

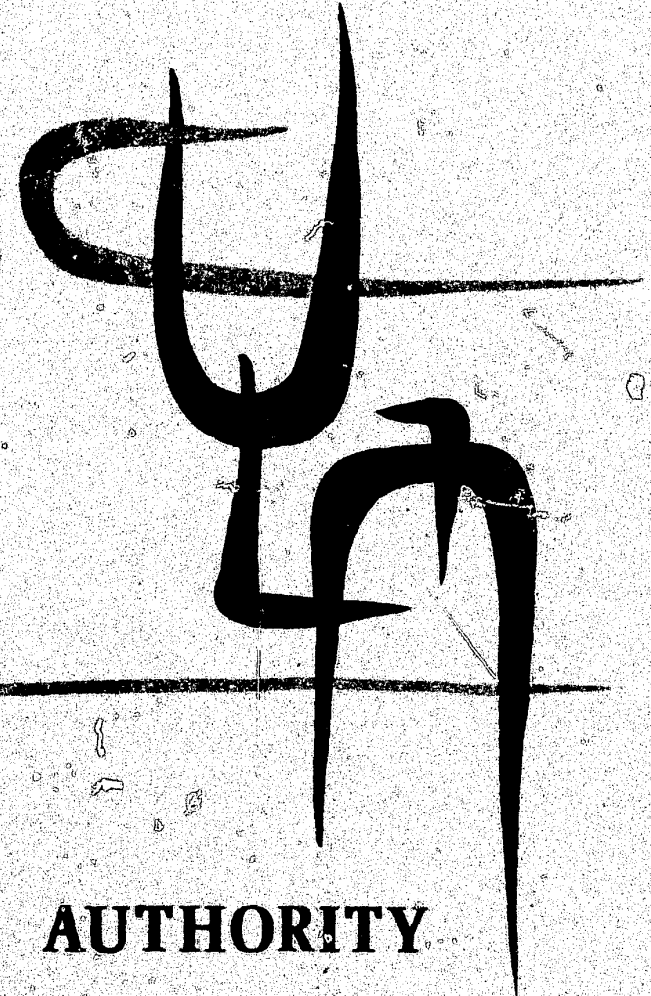
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STATISTICAL FACTS

on the

california youth authority

december, 1975



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CALIFORNIA

YOUTH AUTHORITY

State of California

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

Health and Welfare Agency

MARIO OBLEDO
SECRETARY



Department of the Youth Authority

ALLEN F. BREED,
DIRECTOR

GEORGE R. ROBERTS,
CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

C. A. TERHUNE,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
PAROLE AND
INSTITUTIONS BRANCH

ROBERT L. SMITH,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY
CORRECTIONS BRANCH

ROBERT H. MABBUTT,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
MANAGEMENT SERVICES BRANCH

JAMES C. BARNETT,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
PLANNING, RESEARCH, EVALUATION
AND DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

KEITH S. GRIFFITHS
Chief of Research

GEORGE F. DAVIS
Supervisor, Information Systems

PEGGY L. PIKE
Associate Statistician

HARMON L. ORSBORN
Assistant Statistician

LYNNE GUTTMANN
Assistant Social Research Analyst

LILY T. WONG
Senior Graphic Artist

LDA

HIGHLIGHTS

This booklet aims to supply graphically and objectively a long-range picture of delinquency in California and the program of the California Youth Authority. Some of the highlights:

California's youth population (aged 10-20) has increased about 60 percent since 1960.

During the period between 1960 and 1974, most indices which measure the official response to delinquency increased at least twice. New all time highs were established in 1974 for juvenile arrests and initial referrals to probation. Although initial petitions and wardships declared did not establish new highs they have again this year exceeded the prior year.

First commitments to the California Youth Authority are the exception to this trend. First commitments reached a peak in 1965 and declined significantly through the 1972 and 1973 period then rose in 1974. This overall decrease seems almost wholly the result of California's Probation Subsidy program which began in 1966.

Since the Probation Subsidy program became operative on July 1, 1966, about 36,000 commitments to state correctional institutions have been avoided. This figure is based on the number of commitments that would have been expected had commitments continued at the base rates which existed between 1959 and 1963.

The first five charts show how the number of delinquents and the rates of delinquency in California have changed from year to year since 1960. Charts VI through XIII statistically show some of the more important dimensions of the California Youth Authority program. These include the number and rate of commitments, trends in average population, length of stay, recidivism, and personnel ratios. Charts XIV and XV relate to the California Probation Subsidy program and its influence on commitments to state correctional institutions.

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TABLE 1
ESTIMATED CIVILIAN YOUTH POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA*
July 1 of Each Year, 1960-1974
By Selected Age Groups
(In thousands)

Year	Ages 10-20	Ages 10-17	Ages 18-20
1960.....	2,634	2,112	522
1961.....	2,800	2,229	571
1962.....	2,985	2,359	626
1963.....	3,194	2,517	677
1964.....	3,368	2,671	697
1965.....	3,541	2,757	784
1966.....	3,696	2,824	872
1967.....	3,862	2,906	956
1968.....	3,939	2,976	963
1969.....	4,004	3,040	964
1970.....	4,064	3,075	989
1971.....	4,145	3,098	1,047
1972.....	4,204	3,117	1,087
1973.....	4,256	3,136	1,120
1974.....	4,276	3,139	1,137

*Source: State Department of Finance

Youth population in California has been constantly increasing. The age groups shown represent the population from which Youth Authority commitments are generally made. The 10-17 year age range is representative of juvenile court commitments, while the 18-20 year age range is representative of criminal court commitments. Between 1960 and 1974, the overall youth population increased about 62 percent. In the 10-17 year age group, the average year-to-year increase from 1960 to 1964 was about six percent. Since then, it has been declining, and in the 1970's the year-to-year increase has only been about one percent. In the 18-20 year age group, because of the narrower age span, the fluctuations have varied widely reaching as high as 12 percent in the 1964-65 period to virtually no change in the 1968-69 period.

Chart I
YOUTH POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA
BY SELECTED AGE GROUPS

1960 - 1974

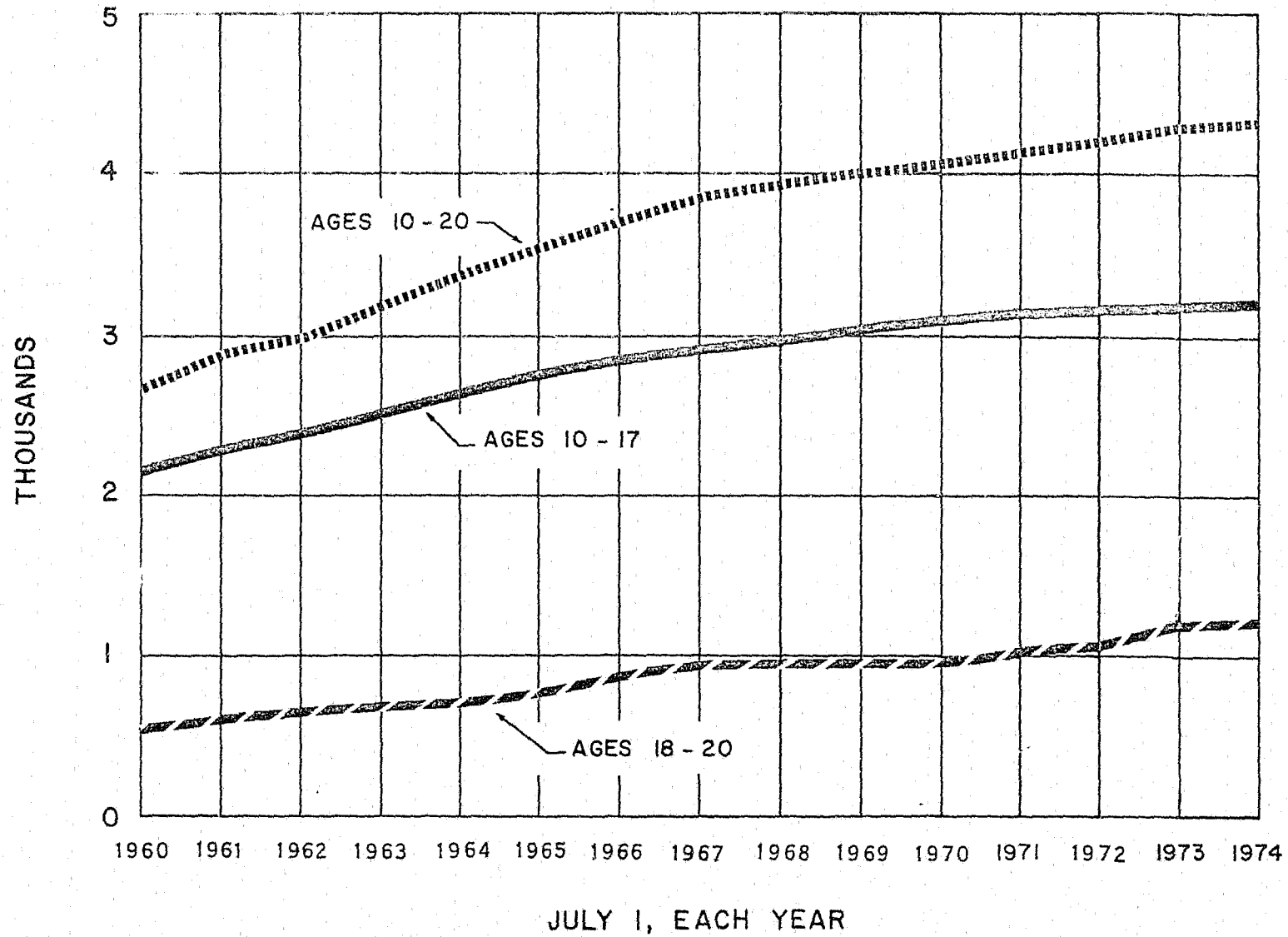


TABLE 2
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ARRESTS AND INITIAL REFERRALS
TO JUVENILE PROBATION FOR DELINQUENT ACTS*

1960 - 1974

Year	Arrests	Initial Referrals
1960.....	182,715	58,741
1961.....	189,424	60,224
1962.....	210,590	68,074
1963.....	244,312	79,302
1964.....	269,584	91,509
1965.....	277,649	96,894
1966.....	303,020	105,477
1967.....	323,427	123,653
1968.....	366,451	140,792
1969.....	394,117	158,335
1970.....	382,935	159,978
1971.....	379,454	170,185
1972.....	353,232	160,904
1973.....	352,617	164,436
1974.....	408,131	178,332

*Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Criminal Statistics

Five indices of juvenile delinquency in California have been selected for this report. Juvenile delinquency arrests and initial referrals to juvenile probation are shown here.

The number of arrests more than doubled between 1960 and 1969, then decreased by 10 percent over the next three years, however, has increased over the past two years to reach an all time high.

The number of initial referrals tripled from 1960 through 1974. This has been a steady rise, with the exception of 1971.

Chart II

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ARRESTS AND INITIAL REFERRALS
TO JUVENILE PROBATION FOR DELINQUENT ACTS

1960 - 1974

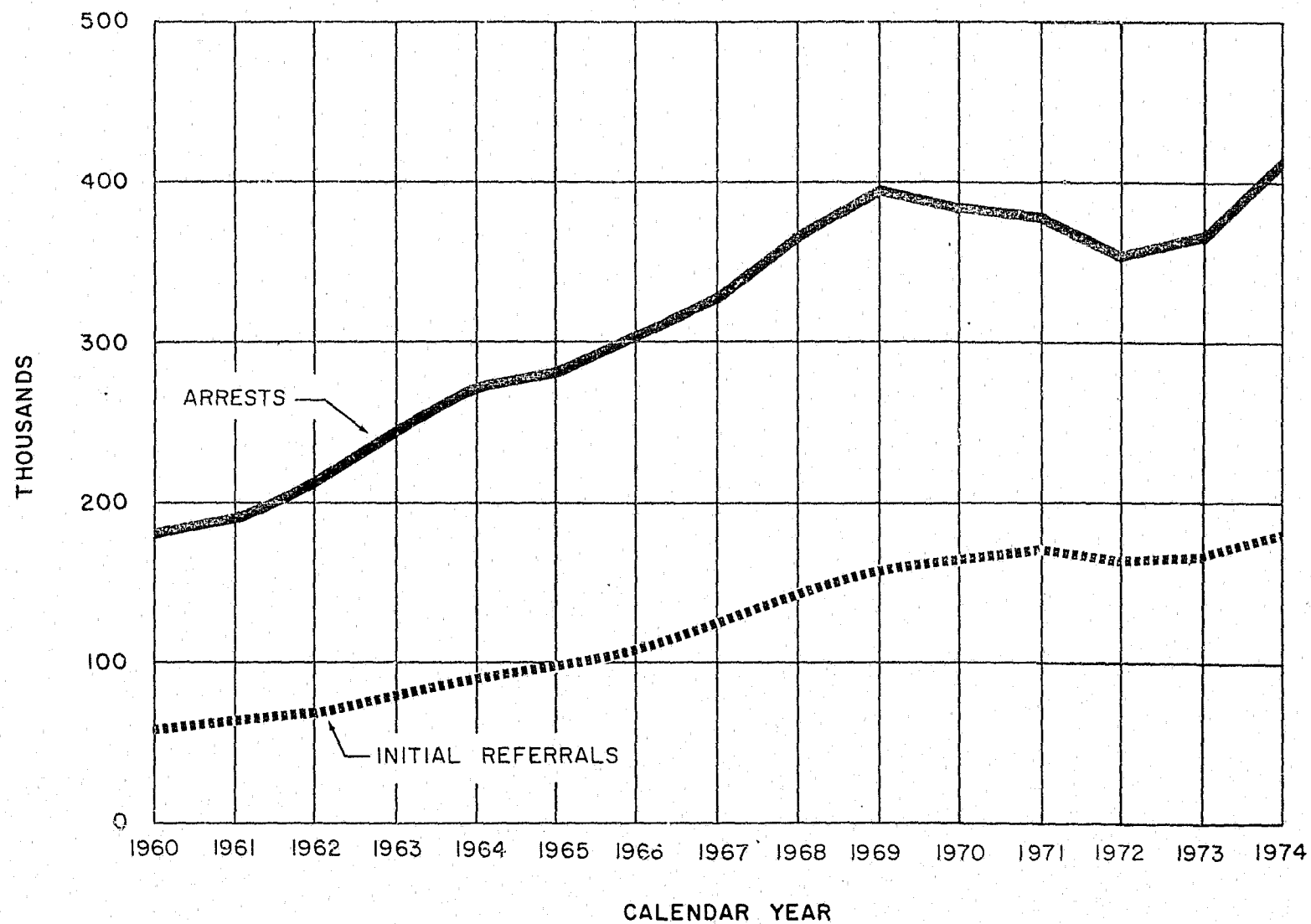


TABLE 3

RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ARRESTS
AND OF INITIAL REFERRALS TO JUVENILE PROBATION FOR DELINQUENT ACTS

1960 - 1974

Year	Arrests per 100,000 Population	Initial Referrals per 100,000 Pop.
1960.....	8,653	2,782
1961.....	8,499	2,702
1962.....	8,927	2,886
1963.....	9,706	3,151
1964.....	10,093	3,426
1965.....	10,071	3,514
1966.....	10,730	3,735
1967.....	11,130	4,255
1968.....	12,314	4,731
1969.....	12,964	5,208
1970.....	12,453	5,203
1971.....	12,248	5,493
1972.....	11,332	5,162
1973.....	11,563	5,243
1974.....	13,002	5,681

In this table and Tables 5 and 7, the indices of juvenile delinquency are divided by the population, thus establishing rates per 100,000 youth population. With this technique, population changes per se are ruled out as a factor in the variation in the indices over time.

The number of juvenile delinquency arrests and the number of initial referrals to juvenile probation as shown in Table 2 are shown above as rates per 100,000 youth population aged 10-17. The rate for arrests began increasing significantly in 1962, and increased each year thereafter (except in 1965) until 1969, thus indicating that during this period, arrests were rising at a faster rate than youth population. The rate decreased in 1969 through 1972 then rose the next two years to an all time high in 1974.

Initial referrals did not begin a significant increase until 1963, and then continued increasing through 1971. After decreasing in 1972 it reversed in 1973 and like arrests, reached a new high in 1974.

Chart III

RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ARRESTS AND OF INITIAL REFERRALS TO JUVENILE PROBATION FOR DELINQUENT ACTS

1960 - 1974

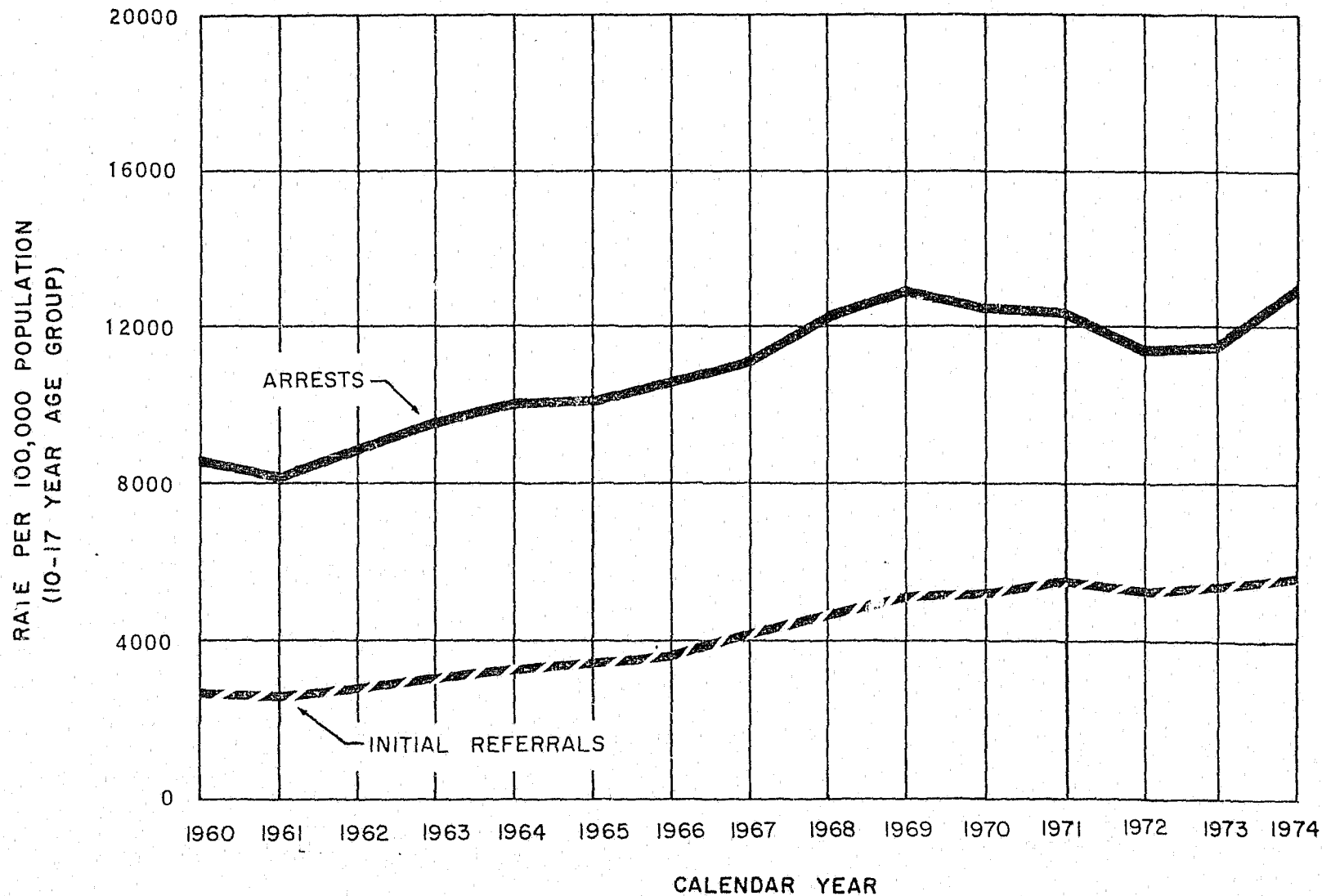


TABLE 4

INITIAL PETITIONS FILED FOR DELINQUENT ACTS; JUVENILES MADE WARDS
OF THE JUVENILE COURT; AND JUVENILE COURT FIRST COMMITMENTS TO THE
CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

Year	Initial Petitions*	Wardships Declared*	Juvenile Court First Commitments to Y.A.
1960.....	28,401	19,444	3,350
1961.....	28,187	20,163	3,852
1962.....	30,778	22,782	3,739
1963.....	33,401	24,597	4,371
1964.....	34,229	24,842	4,171
1965.....	35,614	25,646	4,648
1966.....	37,344	26,247	4,130
1967.....	43,782	28,311	3,571
1968.....	49,688	31,995	3,164
1969.....	57,978	35,451	2,779
1970.....	53,037	32,158	2,204
1971.....	53,305	31,449	1,651
1972.....	47,754	28,907	1,462
1973.....	50,679	29,275	1,464
1974.....	53,724	31,004	1,527

*Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Criminal Statistics

Three further indicators of juvenile delinquency in California are initial petitions filed in juvenile court, the number of juveniles made wards of the juvenile court, and juvenile court first commitments to the Youth Authority. For the period shown, initial petitions and wardships declared exhibited a general increase through 1969 then both declined in 1970. Wardships declared continued to decline through 1972, while initial petitions rose slightly in 1971 and then fell dramatically in 1972. However, both indices rose in 1973 and 1974. Since the peak year of 1965, Youth Authority juvenile court commitments decreased by 69 percent through 1973. The first significant rise from the prior year since 1965 was recorded in 1974. The decrease in Youth Authority commitments is a direct result of the California Probation Subsidy program which started in July, 1966.

Chart IV

INITIAL PETITIONS FILED FOR DELINQUENT ACTS; JUVENILES
MADE WARDS OF THE JUVENILE COURT; JUVENILE COURT FIRST
COMMITMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

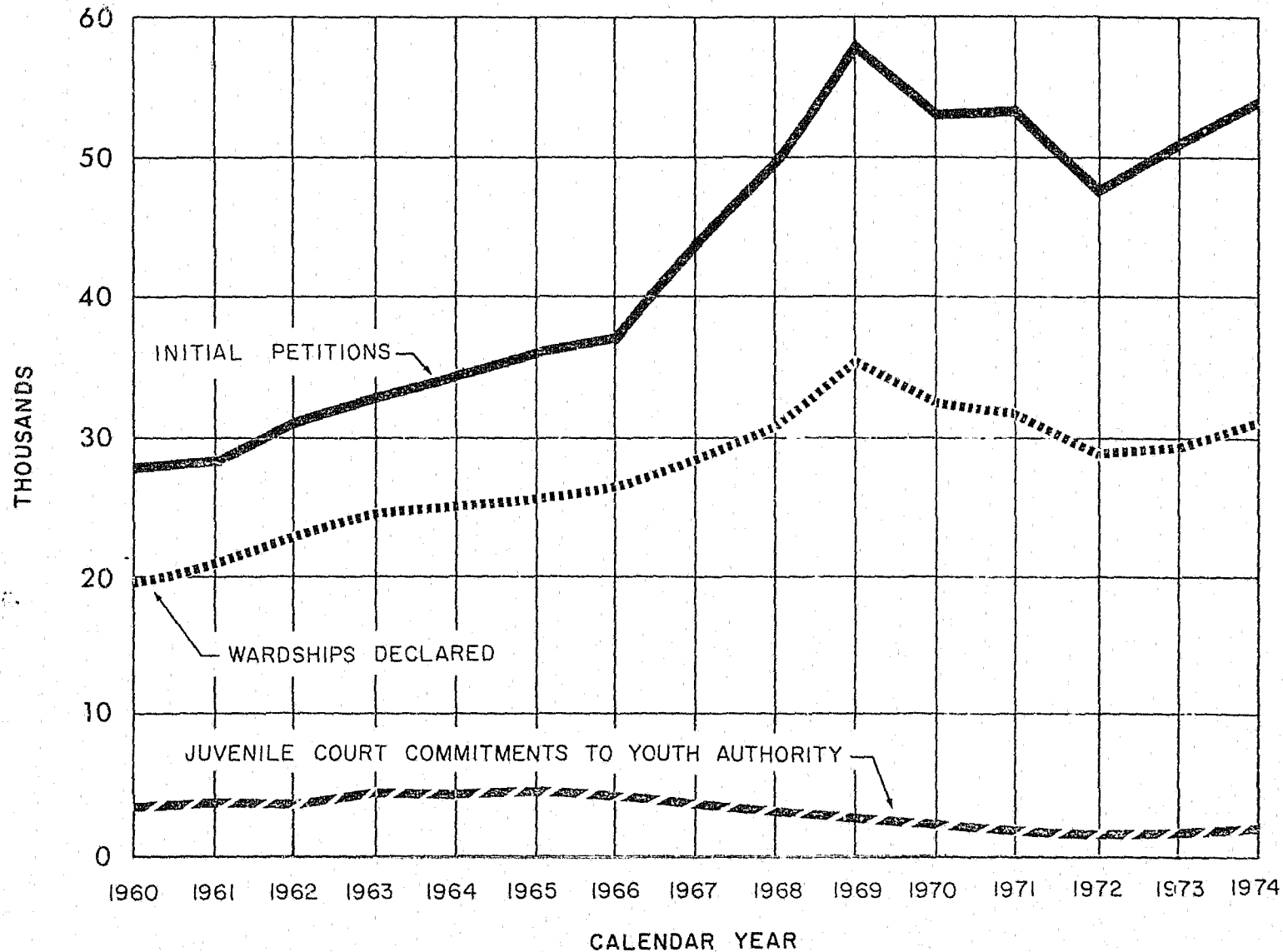


TABLE 5

RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION OF INITIAL PETITIONS FILED FOR DELINQUENT ACTS;
JUVENILES MADE WARDS OF THE JUVENILE COURT; JUVENILE COURT FIRST COMMITMENTS
TO THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

Year	Initial Petitions per 100,000 Pop.	Wardships Declared per 100,000 Pop.	Juvenile Court First Commitments to Y.A. per 100,000 Pop.
1960.....	1,345	921	159
1961.....	1,265	905	173
1962.....	1,305	966	158
1963.....	1,327	977	174
1964.....	1,282	930	156
1965.....	1,292	930	169
1966.....	1,322	929	146
1967.....	1,507	974	123
1968.....	1,670	1,075	106
1969.....	1,907	1,166	91
1970.....	1,725	1,046	72
1971.....	1,721	1,015	53
1972.....	1,532	927	47
1973.....	1,616	934	47
1974.....	1,722	988	49

The number of initial petitions filed, juvenile court wardships declared, and juvenile court first commitments to the Youth Authority as shown in Table 4 are shown above as rates per 100,000 youth population aged 10-17. Both initial petitions filed and wardships declared began increasing sharply in 1967 after a number of relatively stable years. After the 1969 high, both rates declined through 1972 and then rose in both 1973 and 1974.

The rate of juvenile court first commitments to the Youth Authority began to decrease in 1966 and continued to decrease through 1972. It remained about the same in 1973, then rose slightly in 1974.

Chart V

RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION OF INITIAL PETITIONS FILED FOR DELINQUENT ACTS; JUVENILES MADE WARDS OF THE JUVENILE COURT; JUVENILE COURT FIRST COMMITMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

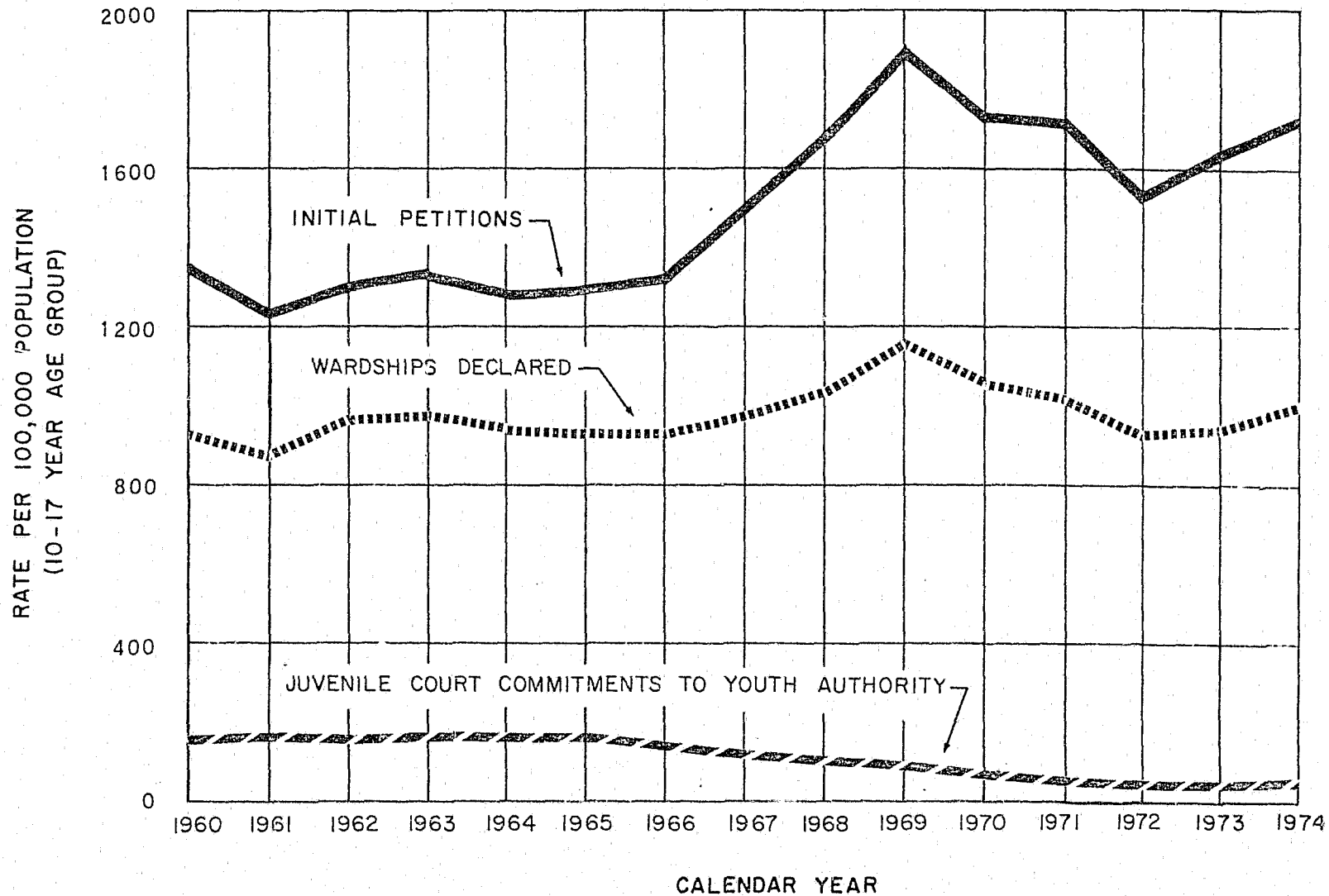


TABLE 6
FIRST COMMITMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY
1960 - 1974
By Court of Commitment

Year	Total	Juvenile Court	Criminal Court
1960.....	4,602	3,350	1,252
1961.....	5,337	3,852	1,485
1962.....	5,194	3,739	1,455
1963.....	5,733	4,371	1,362
1964.....	5,488	4,171	1,317
1965.....	6,190	4,648	1,542
1966.....	5,470	4,130	1,340
1967.....	4,998	3,571	1,427
1968.....	4,690	3,164	1,526
1969.....	4,494	2,779	1,715
1970.....	3,746	2,204	1,542
1971.....	3,218	1,651	1,567
1972.....	2,728	1,462	1,266
1973.....	2,757	1,464	1,293
1974.....	3,062	1,550	1,475

First commitments to the California Youth Authority decreased 56 percent between the years 1965 and 1972. Juvenile court commitments decreased 69 percent while criminal court commitments decreased 18 percent. In both 1973 and 1974 total commitments were slightly above the previous year reversing the downward trend of the prior seven years.

Chart VI

FIRST COMMITMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

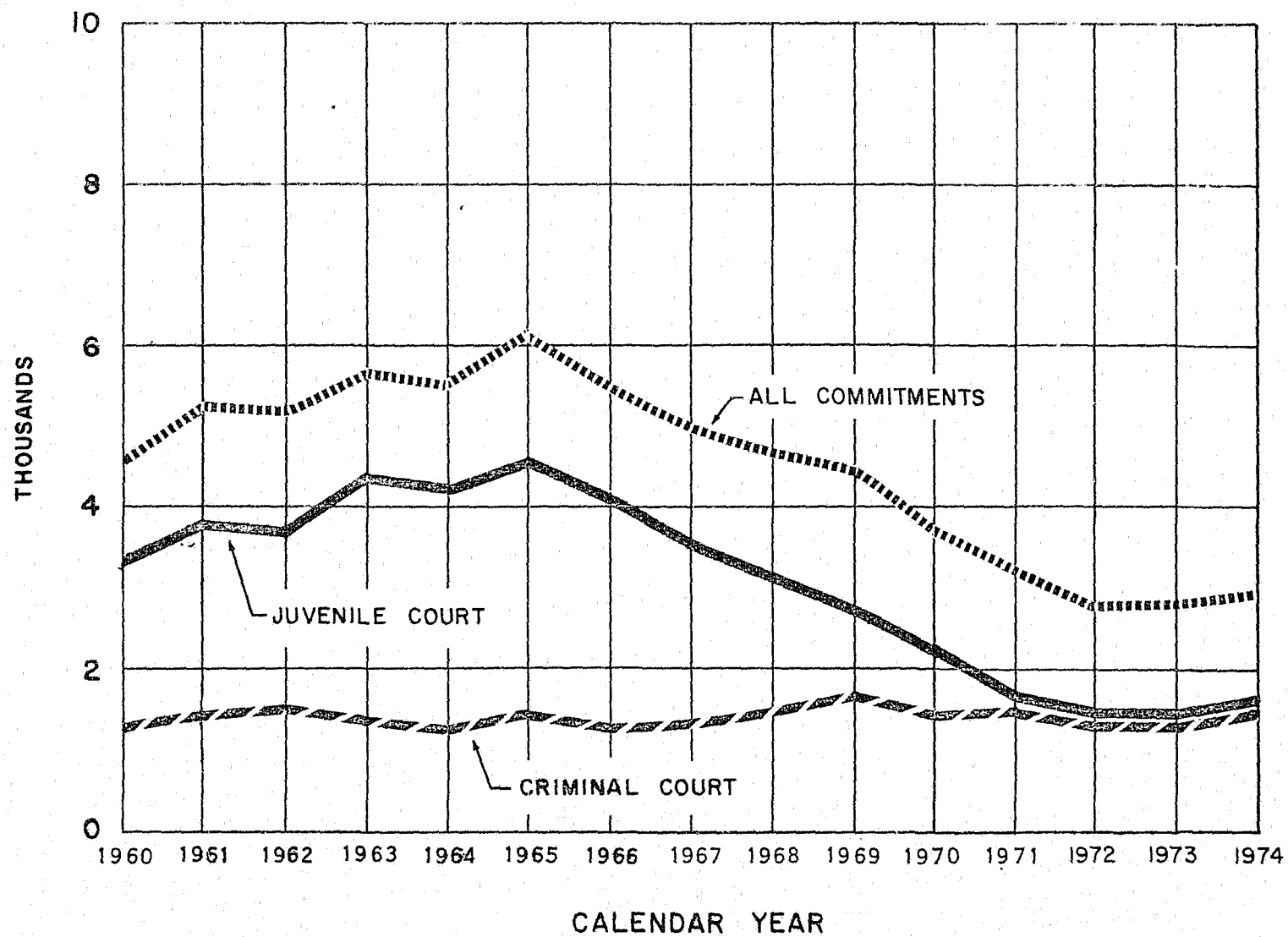


TABLE 7

RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION OF FIRST COMMITMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

By Court of Commitment

Year	Total Commitments per 100,000 Pop.	Juvenile Court Commitments per 100,000 Pop.	Criminal Court Commitments per 100,000 Pop.
1960.....	175	159	240
1961.....	191	173	260
1962.....	174	158	232
1963.....	180	174	201
1964.....	163	156	189
1965.....	175	169	197
1966.....	148	146	154
1967.....	129	123	149
1968.....	119	106	158
1969.....	112	91	178
1970.....	92	72	156
1971.....	78	53	150
1972.....	65	47	116
1973.....	65	47	115
1974.....	70	49	130

The number of first commitments to the Youth Authority as shown in Table 6 are shown above as rates per 100,000 youth population. For the total rate, the 10-20 year age group is used and for the juvenile and criminal court rates the 10-17 and 18-20 year age groups, respectively, are used. In the years shown, the overall rate fell steadily from 1965 through 1972. After stabilizing in 1973 it rose for the first time in 1974. The juvenile court rate reached a high in 1963 and the criminal court rate reached its high in 1961.

Chart VII
RATE OF FIRST COMMITMENTS TO THE
CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY

1960 - 1974

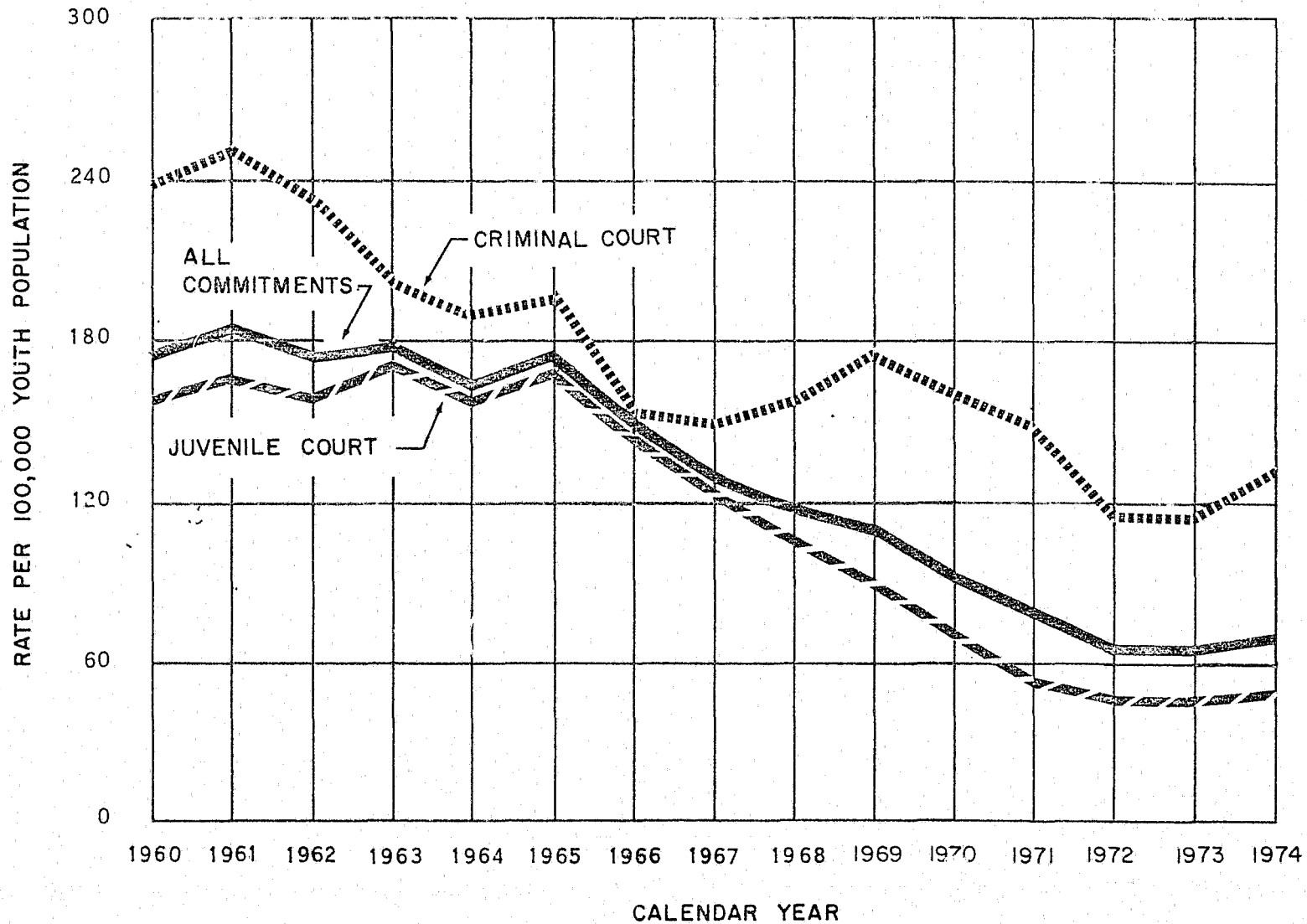


TABLE 8
AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION
IN CALIFORNIA COUNTY YOUTH CAMPS AND SCHOOLS
1960-61 through 1974-75

Year	Average Daily Population
1960-61.....	1,845
1961-62.....	2,162
1962-63.....	2,316
1963-64.....	2,506
1964-65.....	2,667
1965-66.....	2,669
1966-67.....	2,648
1967-68.....	2,817
1968-69.....	2,992
1969-70.....	2,787
1970-71.....	2,740
1971-72.....	2,446
1972-73.....	2,612
1973-74.....	2,964
1974-75.....	3,069

The number of youths in county facilities increased through 1968-69, then dropped in each of the next three years, then increased in each succeeding year to reach an all time high in 1974-75. The population in county camps is still running under rated capacity.

Chart VIII

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA COUNTY YOUTH CAMPS AND SCHOOLS FISCAL YEARS 1960 - 61 THROUGH 1974 - 75

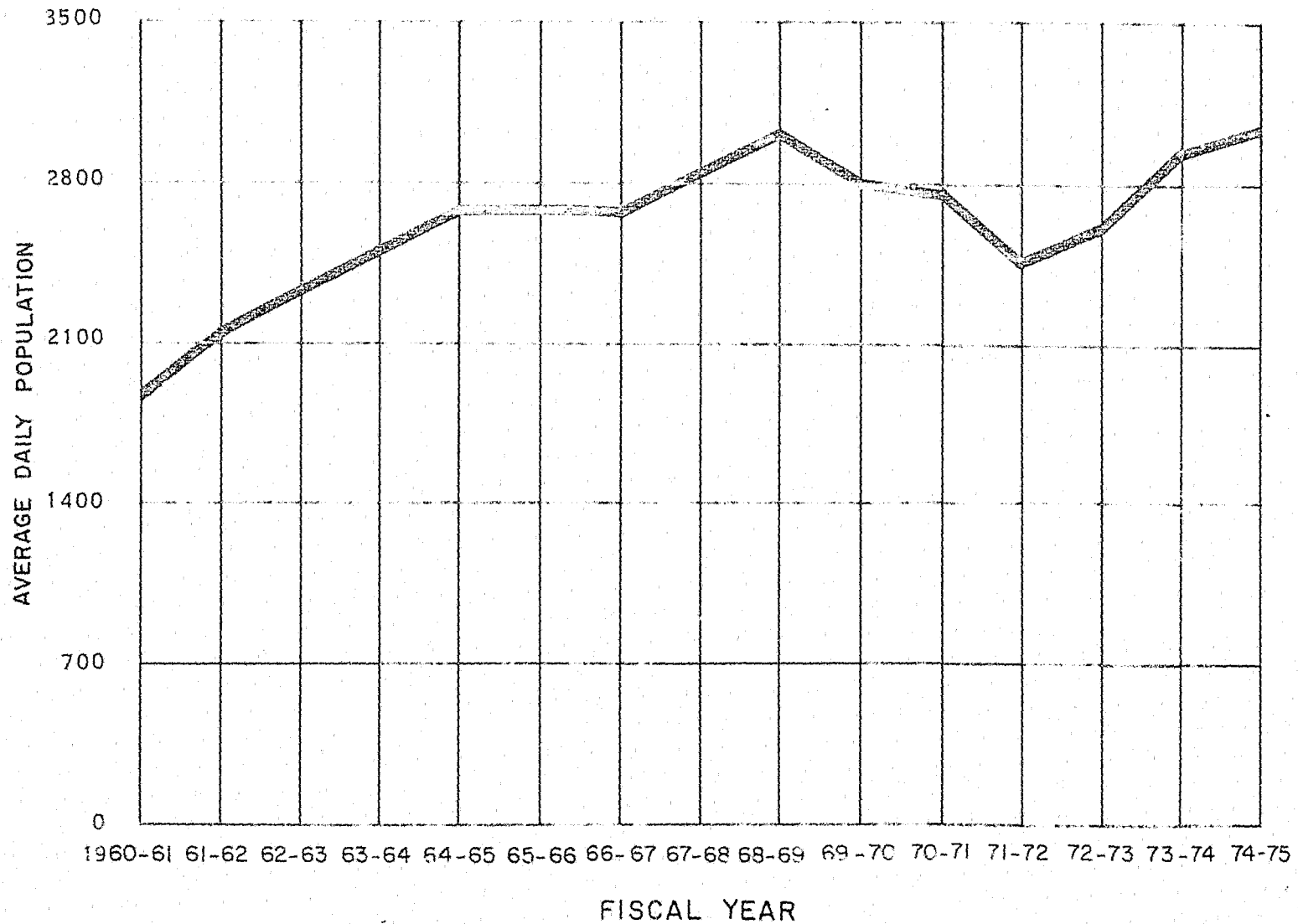


TABLE 9
CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY WARD POPULATION
IN INSTITUTIONS AND ON PAROLE

December 31 of Each Year, 1960 - 1974

Year	Total	In Institutions ^a	On Parole
1960.....	15,498	4,853	10,645
1961.....	17,258	5,767	11,491
1962.....	18,261	6,040	12,221
1963.....	19,490	6,656	12,834
1964.....	20,196	6,536	13,660
1965.....	21,373	6,377	14,996
1966.....	21,741	6,421	15,320
1967.....	21,320	6,542	14,778
1968.....	20,963	6,317	14,646
1969.....	20,371	5,908	14,463
1970.....	19,516	5,580	13,936
1971.....	17,911	4,552	13,359
1972.....	15,957	4,105	11,852
1973.....	14,284	4,437	9,847
1974.....	13,155	4,569	8,586

^a Includes Youth Authority wards in Department of Corrections, Department of Health, and county jails.

The population in institutions continued to grow until 1963 and then gradually decreased through 1972. Then, in both 1973 and 1974 it increased above the previous year. The population on parole continued to grow until 1966, and since then has declined.

Chart IX
YOUTH AUTHORITY POPULATION
IN INSTITUTIONS AND ON PAROLE

DECEMBER 31, EACH YEAR 1960 - 1974

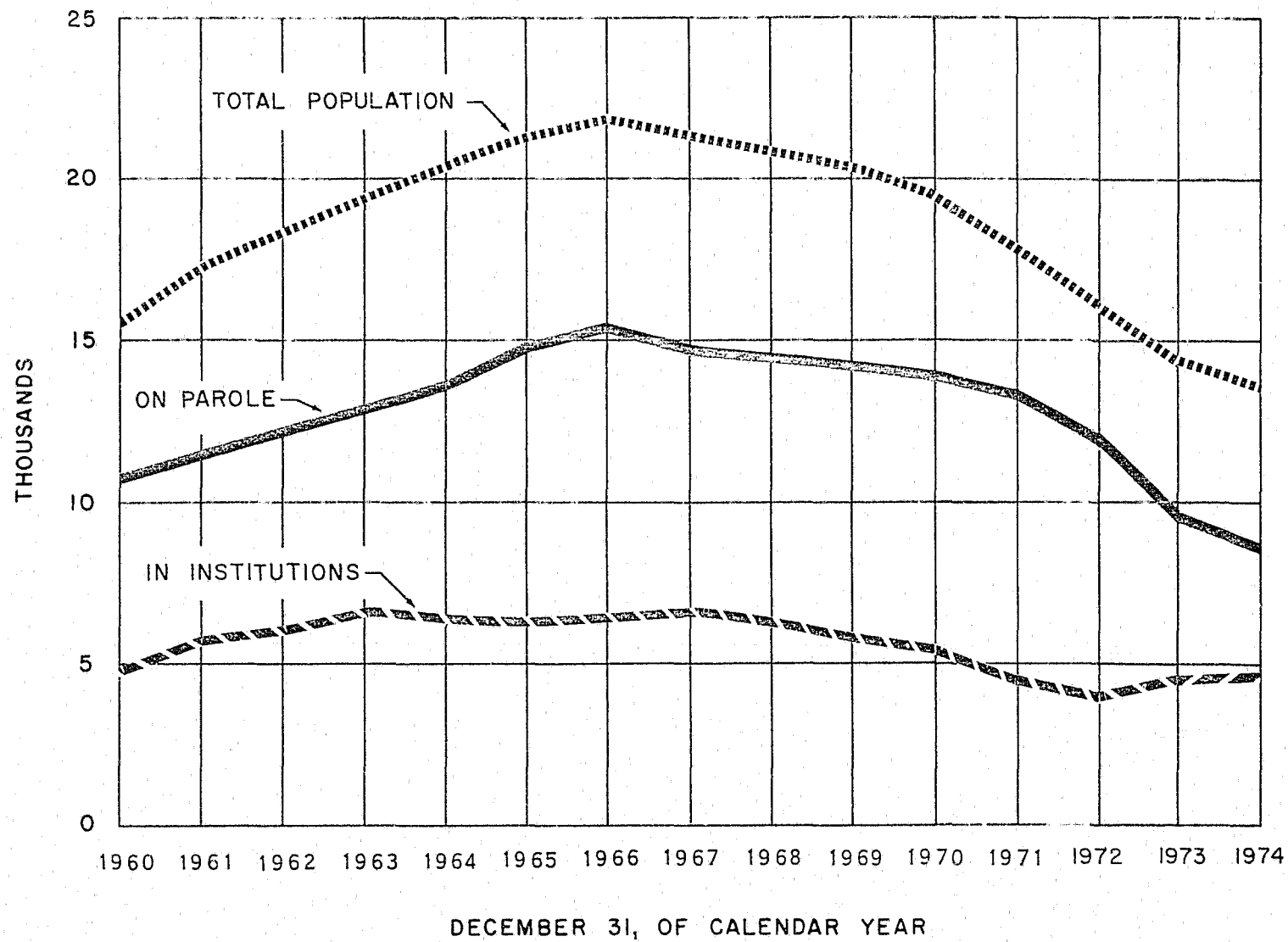


TABLE 10
AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION OF
YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS IN INSTITUTIONS^a
1960 - 1974

Year	Total	CYA Institutions	CDC Institutions
1960.....	4,750	3,278	1,472
1961.....	5,518	3,786	1,732
1962.....	5,940	4,357	1,583
1963.....	6,387	4,820	1,567
1964.....	6,597	5,031	1,566
1965.....	6,778	5,242	1,536
1966.....	6,447	5,294	1,153
1967.....	6,502	5,278	1,224
1968.....	6,490	5,333	1,157
1969.....	6,323	5,471	852
1970.....	5,915	5,095	820
1971.....	5,105	4,743	362
1972.....	4,196	4,135	61
1973.....	4,208	4,154	54
1974.....	4,537	4,491	46

^aExcludes wards in Department of Health and county jails.

The average daily population of Youth Authority wards in institutions increased through 1965, gradually decreased through 1969, then decreased more rapidly in 1970, 1971, and 1972. It stabilized in 1973 then rose in 1974. The population of Youth Authority wards housed in Department of Corrections' institutions has been decreasing since 1961, and the utilization of these facilities for Youth Authority wards is expected to be minimal in the years ahead.

Chart X

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION OF YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS IN INSTITUTIONS

1960 - 1974

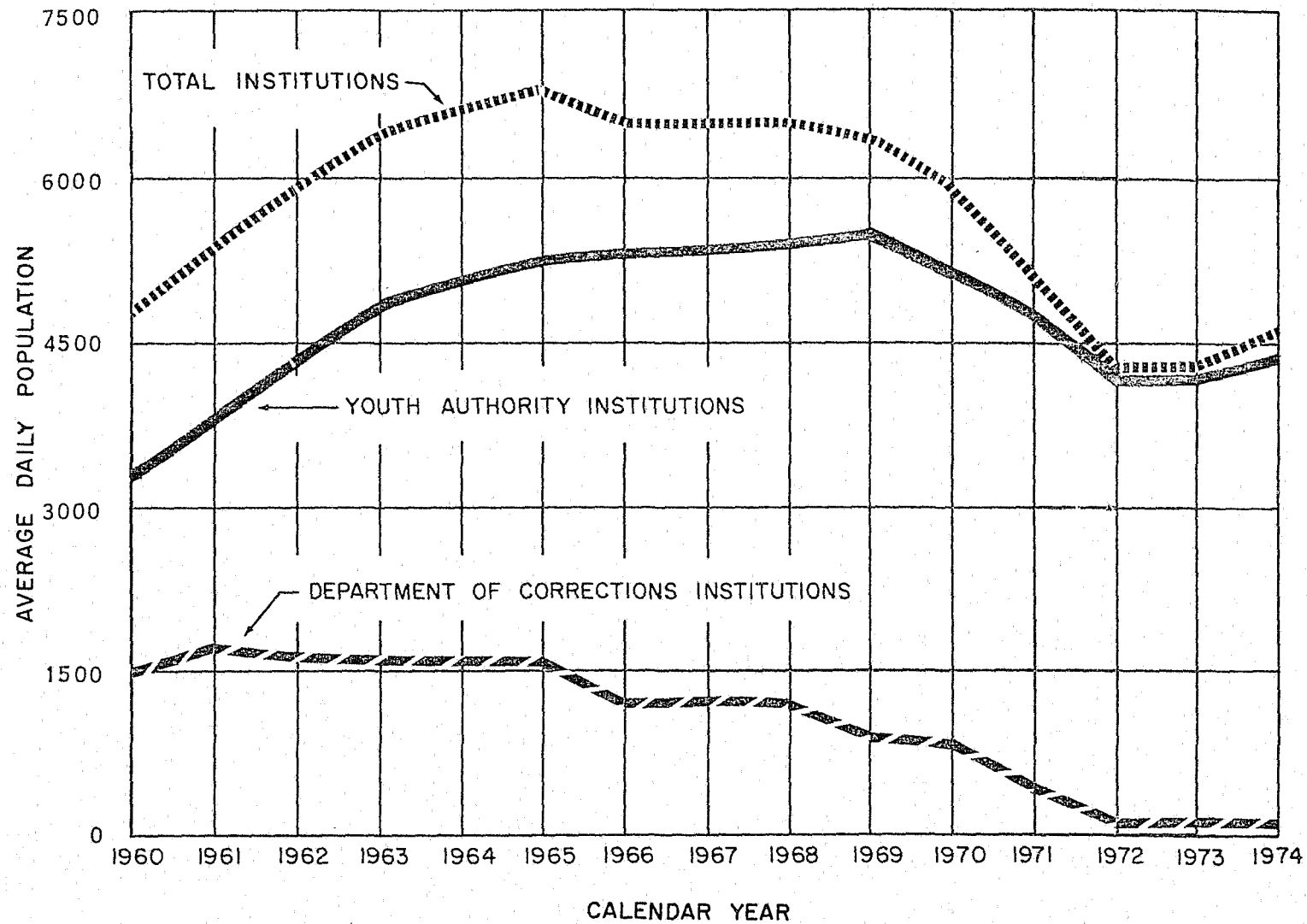


TABLE 11
 VIOLATION STATUS OF WARDS RELEASED TO CALIFORNIA PAROLE SUPERVISION
 1960 - 1973

(Showing percent revoked or discharged for a violation committed
 within 15 months of parole exposure)

Year of Release	Percent Violators
1960.....	44.6
1961.....	45.4
1962.....	46.8
1963.....	46.3
1964.....	46.4
1965.....	44.6
1966.....	45.6
1967.....	46.1
1968.....	45.3
1969.....	40.1
1970.....	35.6
1971.....	32.8
1972.....	34.8
1973.....	37.0

The percentage of wards revoked or discharged for a violation committed within 15 months of parole exposure is a standard method of analyzing the violation rate of Youth Authority wards. Between 1960 and 1968 the violation rate remained very consistent, but declined through 1971 and then rose in 1972 and 1973.

Chart XI

VIOLATION STATUS OF WARDS RELEASED TO CALIFORNIA PAROLE SUPERVISION

1960 - 1973

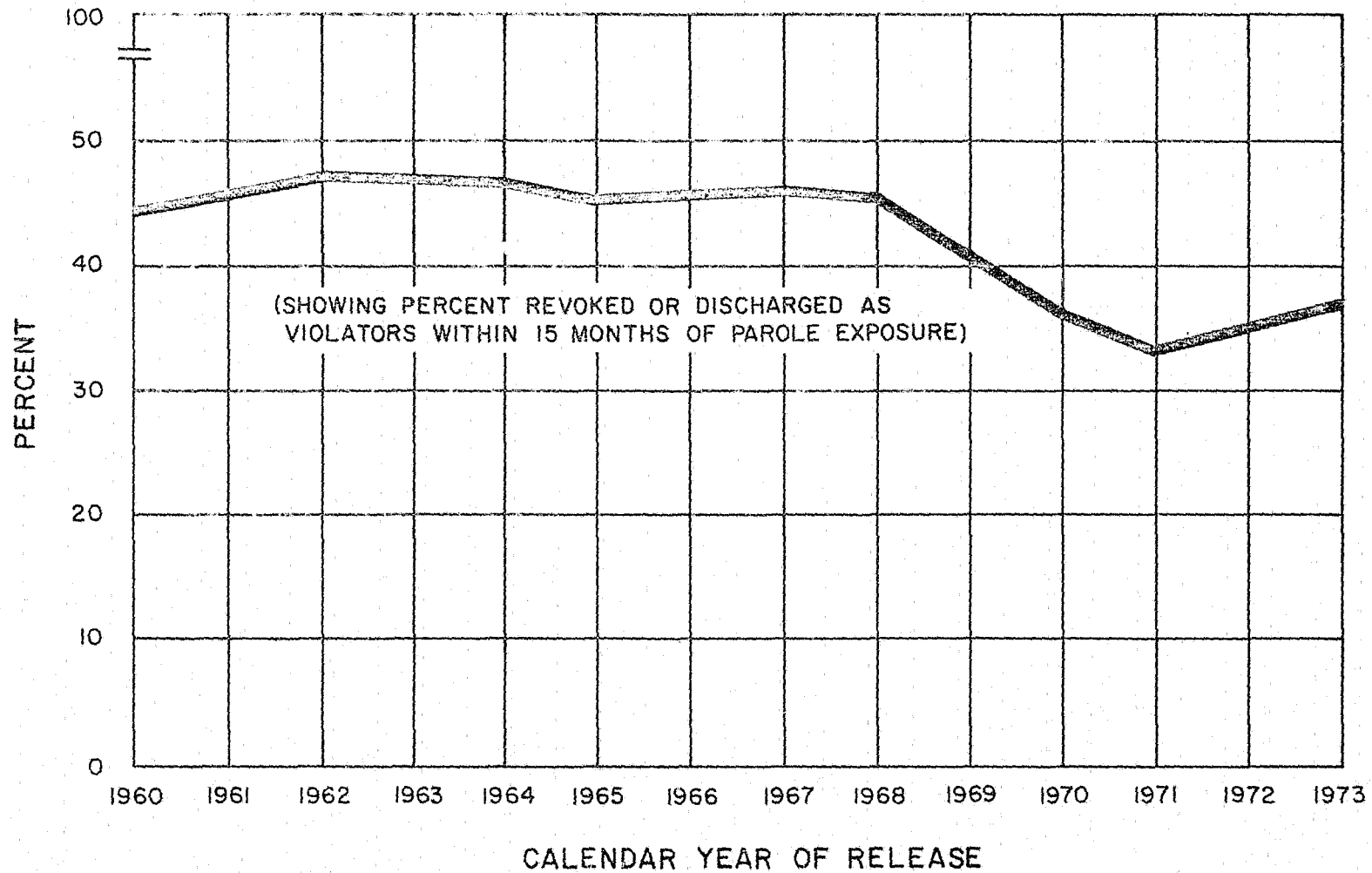


TABLE 12
 MEDIAN AND MEAN LENGTH OF STAY IN INSTITUTIONS HOUSING YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS^a
 (Including Reception Center Time)
 1960 - 1974
 (In months)

Year	Median	Mean
1960.....	8.4	9.4
1961.....	8.2	9.3
1962.....	8.5	9.6
1963.....	8.1	9.4
1964.....	8.7	9.5
1965.....	8.3	9.4
1966.....	8.4	9.4
1967.....	8.9	9.6
1968.....	9.5	10.2
1969.....	9.4	10.2
1970.....	9.7	10.6
1971.....	10.4	11.5
1972.....	10.1	11.1
1973.....	10.1	11.6
1974.....	10.9	12.3

^a Includes Department of Corrections institutions; excludes releases from clinics.

The median length of stay in institutions housing Youth Authority wards has shown little variation between 1960 and 1966, but has been gradually increasing since then. In 1974, the median reached an all time high. The mean reached a record high in 1974. These length of stay figures include a processing and diagnostic time of approximately four weeks in a reception center.

Chart XII

MEDIAN AND MEAN LENGTH OF STAY IN INSTITUTIONS HOUSING YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS (INCLUDING RECEPTION CENTER TIME)

1960 - 1974

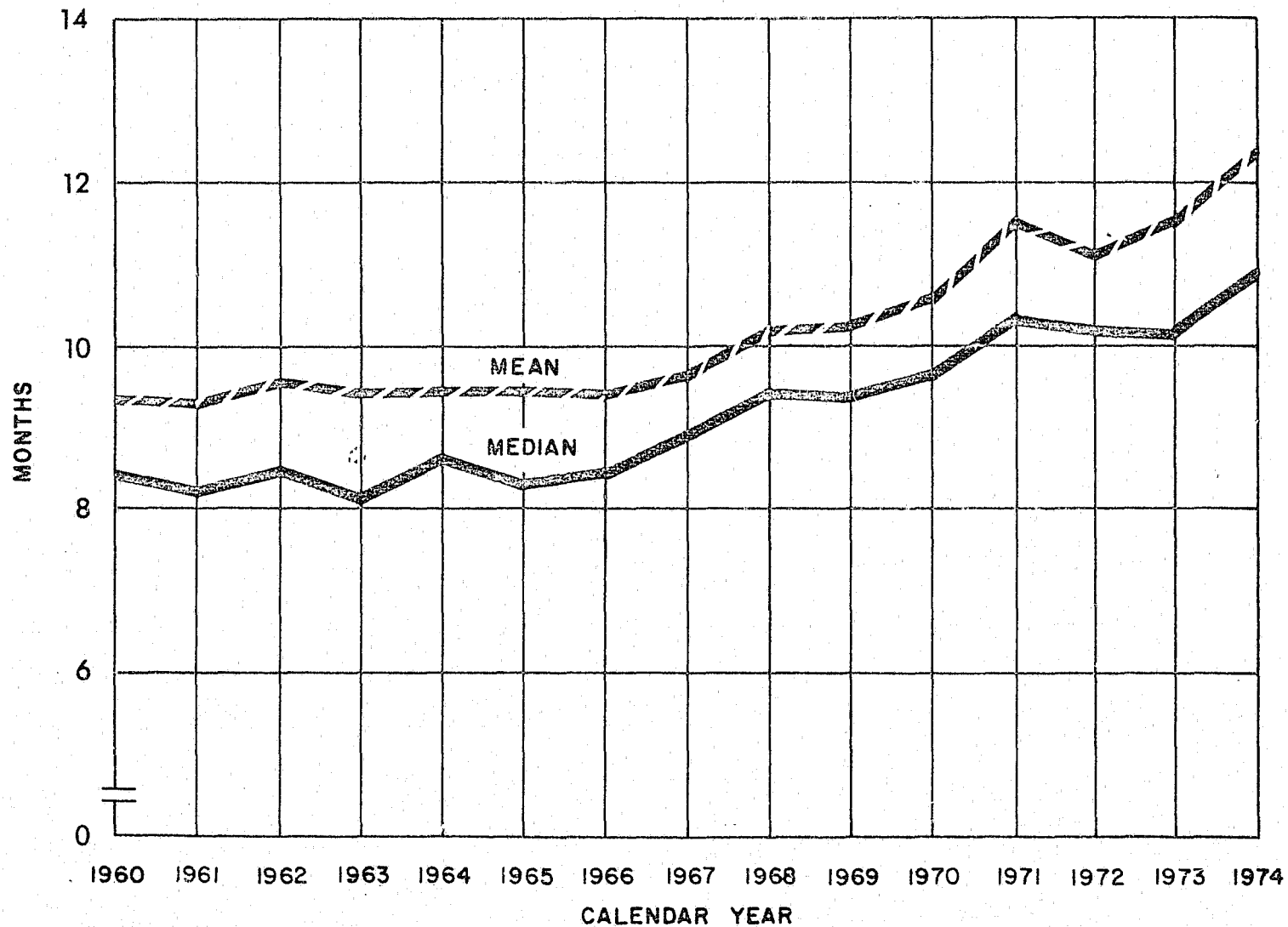


TABLE 13

RATIO OF WARDS IN CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY
INSTITUTIONS TO YOUTH AUTHORITY INSTITUTIONAL STAFF

1960-61 through 1974-75

Year	Wards in Institutions	Institutional Staff	Ratio
1960-61.....	3,475	1,625	2.1
1961-62.....	4,127	1,866	2.2
1962-63.....	4,588	1,995	2.3
1963-64.....	5,003	2,126	2.4
1964-65.....	5,146	2,220	2.3
1965-66.....	5,210	2,275	2.3
1966-67.....	5,342	2,500	2.1
1967-68.....	5,289	2,609	2.0
1968-69.....	5,394	2,627	2.1
1969-70.....	5,312	2,715	2.0
1970-71.....	4,907	2,740	1.8
1971-72.....	4,460	2,613	1.7
1972-73.....	4,061	2,578	1.6
1973-74.....	4,345	2,640	1.6
1974-75.....	4,516	3,046	1.5

The number of wards in institutions (including reception centers) per institutional employee remained relatively stable between 1960-61 and 1969-70. The declining ward population and staff additions account for the lowering of the ward-staff ratio during the 1970-71 through 1974-75 period.

Chart XIII

WARD - STAFF RATIO YOUTH AUTHORITY INSTITUTIONS (INCLUDING RECEPTION CENTERS)

FISCAL YEARS 1960 - 61 THROUGH 1974 - 75

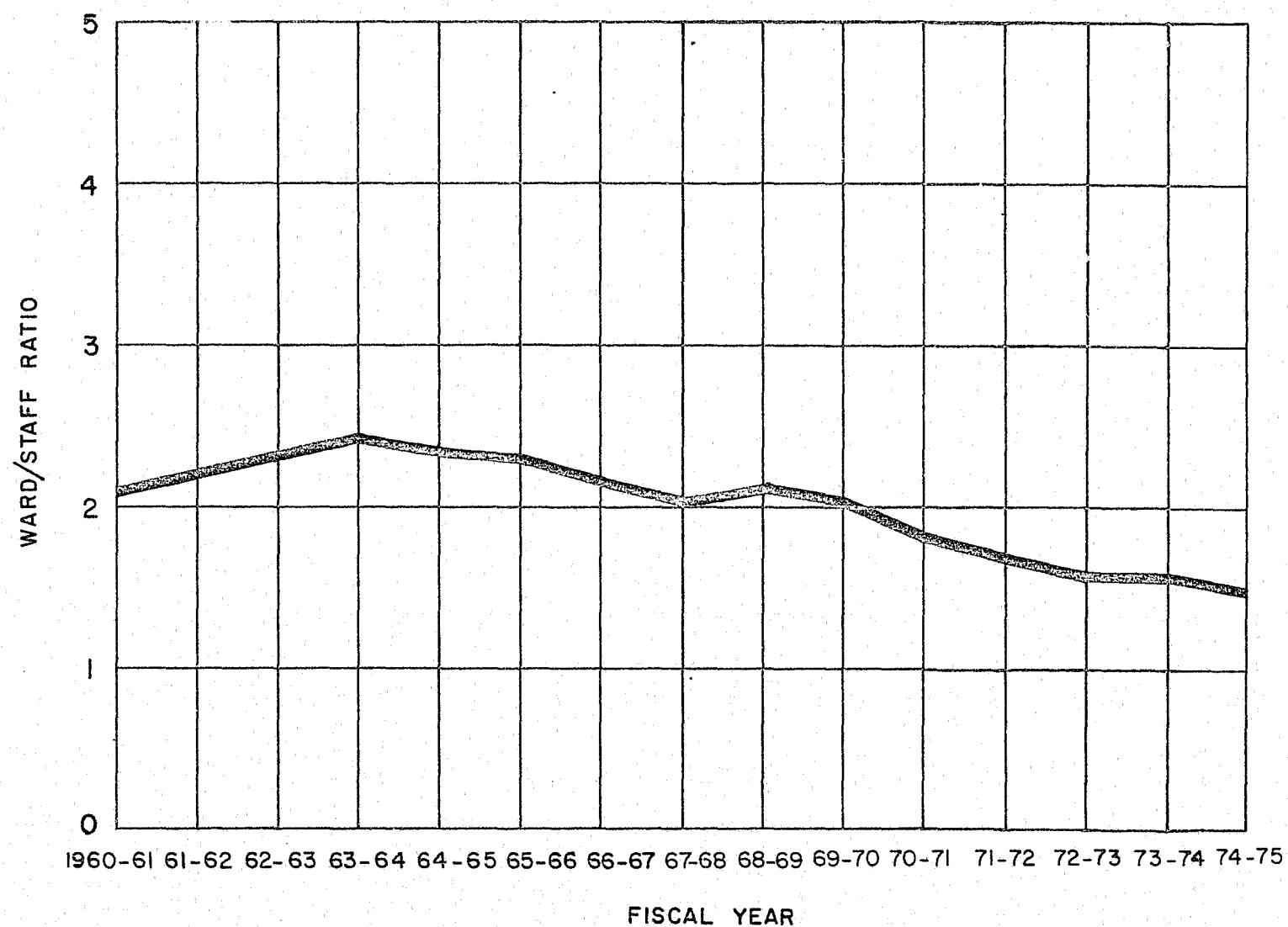


TABLE 14

COMMITMENT REDUCTIONS FOR EIGHT YEARS OF THE PROBATION SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Summary of all Participating Counties

Year	Number of Participating Counties	Expected Commitments	Actual Commitments	Commitment Reduction Number
1966-67.....	31	8,757	7,359	1,398
1967-68.....	36	9,620	7,204	2,416
1968-69.....	41	11,309	7,990	3,319
1969-70.....	46	11,982	8,425	3,557
1970-71.....	44	11,654	7,159	4,495
1971-72.....	47	12,132	6,866	5,266
1972-73.....	47	12,342	6,893	5,449
1973-74.....	47	12,451	7,424	5,027
1974-75.....	47	12,557	7,689	4,868

California's State Aid for Probation Services (Probation Subsidy program) became operative on July 1, 1966. Counties wishing to participate in the Subsidy program must operate approved supervision programs consisting of intensive care and treatment to selected probationers. Funds for such programs are payable to the extent counties are able to reduce commitments to state institutions. In essence, the state buys local service in lieu of state correctional service on the basis of performance and at lower cost. In fiscal year 1974-75, 47 of California's counties participated in the Probation Subsidy program. These counties represent approximately 98 percent of the state's total population.

Chart XIV

ESTIMATED AND ACTUAL COMMITMENTS IN PARTICIPATING COUNTIES

(DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS - DEPARTMENT OF THE YOUTH AUTHORITY)

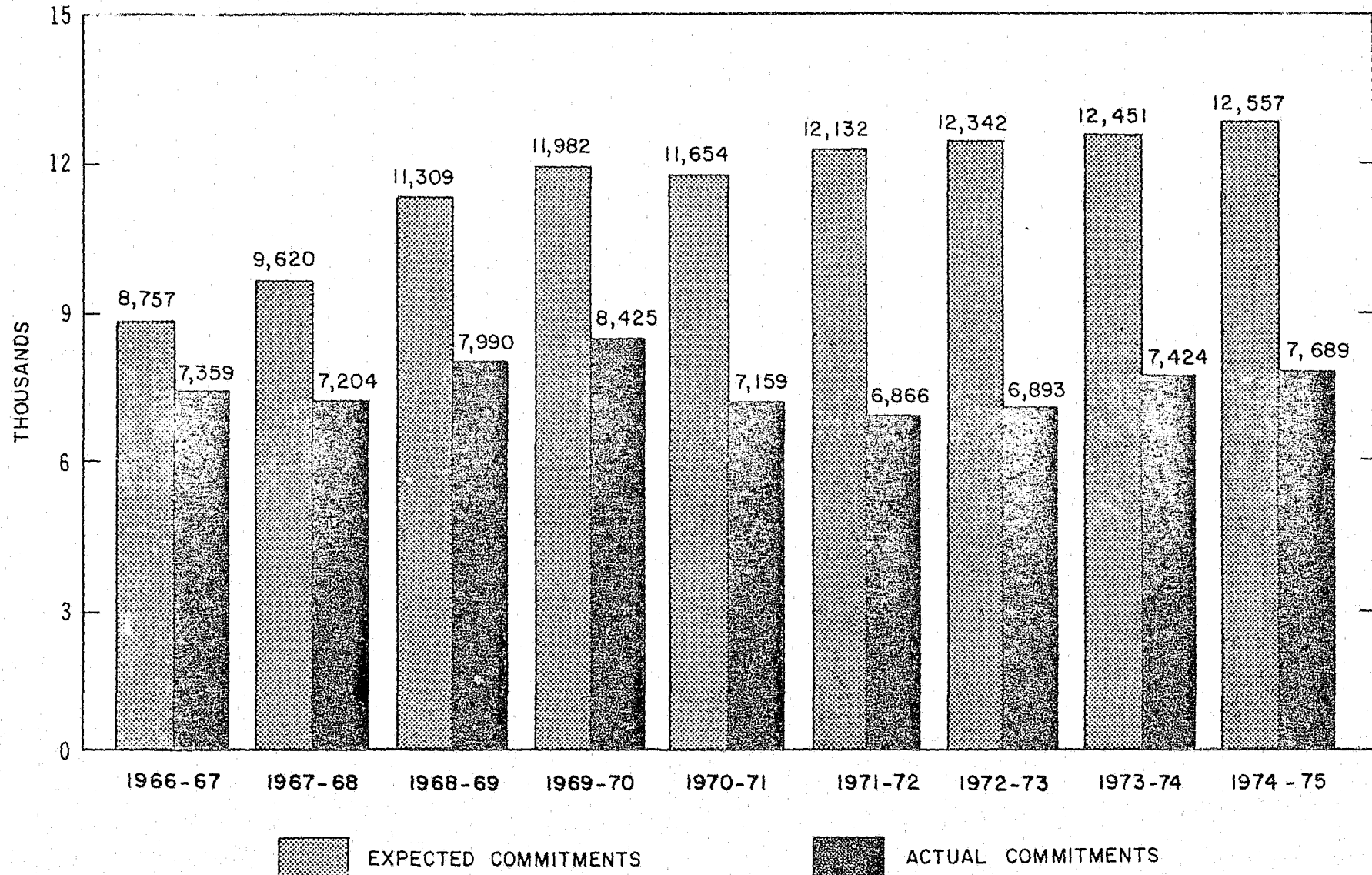


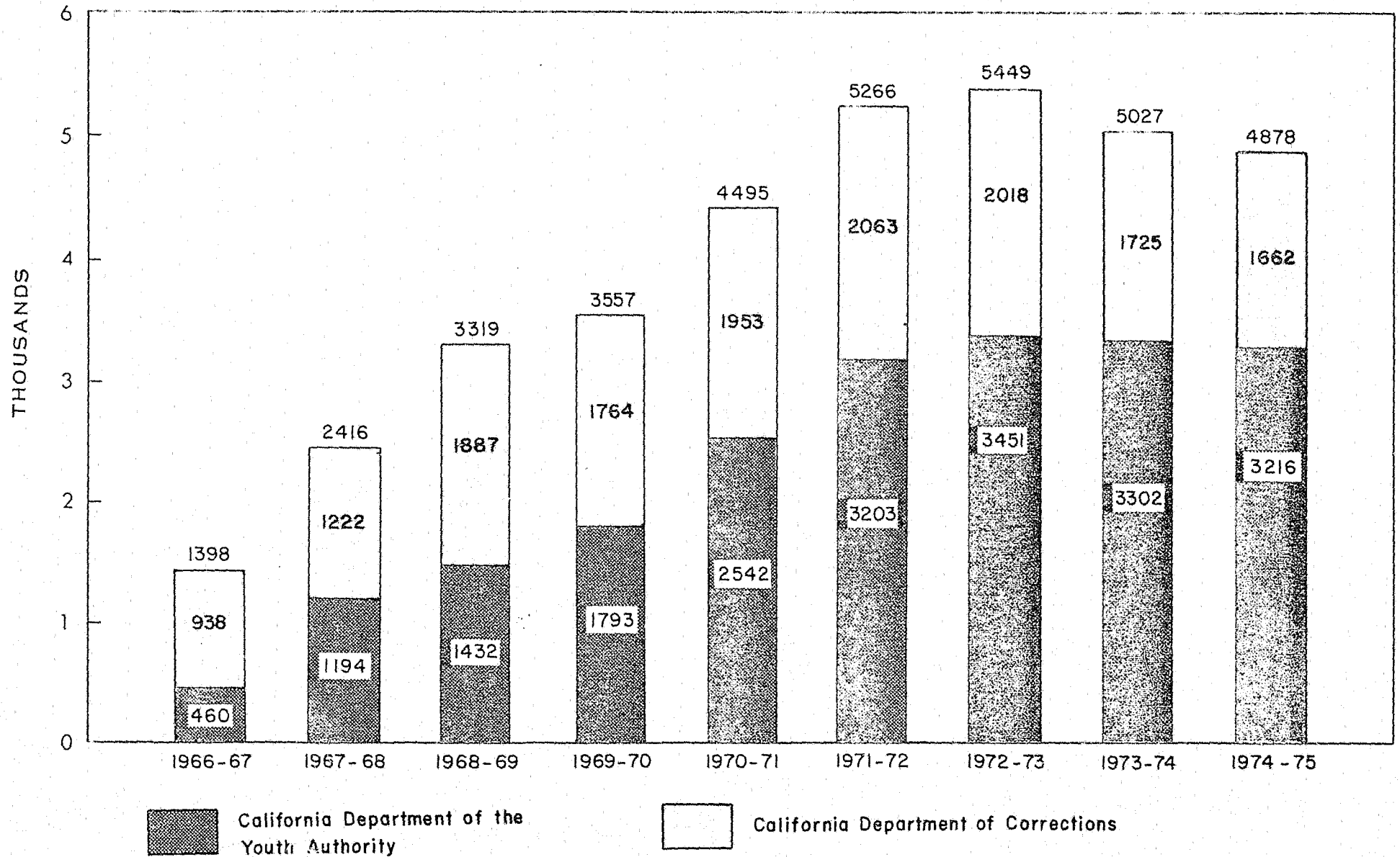
TABLE 15
REDUCED COMMITMENTS IN PARTICIPATING COUNTIES
1966-67 through 1974-75
By Department

Year	Total Reduction		Youth Authority		Department of Corrections	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	36,805	100.0	20,573	57.5	15,232	42.5
1966-67.....	1,398	100.0	460	32.9	938	67.1
1967-68.....	2,416	100.0	1,194	49.4	1,222	50.6
1968-69.....	3,319	100.0	1,432	43.1	1,887	56.9
1969-70.....	3,557	100.0	1,793	50.4	1,764	49.6
1970-71.....	4,495	100.0	2,542	56.6	1,953	43.4
1971-72.....	5,266	100.0	3,203	60.8	2,063	39.2
1972-73.....	5,449	100.0	3,431	63.0	2,018	37.0
1973-74.....	5,027	100.0	3,302	65.7	1,725	34.3
1974-75.....	4,878	100.0	3,216	65.9	1,662	34.1

The reduction of commitments for counties participating in the Probation Subsidy program from the expected number is shown by state department for the eight fiscal years since July, 1966. In the first three years of the program, the majority of reduced commitments were accounted for by the Department of Corrections. In the last six years, however, the majority have been accounted for by the Department of the Youth Authority.

Chart XV

REDUCED COMMITMENTS IN PARTICIPATING
COUNTIES BY DEPARTMENT



END