)

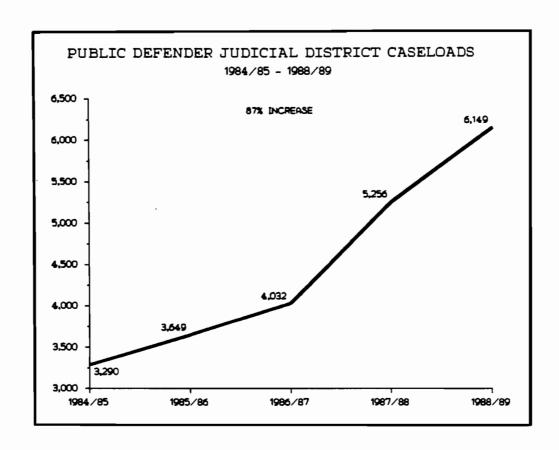


Fig. 3.8

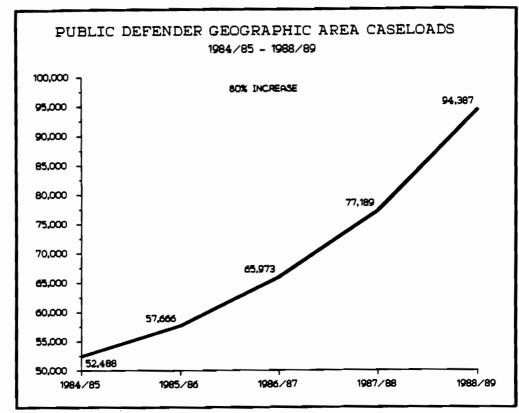


Fig. 3.9

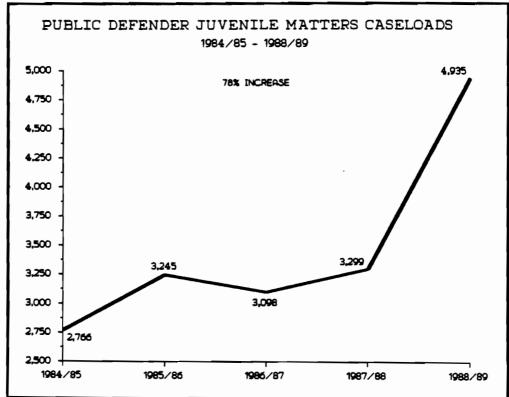


Fig. 3.10

Chapter Three: Judicial Processing

Summary of Highlights

- The number of serious felony cases added to Superior Court has increased by 46 percent from FY 1983-84 to FY 1987-88. The number of serious felony cases disposed increased by twelve percent.
- * The number of less serious cases added (Part D handled by the geographic area courts) increased by 33 percent from FY 1983-84 to FY 1987-88. The number disposed increased 26 percent.
- * The caseload of the Office of the Chief Public Defender has increased by 87% at the JD locations and 80% at the GA court locations.
- * The Bail Commission's Supervised Pretrial Release Program has grown 159% since 1984/85.
- * The accused population in jail is decreasing slightly as a proportion of the total Department of Correction supervised population.
- Probation is overburdened with high caseloads.
- * The seriousness level of probationers supervised by the Office of Adult Probation is increasing.

Sources of data for this chapter include:

Report of the Connecticut Judicial Department, 1982-84, 1984-86, 1986-88,

Bail Commission

Office of Adult Probation

Division of Public Defender Services, Office of Chief Public Defender, Annual Reports 1987-88, 1988-89.

Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Chief State's Attorney

Department of Correction

CHAPTER FOUR: CORRECTIONS

OVERVIEW

Connecticut has a unified corrections system. All correctional facilities and many related community programs throughout the state are administered by the Department of Correction. Within the system are various kinds of facilities, each providing bedspace for distinct segments of the inmate population. They include: male and female, pre-trial and sentenced, and short term and long term individuals. Complementing the system of facilities is an extensive network of community programs. These programs both assist those making the transition to the community and serve clients as an alternative to incarceration. In recent years, both the correctional facilities and the community programs have experienced significant strain due to the tremendous growth in the inmate population. Considerable resources are now being added to the system by the state to maintain pace with the growing need. Even so, population projections by the Department of Correction indicate that the coming years will be quite challenging for the corrections system.

FACILITIES

The Department of Correction presently manages twenty facilities in the system: six prisons for sentenced offenders, seven community correctional centers, three detention centers, two DWI facilities, and a drug treatment facility. Five other major facilities are to be constructed by the state before the end of 1992. They include three correctional institutions and two correctional centers.

Correctional Institutions:

- A. <u>CCI--Enfield</u> This medium security facility was opened in 1960. In 1989, it had an average daily population of 674.
- B. <u>CCI--Robinson</u> This modern new medium security facility is located in Enfield and was opened in 1985. It had an average daily population of 722 in 1989.
- C. Gates Correctional Unit This recently constructed modular facility is located on the grounds of the Correctional Institution at Niantic. It houses male inmates with short sentences and had an average daily population of 333 in 1989.
- D. Manson Youth Institution This facility is for youthful male offenders, aged 16-19. Located in Cheshire, it opened in 1982. It had an average daily population of 621 in 1989.
- E. <u>CCI--Niantic</u> The state's sole facility for women, pre-trial and sentenced, was opened in 1918. During 1989, it averaged <u>593</u> women daily.
- F. <u>CCI--Somers</u> This is Connecticut's maximum security facility which opened in 1962. It is the system's largest institution and had an average daily population of 1,424 in 1989.

Community Correctional Centers

- G. <u>CCC--Bridgeport</u> This jail, housing both sentenced and unsentenced inmates, contains some of the newest and oldest facilities. The new center opened in 1974; the old center opened in 1888, with a north wing which dates from 1958. All three buildings held an average of <u>964</u> inmates in 1989.
- H. <u>CCC--Brooklyn</u> This jail was built in 1850 and is located in rural northeastern Connecticut. During 1989, it held an average of 203 inmates each day. It is scheduled to close in 1992.
- I. <u>CCC--Cheshire</u> Cheshire serves as a reintegration center for offenders nearing release. This facility, which held an average of <u>802</u> inmates in 1989, was built in 1910 with an addition constructed in 1956.
- J. <u>CCC--Hartford</u> The newest of the centers, this facility was opened in 1977. An average of 837 inmates daily were detained here in 1989.
- K. CCC--Litchfield This 1812 facility averaged 121 inmates during 1989.
- L. <u>CCC--Montville</u> Opened in 1957, this jail held an average <u>225</u> inmates during 1989.
- M. <u>CCC--New Haven</u> The second newest community correctional center opened in 1976 and in 1989 detained an average of 498 inmates daily.

Other facilities:

- N. Morgan Street Detention Center This facility, the former Hartford Police lockup, was leased from the city in March, 1983, as a pre-trial detention facility. During 1989, it averaged 166 inmates daily. It is scheduled for demolition in 1991.
- O. <u>Union Avenue Detention Center</u> Leased from New Haven in March, 1984, to hold pre-trial detainees, this facility housed an average of 135 inmates daily in 1989.
- P. <u>Jennings Road Police Lock-up</u> Leased from the city of Hartford, this 100 bed facility was opened by DOC in April, 1989.
- Q. <u>Camp Hartell</u> This <u>100</u> bed facility, leased from the National Guard in Windsor Locks, is used to house offenders convicted of driving while intoxicated. It held an average of <u>83</u> during 1989. The lease expires in 1990.
- R. <u>Eddy DWI Unit</u> Located on the grounds of the Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown, this <u>64</u> bed facility for offenders convicted of driving while intoxicated opened in September, 1988.

- S. Northeast Pre-Release Center Four unoccupied buildings on the campus of Mansfield Training School are being converted for use by DOC. Dearden Hall opened in March, 1989, and can house 90 inmates. The other three buildings are being renovated for inmate housing and a training center. Complete occupancy is expected in February, 1990.
- T. <u>Fairfield Hall</u> This 150 bed facility, located on the grounds of Fairfield Hills Hospital in Newtown, has been renovated to serve as a drug and alcohol treatment facility for offenders prior to community release. It opened in November, 1989.

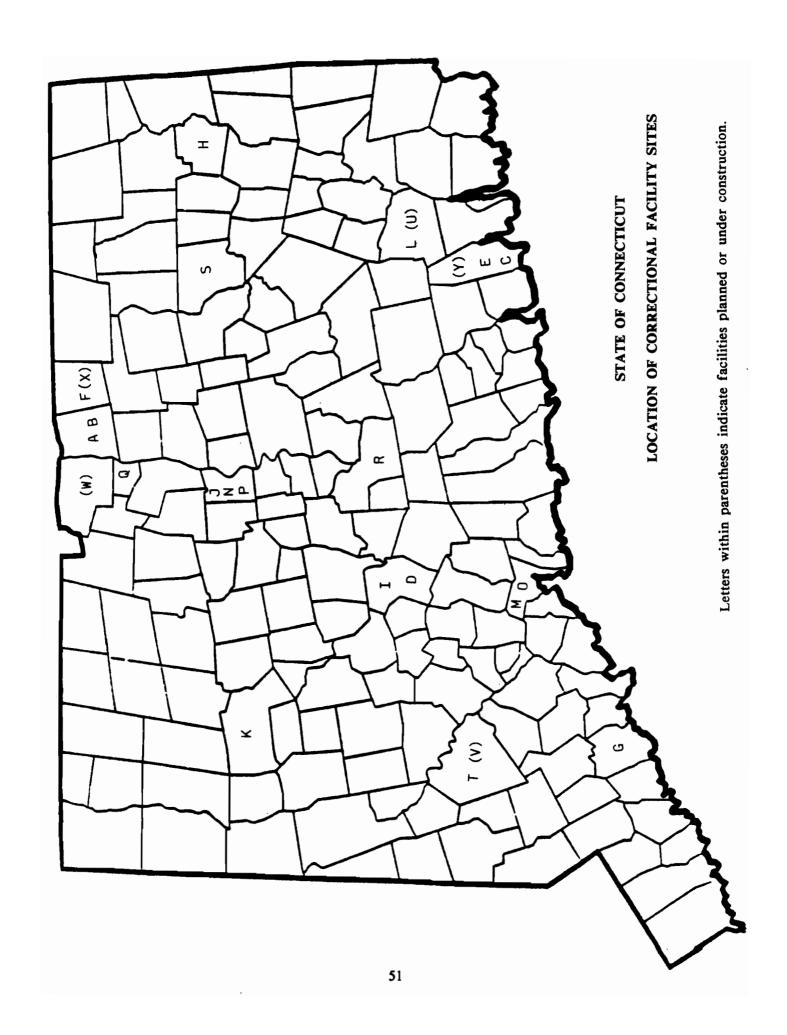
New Facilities Planned or Under Construction

- (U). Eastern Connecticut Correctional Center The state is currently planning the construction of a new correctional center on the grounds of the existing facility in Montville. The 400 bed medium security jail will serve the eastern portion of the state for pretrial and short term sentenced inmates. It is expected to open in 1992.
- (V). Western Connecticut Correctional Center The state is constructing a 400 bed medium security jail in Newtown which will serve the western portion of the state for pretrial and short-term sentenced inmates. It is scheduled to open in 1991.
- (W). North Central Prison and Classification Center Sited in Suffield, this major new 800 bed facility is scheduled to open in 1992. It will serve as a 500 bed medium security bed prison and a 300 bed central processing and classification unit.
- (X). <u>Maximum Security Prison</u> In the design stage is the construction of a new, 300 bed maximum security prison on state-owned land in Somers; completion is expected in 1992.
- (Y). Correctional Institution for Women In the design stage is the construction of a new, 350 bed facility to replace the existing facility in Niantic. Completion is scheduled for 1992.

The preceding list of twenty-five correctional facilities is lettered from A to Y. Each of these facilities is located on the map of Connecticut on the following page by its corresponding letter.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

The Department of Correction maintains an extensive network of community programs and services. These programs assist inmates with furloughs from facilities prior to release, provide halfway house residences for newly released inmates, supervise those who are on home release, and offer employment, counseling and addiction services for other ex-inmates. Community programs play an important, two-fold role within the corrections system in that, not only are essential services provided for the clients, but these programs also serve as viable alternatives to incarceration. In this way, more institutional beds become available for the growing inmate population.



INMATE POPULATION GROWTH

The number of persons being incarcerated by the Connecticut Department of Correction has grown at an alarming rate over the past five years, as shown in Figure 4.1. The population under the supervision of the Department of Correction averaged 6,988 in 1985. The population averaged 12,983 for the first 11 months of 1989. This represents a five year growth rate of 88%. Connecticut had the highest increase in the nation in the growth of the total supervised population between 1987 and 1988. Growth for 1987-88 was 34%. Rhode Island was second with a growth rate of 30%, followed by 19% growth in Colorado and the federal system. Not all inmates are confined in a Department of Correction prison or jail. Figure 4.2 shows the growth in the confined population for the five year period between 1985 and 1989. Confined inmate population showed a 50% increase, growing from 5,693 to 8,558, reflecting the addition of new beds in recent years.

Those who are sentenced to the Department of Correction, but not confined at a facility are being supervised in the community under either the supervised home release program (SHR), a halfway house program, re-entry or parole. The largest of these is the supervised home release program in which an inmate is permitted to serve a portion of his/her sentence at home or in the community under the supervision of a parole officer. This program has shown a 585% increase, growing from a few hundred in 1985 to an average of 3,656 for the first eleven months of 1989. (See Fig. 4.3.)

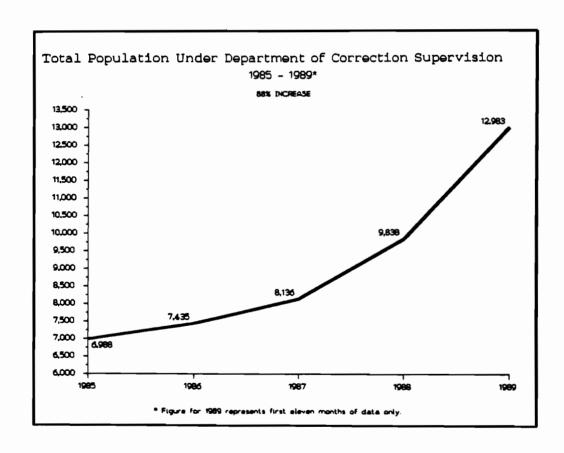


Fig. 4.1

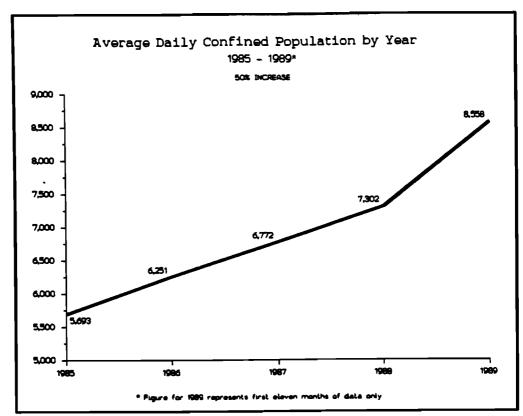


Fig. 4.2

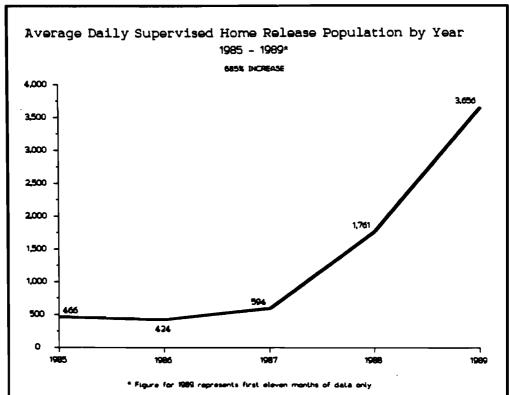


Fig. 4.3

The average daily confined population grew 50% between 1985 and 1989. THE SUPERVISED HOME RELEASE PROGRAM GREW AN ASTOUNDING 585%.

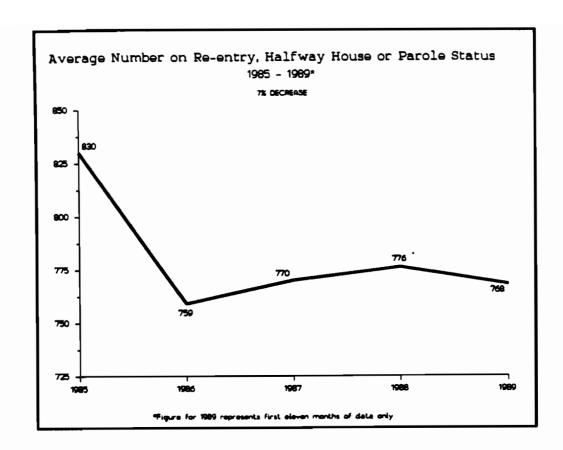


Fig. 4.4

The Department of Correction operates under a statuatory cap which would mean mandatory release of about 10% of the total facility population if the confined population exceeds 110% of this cap for 30 consecutive days. Due to the volume of cases coming into the system, the Department of Correction has been within the 30 day count down period for much of the last two years. In order to prevent a mandatory release of the number in excess of the cap, the Department of Correction has expanded the supervised home release program as a direct means to reduce prison overcrowding. The failure rate of those on SHR has increased only slightly with the increase in caseload, averaging only about one in ten to twelve for the first ten months of 1989.

Fig. 4.4 indicates a slight decline in those on re-entry, halfway house or parole status. This represents a decline in those eligible for parole after Connecticut initiated determinate sentencing and abolished parole. The number of halfway house beds has actually been increasing.

In addition to the sheer volume of cases coming into the correctional system, the overcrowding problem is further exacerbated by increasing sentence lengths. The average sentence length for the ten most common offenses (for those incarcerated by the Department of Correction) has grown by 28% since 1984. Drug arrests have increased by 89% in the last five years, and the length of the sentence imposed has also increased. Fig. 4.7 on page 56 shows growth of 61% and 64%, respectively, for the length of sentence imposed for drug sales and drug possession convictions. These factors have led to a change in the makeup of the confined population when you look at the most serious conviction offense.

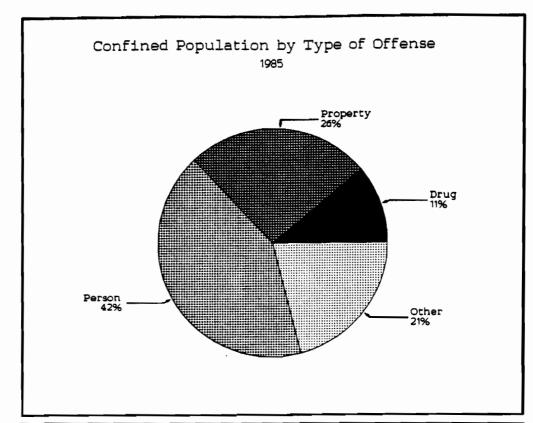




Fig. 4.6

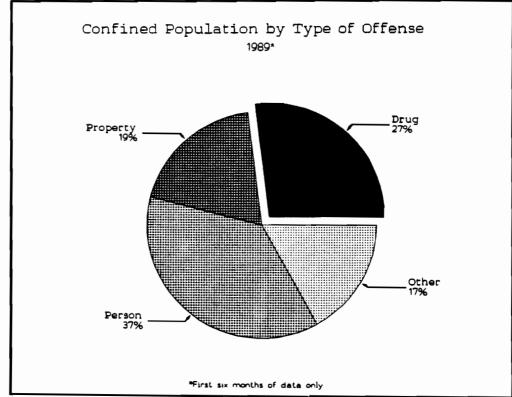


Fig. 4.5 shows that 11% of the confined population in 1985 were in for a drug violation. In 1989, that proportion increased to 27%. APPROXIMATELY ONE IN EVERY FOUR CONFINED INMATES IS NOW IN FOR A DRUG OFFENSE.

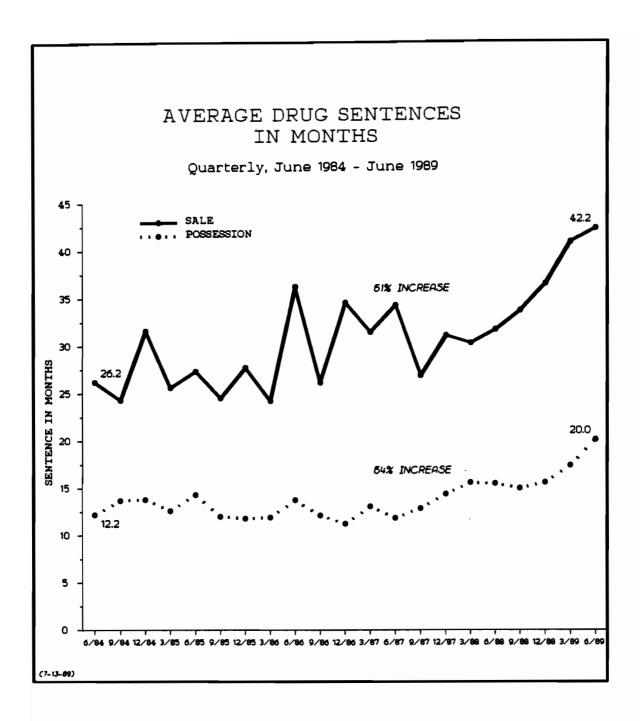


Fig. 4.7

The average sentence for drug sales increased from 26.2 months for the second quarter, 1984, to 42.2 months for the second quarter, 1989. For drug possession, the increase was from 12.2 months for the June, 1984 quarter and 20.0 months for the quarter ending on June 1, 1989.

In addition to one in four persons being confined for a drug offense, Fig. 4.8 (next page) shows that 93% of those incarcerated on September 1, 1989, were males. Looking at race and ethnicity, nearly half of the confined population (48%) was black, less than one third were white (29%), and just under one quarter (23%) was Hispanic (23%). About one half came from Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport.

Since 1981, approximately 5,000 new beds have been added to the correctional system. An additional 6,000 new beds are to be added by the end of 1992, including the addition of four new facilities described earlier. Population projections indicate that by 1992, there could be a total Department of Correction population of around 24,000, with facilities to incarcerate around 16,000. This will leave approximately 8,000 to be supervised in their home communities.

The state has been and continues to increase both the number and type of community corrections programs available to supervise both pre-trial and post conviction offenders. The Prison and Jail Overcrowding Commission, with representatives from the Judicial Department, Correction Department, community corrections, public defenders, prosecutors, victim's groups, police and private attorneys, has been meeting regularly since 1982, making an annual assessment of the overcrowding problem and making recommendations for executive and legislative action. The result has been a balanced approach to expanding the system, including both facility and alternatives expansion. With a building program in place, the more recent focus has been on alternatives, with special attention to drug treatment programs, pre-trial release programs, and youth programs.

A more detailed analysis of the prison and jail overcrowding problem and the expansion of new facilities and alternative programs can be found in <u>Prison and Jail Overcrowding</u>: A report to the Governor and Legislature, released by the Prison and Jail Overcrowing Commisssion in January, 1990.

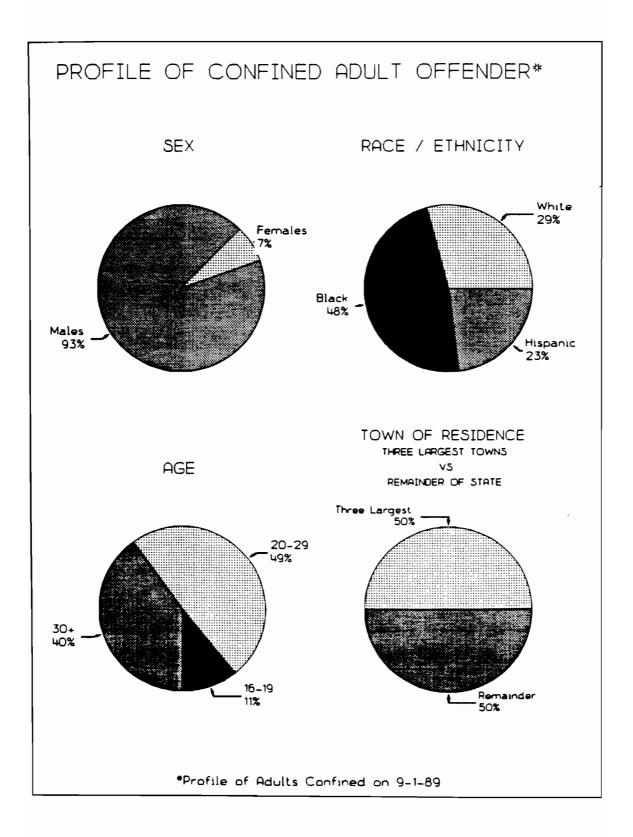


Fig. 4.8

Chapter Four: Corrections

Summary of Highlights

- * The total population under supervision of the Department of Correction has grown by 88% since 1985.
- * Confined inmate population grew by 50%, reflecting a growth in the number of available beds.
- * The supervised home release program has increased by 585% since 1985, with most of the growth in 1988 and 1989.
- * The average sentence length for the most frequent offenses grew by 28%.
- * The largest growing segment of confined population is the drug offender, going from 11% to 27% of the total between 1985 and 1989.
- * A total of 6,000 new beds are under construction or planned for completion by 1992.
- * If current prison population projections are correct, there will be a deficit of 8,000 or more beds at the end of 1992.
- * A profile of incarcerated offenders indicates that a majority are young male, minorities and nearly half come from Connecticut's three largest towns.

Sources of data for this chapter include:

Connecticut Department of Correction, Five Year Plan, 1986-1990, September 1986.

<u>Prison and Jail Overcrowding: A Report to the Governor and Legislature.</u> The Prison and Jail Overcrowding Commission, Reports from 1984-1989.

"Quarterly Research Key Indicators," Department of Correction.

Connecticut Department of Correction

CHAPTER FIVE:
JUVENILE JUSTICE

JUVENILE JUSTICE

The same criminal statutes which apply to adults also apply to juveniles. However, if a person is younger than sixteen when he or she breaks the law, he or she is subjected to a different set of procedures and sanctions than the adult population. Juvenile jurisdiction ends with the sixteenth birthday. Juveniles can not be convicted of a crime, but are adjudicated delinquent, regardless of the specific offense or offenses which brought them to court.

POLICE HANDLING

Police handle juveniles differently from adults. Some departments have one or more youth officers who specialize in handling juvenile offenders. Some towns have juvenile review boards which advise police departments on how to handle many less serious cases in the community.

Juvenile cases must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in court just as adult cases. Consequently, the quantity and quality of the police investigation and evidence gathering are just as critical in juvenile cases as adult cases. Juveniles have the same constitutional rights as adult suspects. For a statement from a child to be admissable in court, a parent or guardian must be present and the child must be advised of the following: the right to counsel; the right to have an attorney appointed if he or she can't afford one; the right to remain silent; and that any statement he or she makes may be used as evidence against him or her in court.

The police may handle a complaint against a juvenile without referral to the court by taking such actions as issuing a warning, making a referral to community services or releasing a juvenile into the custody of his parents. Or, the police may make a referral to the court. If a police officer believes the child's welfare or community protection is at risk, he or she may take a child accused of a delinquent act to one of the three state detention centers.

A detention hearing before a judge will be held on the next working day. If the child remains in detention following this hearing, a new detention hearing will be held every 15 days.

COURT PROCESSING

Superior Court, Juvenile Matters, accepts referrals for juveniles accused of a crime. Incoming cases are registered and assigned to a probation officer who screens them for inappropriate charges. Cases which are insufficient to pursue are dismissed and may be referred to a social service agency.

In delinquency matters, the State's Advocate Unit prosecutes most serious and contested cases. The Unit is under the jurisdiction of the Superior Court, Family Division, rather than the state's attorney's office, which handles adult criminal prosecutions. There are eight state's advocates. The unit consists of a chief state's advocate and seven state's advocates assigned to one or more judicial districts. A child referred to court on a criminal charge is entitled to defense counsel at all stages of the proceedings. The child can be represented privately, or by a public defender if he or she is indigent.

For first time misdemeanor offenses, an initial informal conference is held with the child and parents and a probation officer in which all are informed of the right to counsel and the right to silence. If the child admits to the charges at this initial hearing and other conditions warrant it, the case may be disposed of non-judicially by placement of the child under supervision for a period of time not to exceed three months. Cases which must go before a judge are: A, B, or C felonies or a Serious Juvenile Offense*; a case which concerns theft or unlawful use of an automobile; a case which concerns the sale or intent to sell drugs; a child previously adjudicated delinquent or a child previously handled twice non-judicially; a child on probation or under judicial supervision; other appropriate reasons. For such court cases, a plea hearing is held. If the child admits to the offense at this point, a social history investigation is ordered for a dispositional hearing held at a later date. If the child denies the complaint against him or her, a trial is scheduled and the child must have an attorney representing him.

During the trial, the state's advocate (juvenile prosecutor) presents the case. If the evidence establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that the child has committed the acts alleged in the petition, then the judge will adjudicate the child delinquent and a social history investigation will be ordered for the disposition hearing. If the child is found not delinquent, the charges are erased. The judge may also dismiss the charges.

Under certain circumstances, a hearing will be held to consider transferring the child to the adult docket of Superior Court. If probable cause is found that the child committed the alleged offense, the court must transfer a child who is 14 or older and accused of murder, or a child accused of an A felony who had a previous ajudication for a class A felony, or a child accused of a B felony and previously adjudicated delinquent for two class A or B felonies. The court may transfer a child who is 14 or older and accused of an A, B, or C felony or a serious juvenile offense and previously adjudicated delinquent for a serious juvenile offense if the child is determined to be not amenable to treatment offered through the juvenile system.

DISPOSITIONS

At the disposition hearing, the court will decide how the child may be most effectively offered remedial guidance, protection and discipline in a manner compatible with the community's well-being. The alternatives include: dismissal with a warning, a form of court supervision, or committment to the Department of Children and Youth Services for a period of up to two years, or up to four years for a serious juvenile offense.

Under court supervision, the child may remain in the community under special orders of the court and the child's progress is reviewed periodically by the court. The juvenile may be placed in a special program such as vocational probation. Probation is a legal status created by an order of the judge where the delinquent child is permitted to remain in his own home or in the physical custody of a relative or other fit person, subject to supervision by the court's probation officers and upon such terms as the judge determines. Probation generally involves a one-to-one relationship between the delinquent child and his probation officer. The court may, upon agreement of the parents, order the child placed in a private school or facility to be paid for by the parents.

All committments to the Department of Children and Youth Services, except direct placements, enter Long Lane School, the Connecticut's only state-run residential facility for delinquent children. Within the first three weeks of a child's stay, a treatment plan is developed which includes a diagnosis of

^{*}In 1979, legislation was enacted which defined a serious juvenile offense and outlined special treatment for children referred as serious offenders. These offenses involve violence or the threat of violence.

the child's problems and recommendations for the child's placement. If the child is placed in a facility outside Long Lane school, he or she is supervised by DCYS's parole services, who ensure that appropriate referrals and services are being made available to the child.

THE DATA

The information which will be used to examine the five year trends in juvenile justice are 1) the number juveniles arrested; 2) the number and type of referrals to court; and 3) demographic information about the juveniles referred to court. The focus of the data will be on juveniles entering the juvenile justice system, rather than on what happens while they are in the system and the outcome of their handling in the system.

JUVENILE ARRESTS

The segment of the population which falls under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and is most likely to break the law, those aged 10-15, has decreased by 11 percent from 1984 to 1988. The number of juveniles arrested for all offenses decreased by 13 percent in the same period of time. (See Figure 5.1 below.)

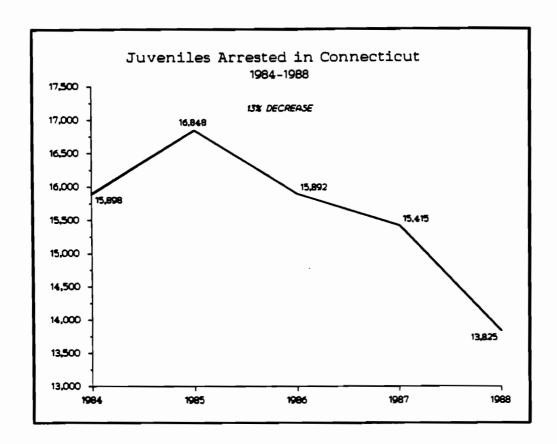


Fig. 5.1

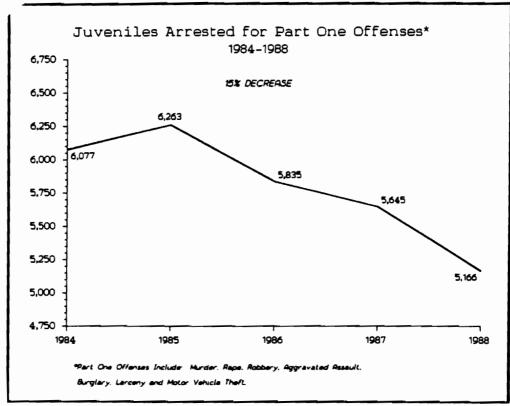


Fig. 5.2

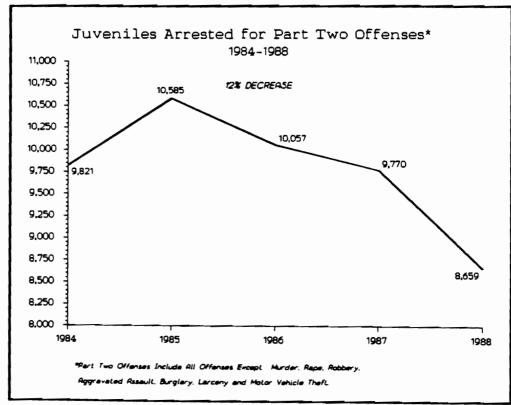


Fig. 5.3

JUVENILES ARRESTED FOR PART ONE INDEX OFFENSES DECREASED 15% from 1984 to 1988. The number of juveniles arrested for less serious offenses, the part two offenses, decreased 12%.

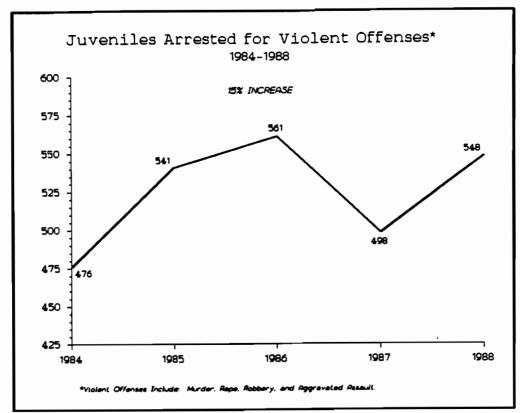


Fig. 5.4

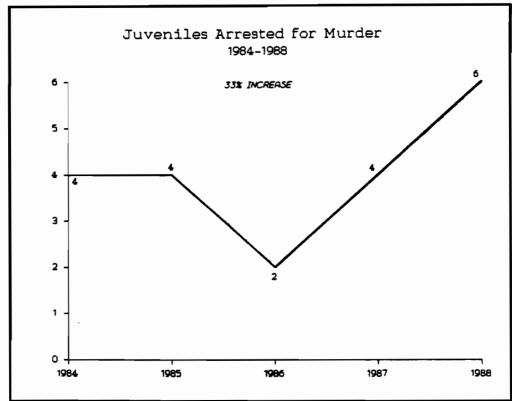


Fig. 5.5

THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED FOR VIOLENT OFFENSES CLIMBED 15% between 1984 and 1988. Although the number of juveniles arrested for murder has increased by 33% in five years, only 20 juveniles have been arrested for murder during the five year period.

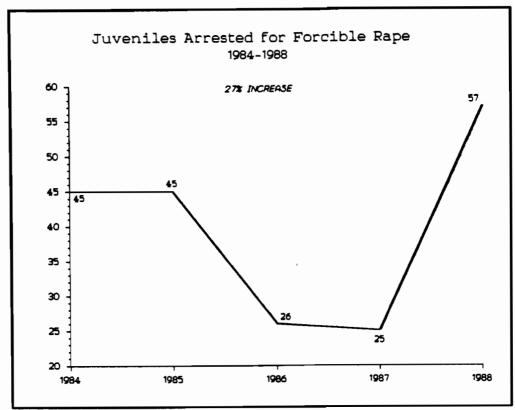


Fig. 5.6

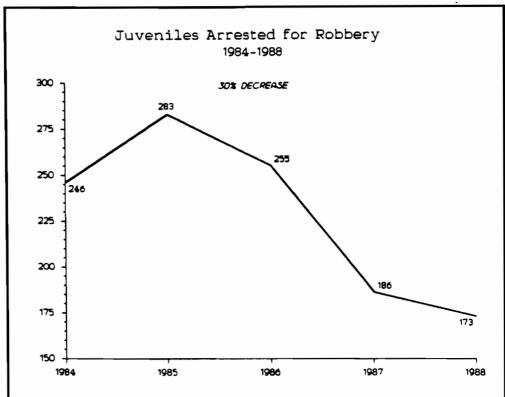


Fig. 5.7

After dropping in 1986 and 1987, THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED FOR FORCIBLE RAPE MORE THAN DOUBLED BETWEEN 1987 AND 1988. There has been a 30% decrease in the number of juveniles arrested for robbery between 1984 and 1988.

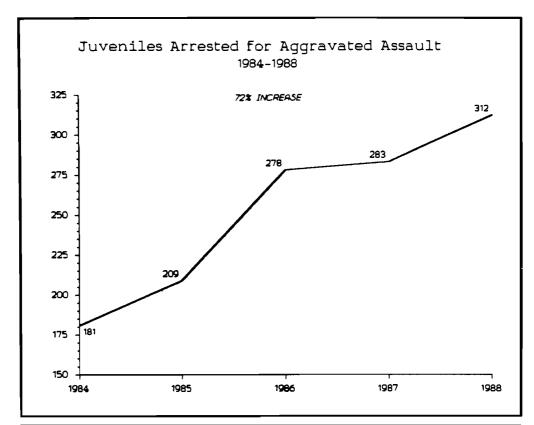
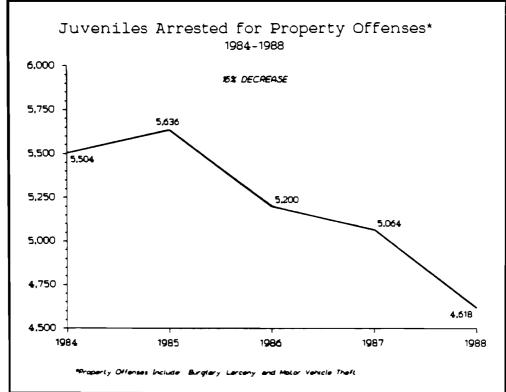


Fig. 5.8

Fig. 5.9



There has been a steady INCREASE OF 72% IN THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988. The number of juveniles arrested for property offenses dropped 16%.

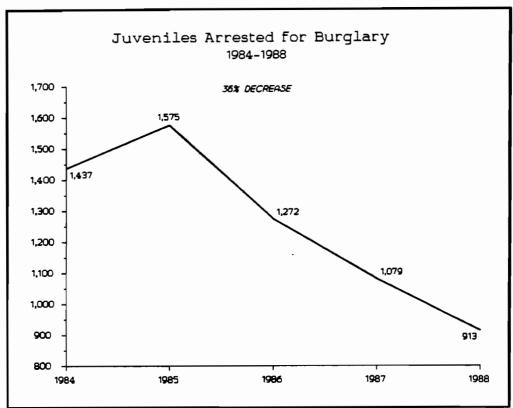


Fig. 5.10

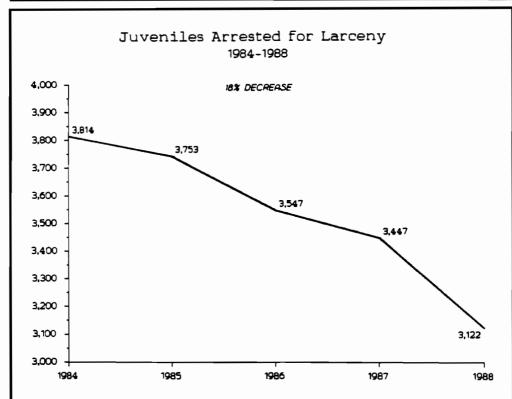


Fig. 5.11

After rising in 1985, JUVENILE ARRESTS FOR BURGLARY DROPPED SHARPLY in 1986, 1987, and 1988. The number of juveniles arrested for larceny has decreased steadily over the five year period.

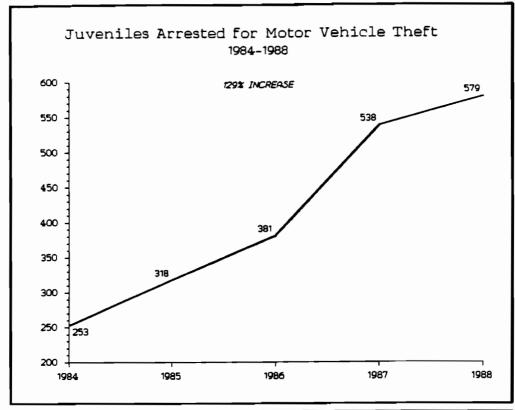
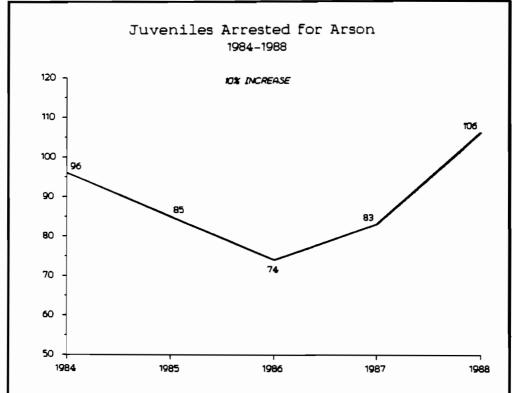


Fig. 5.12

Fig. 5.13



JUVENILE ARRESTS FOR MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT HAVE INCREASED DRAMATICALLY SINCE 1984, with the biggest jump in 1987. After dropping for two straight years, the number of juveniles arrested for arson increased in 1987 and 1988.

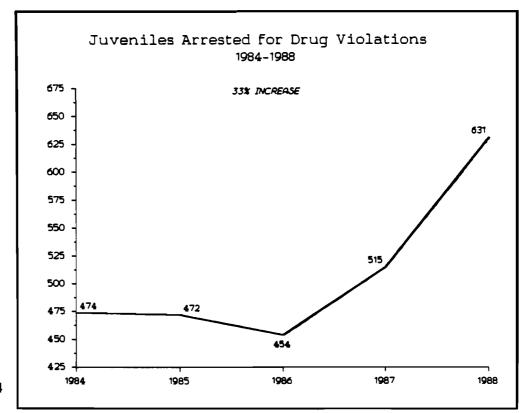


Fig. 5.14



THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED FOR DRUG OFFENSES HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN 1987 AND 1988. The number of juveniles arrested for weapons violations has increased 23% in five years.

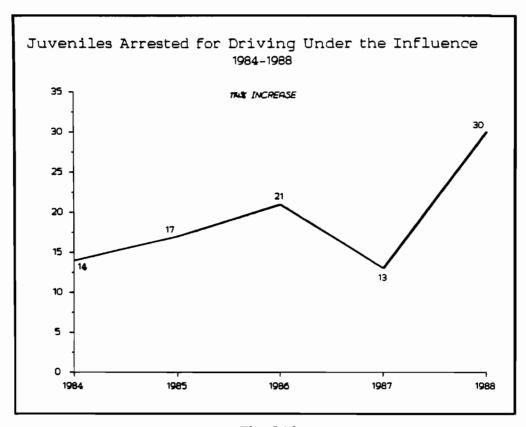


Fig. 5.16

Although the numbers are small, there has been a 114% increase in the number of juveniles arrested for driving under the influence.

The decline in the number of juveniles in the 10-15 age group between 1984 and 1988 has been accompanied by a drop in the number of juveniles being arrested during the same five year period. Even though the number of juveniles being arrested for part one crimes is declining, reflected by the decrease in the number of juveniles arrested for larceny and burglary, the number of juveniles arrested for most other part one offenses has increased. The part two offenses of drug violations and weapons violations have increased considerably, as well. The following table shows a summary of the percent change over the five year period for these offenses, and is compared to the corresponding percent increase for adults.

PERCENT CHANGE IN JUVENILES AND ADULTS ARRESTED FOR SELECT OFFENSE GROUPS

1984--1988

	<u>JUVENILES</u>	<u>ADULTS</u>	
ALL OFFENSES	13% DECREASE	54% INCREASE	
PART ONE OFFENSES	15% DECREASE	36% INCREASE	
PART TWO OFFENSES	12% DECREASE	59% INCREASE	
PART ONE PROPERTY	16% DECREASE	31% INCREASE	
PART ONE VIOLENT	15% INCREASE	49% INCREASE	

PERCENT CHANGE IN JUVENILES AND ADULTS ARRESTED FOR PART ONE OFFENSES

1984 -- 1988

	JUVENILES	<u>ADULTS</u>
MURDER	33% INCREASE	39% INCREASE
FORCIBLE RAPE	27% INCREASE	9% INCREASE
ROBBERY	30% DECREASE	1% INCREASE
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	72% INCREASE	79% INCREASE
BURGLARY	36% DECREASE	13% INCREASE
LARCENY	18% DECREASE	34% INCREASE
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	129% INCREASE	76% INCREASE
DRUG OFFENSES	33% INCREASE	92% INCREASE
WEAPONS VIOLATIONS	23% INCREASE	24% INCREASE

The number of adults arrested increased for all offenses between 1984 and 1988; the number of juveniles arrested increased for all offenses except robbery, burglary and larceny. The number of juveniles arrested increased at a higher rate than adults for the following offenses: motor vehicle theft and rape.

PERCENT OF TOTAL ARRESTS MADE BY JUVENILES 1984, 1988 AND PERCENT CHANGE BY OFFENSE GROUP

OFFENSE GROUP	<u>1984</u>	<u>1988</u>	PERCENT CHANGE
ALL OFFENSES	11%	6%	-5%
PART ONE	17%	12%	-5%
PART TWO	9%	5%	-4%
PART ONE PROPERTY	19%	13%	-6%
PART ONE VIOLENT	8%	6%	-2%

BY OFFENSE

<u>OFFENSE</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1988</u>	PERCENT CHANGE
MURDER	0.3%	0.3%	NO CHANGE
FORCIBLE RAPE	11%	13%	+2%
ROBBERY	12%	9%	-3%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	5%	5%	NO CHANGE
BURGLARY	23%	14%	-9%
LARCENY	18%	12%	-6%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	22%	27%	+5%
DRUG OFFENSES	5%	3%	-2%

Juveniles accounted for only 11% of all arrests in 1984 and only 6% in 1988. For the more serious offenses, the part one offenses, juveniles dropped from 17% of arrests in 1984 to 12% in 1988. For violent offenses, the drop was from 8% to 6% of all arrests. Juveniles accounted for a declining percent of all arrests for robbery, burglary, larceny and drug offenses. There was no change in the proportion of juveniles arrested for murder or aggravated assault between 1984 and 1988. The proportion of all arrests for rape and motor vehicle theft made by juveniles actually increased between 1984 and 1988. Juveniles are becoming increasingly involved in crimes of violence and auto theft and less frequently other property offenses.

The distribution of juvenile crime throughout the state has followed the same pattern as adult crime. Juvenile arrests are increasingly more prevalent in Connecticut's three largest cities. In 1984, 13.3% of Connecticut's juvenile population aged 10-15 resided in its three largest towns--Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven. However, 20% of all juvenile arrests took place in these three towns. In 1988, an estimated 14.4% of Connecticut's population aged 10-15 resided in the three largest towns, and accounted for 24% of all juvenile arrests. Although statewide, the population of juveniles aged 10-15 dropped by 11%, the same population in Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven dropped only a combined 3%. The remainder of the state other than the three largest towns dropped by 12%. The three largest towns have accounted for an increasing proportion of the state's total juvenile population aged 10-15 over the last five years. The juvenile population in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport will grow at a much faster rate than for the remainder of the state in the coming decade. (See figures 5.17, 5.18, and 5.19.)

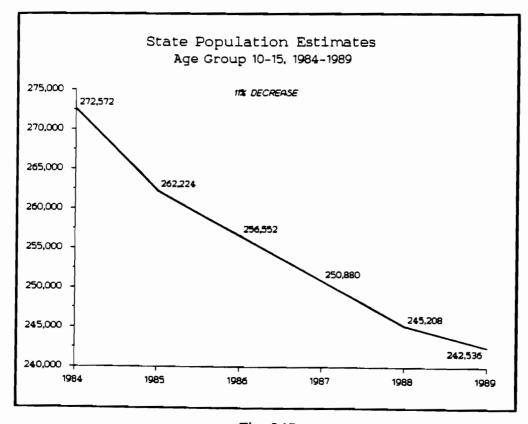


Fig. 5.17

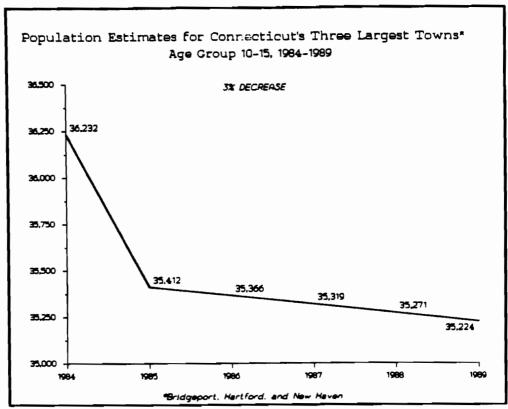
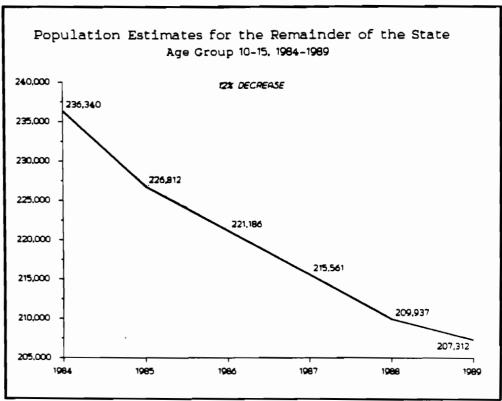


Fig. 5.18

Fig. 5.19



THE JUVENILE POPULATION AGED 10-15 DECREASED MUCH LESS IN THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS THAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE DURING THE FIVE YEARS BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988.

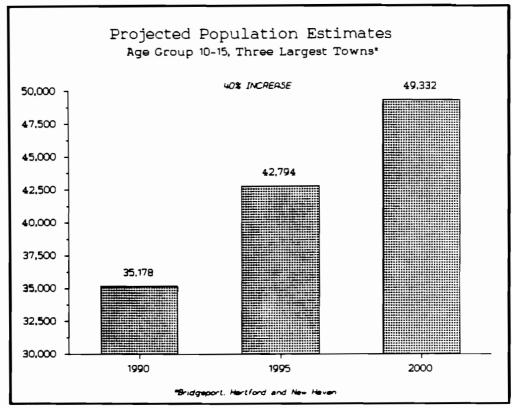


Fig. 5.20

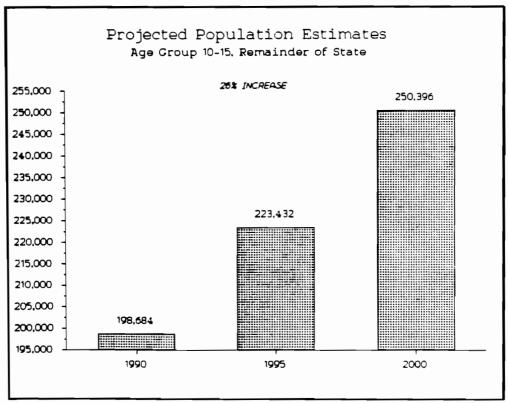


Fig. 5.21

Although the total juvenile population aged 10-15 is expected to increase by 28% between 1990 and 2000, the growth will not be uniform throughout the state. THE JUVENILE POPULATION IN THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS WILL GROW BY 40% AND THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE BY ONLY 26%.

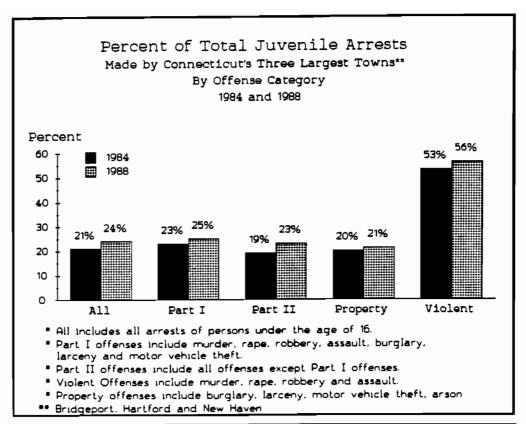
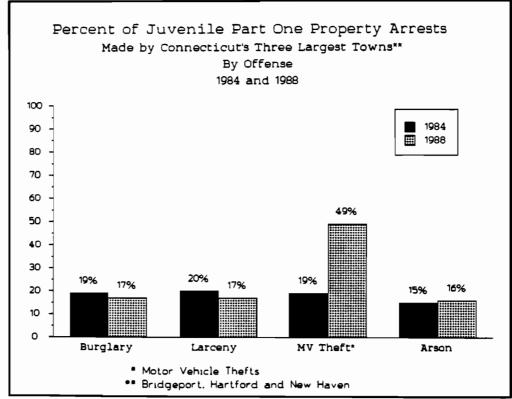


Fig. 5.22

Fig. 5.23



MORE THAN HALF OF ALL ARRESTS OF A JUVENILE FOR A VIOLENT OFFENSE TOOK PLACE IN BRIDGEPORT, HARTFORD OR NEW HAVEN IN 1988. The percentage of juvenile arrests for motor vehicle theft in the three largest towns increased dramatically.

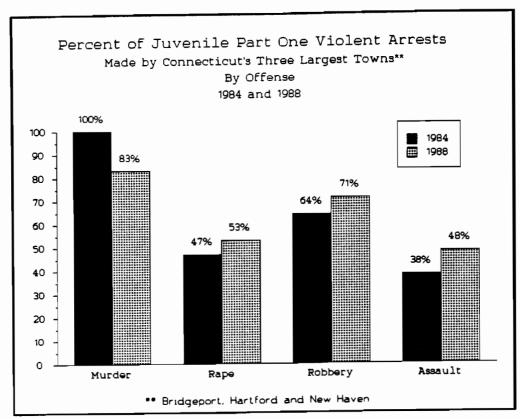


Fig. 5.24

Arrests of juveniles in the three largest cities for rape, robbery, and assault account for an even higher percentage of arrests in 1988 than in 1984.

Although the towns of Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport made up only 14.4% of the state's estimated juvenile population aged 10-15, they accounted for nearly one quarter of all arrests of juveniles around the state. For property offenses, the three largest towns accounted for one out of five juvenile arrests; for violent offenses they constituted more than half (56%) of all juvenile arrests in 1988.

Looking at specific offenses, the three largest towns accounted for a slightly smaller proportion of burglaries and larcenies, but the proportion of arsons and motor vehicle thefts grew. Arson increased by only 1%, but motor vehicle theft went from 19% to an incredible 49%. Nearly half of all juvenile arrests for motor vehicle theft takes place in one of the three largest towns.

For violent offenses, the three largest towns increased their proportion of forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault. The three largest towns increased their share of arrests for forcible rape from 47% to 53%, a gain of six percent. Although the number of juvenile arrests for robbery has declined by 30% statewide between 1984 and 1988, the three largest towns have increased their percentage of the total number of arrests for robbery from 64% to 71%, a gain of 7 percent. The biggest jump came in arrests for aggravated assault. The three largest towns increased their share of the total number of arrests for aggravated assault by ten percentage points, going from 38% in 1984 to 48% in 1988.

As with the adult population, the three largest towns account for more juvenile arrests than their proportion of the population, and they account for an increasing proportion of all crimes. Since the juvenile population of the three largest towns is expected to grow by 40% between 1990 and 2000, compared to the remainder of the state's expected juvenile population growth at 26%, we may be facing some very large increases in juvenile crime.

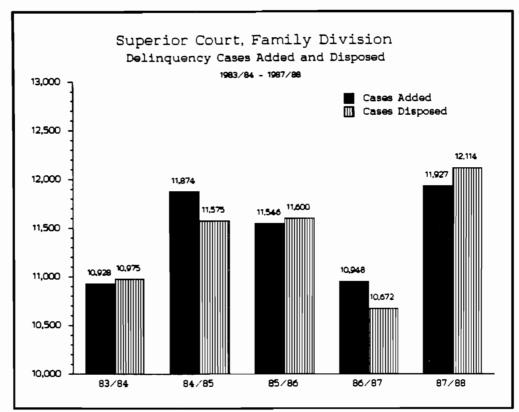


Fig. 5.25

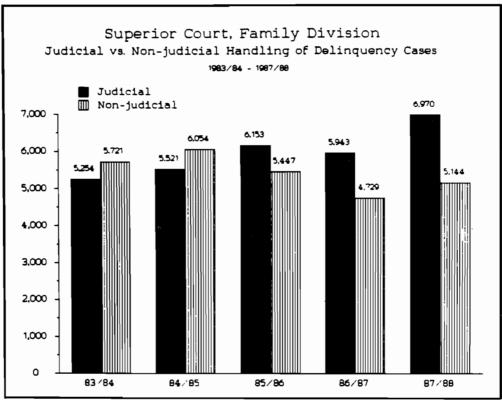


Fig. 5.26

Fig. 5.25 shows the number of cases added and disposed in juvenile court for the five year period FY 83-84 through FY 87-88. THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CASES ADDED AND DISPOSED OCCURRED IN 1987/88. The number of cases which are handled judicially has outnumbered non-judicial cases beginning in FY 1985-86.

The number of juveniles admitted to detention has been climbing steadily. Between FY 83/84 and FY 87/88, the number has grown by 64%. Juveniles are also staying in detention longer. The average length of stay and the average daily population have increased 79% and 201%, respectively, in the same time period.

ADMISSION TO DETENTION

<u>Year</u>	Number Admitted	Average Length of Stay (Days)	Average Daily Population	
1983/84	1,482	4.7	19.1	
1984/85	1,610	6.2	27.3	
1985/86	1,848	7.3	37.0	
1986/87	2,142	7.9	46.6	
1987/88	2,437	8.4	57.5	

An examination of the juveniles referred to juvenile court in FY 1987-88 reveals a profile of the juvenile offender, which is presented graphically by Fig. 5.26 on the next page. Seventy-five percent of the referrals are boys. Males also tend to be referred for far more serious offenses, as the following table reveals.

JUVENILES REFERRED TO SUPERIOR COURT, FAMILY DIVISION
Percent By Sex, Type of Offense

	<u>85/86</u>		86/87		<u>87/88</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	Males	<u>Females</u>	Males	<u>Females</u>
Delinquency	82%	18%	80%	20%	75%	25%
SJO	88%	12%	87%	13%	88%	12%
FWSN	50%	50%	48%	52%	50%	50%
All Referrals	77%	23%	74%	26%	75%	25%

Looking at race or ethnicity, 55 percent of the referrals were white, 27 percent were black, fifteen percent were Hispanic, and three percent were other races. According to the 1980 census, the race/ethnicity of the juvenile population aged 7-15 was approximately 85 percent white, ten percent black, and six percent Hispanic.

Older children predominated among the juvenile caseload. Thirty-seven percent of the juveniles referred were fifteen at the time of the offense. Only six percent were younger than 11. Thirteen and fourteen year olds made up 41 percent of the referrals, while 11 and 12 year olds accounted for thirteen percent of the caseload. The remaining three percent were 16 at the time of the referral.

Eighty-one percent of the referrals were for a delinquency offense, including the nine percent serious juvenile offense referrals. The remaining nineteen percent were for families with service needs, or status offenses.

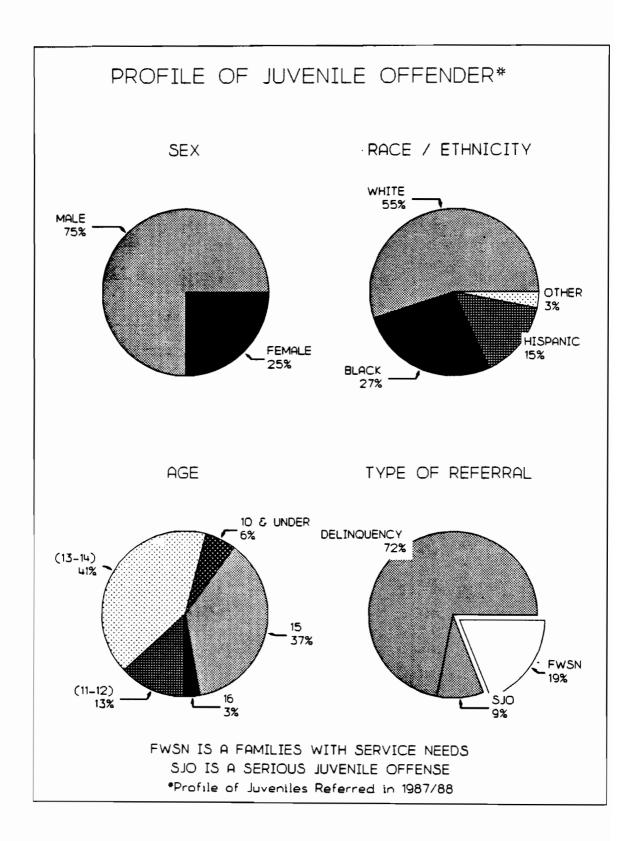


Fig. 5.27

Chapter Five: Juvenile Justice

Summary of Highlights

- * The number of juveniles aged 10-15 has been declining.
- * The overall number of juveniles arrested in Connecticut has been declining since 1984.
- * The number of juveniles arrested for violent offenses has been increasing since 1984.
- * Arrests of juveniles for aggravated assault and motor vehicle theft have climbed dramatically; arrests for rape, murder, arson, driving under the influence, weapons violations, and drug violations have also increased.
- * Arrests for robbery, burglary, and larceny have decreased.
- * Juvenile crime is more prevalent in Connecticut's three largest cities (Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven).
 - . Although only 14 percent of the state's youth population aged 10-15 resides in Connecticut's three largest cities, one out of every four or five juvenile arrests takes place there.
 - . More than half of all juveniles arrested for part one violent offenses (murder, rape, robberry, aggravated assault) were arrested in the three largest towns.
 - . The proportion of juvenile arrests taking place in the three largest towns is increasing.
 - . The juvenile population in the three largest towns is expected to grow more rapidly than the remainder of the state in the next decade.
- * The number of delinquency cases added to Superior Court, Family Division is climbing.
- * The number of juvenile court cases seen by a judge jumped by 33 percent between FY 1984-85 and FY 1987/88.
- * The number of juveniles being held in detention, the average length of stay and the average daily population of juveniles held in detention has increased significantly since FY 1983-84.

Sources of data for this chapter include:

Crime in Connecticut, Annual Reports, 1984-1988

Report of the Connecticut Judicial Department, 1982-84, 1984-86, 86-88.

State of Connecticut, Judicial Department, Superior Court--Juvenile Matters, Biennial Report, 1984-1986 and 1986-1988.