

Buffalo: Public attitudes about crime

A National Crime Survey report

462236

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**Law Enforcement
Assistance Administration**

**National Criminal Justice Information
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Preface

Since early in the 1970's, victimization surveys have been carried out under the National Crime Survey (NCS) program to provide insight into the impact of crime on American society. As one of the most ambitious efforts yet undertaken for filling some of the gaps in crime data, the surveys, carried out for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, are supplying the criminal justice community with new information on crime and its victims, complementing data resources already on hand for purposes of planning, evaluation, and analysis. Based on representative sampling of households and commercial establishments, the program has had two major elements, a continuous national survey and separate surveys in 26 central cities across the Nation.

Based on a scientifically designed sample of housing units within each jurisdiction, the city surveys had a twofold purpose: the assessment of public attitudes about crime and related matters and the development of information on the extent and nature of residents' experiences with selected forms of criminal victimization. The attitude questions were asked of the occupants of a random half of the housing units selected for the victimization survey. In order to avoid biasing respondents' answers to the attitude questions, this part of the survey was administered before the victimization questions. Whereas the attitude questions were asked of persons age 16 and over, the victimization survey applied to individuals age 12 and over. Because the attitude questions were designed to elicit personal opinions and perceptions as of the date of the interview, it was not necessary to associate a particular time frame with this portion of the survey, even though some queries made reference to a period of time preceding the survey. On the other hand, the victimization questions referred to a fixed time frame—the 12 months preceding the month of interview—and respondents were asked to recall details concerning their experiences as victims of one or more of the following crimes, whether completed or attempted: rape, personal robbery, assault, personal larceny, burglary, household

larceny, and motor vehicle theft. In addition, information about burglary and robbery of businesses and certain other organizations was gathered by means of a victimization survey of commercial establishments, conducted separately from the household survey. A previous publication, *Criminal Victimization Surveys in Buffalo (1977)*, provided comprehensive coverage of results from both the household and commercial victimization surveys.

Attitudinal information presented in this report was obtained from interviews with the occupants of 4,831 housing units (9,036 residents age 16 and over), or 94.2 percent of the units eligible for interview. Results of these interviews were inflated by means of a multistage weighting procedure to produce estimates applicable to all residents age 16 and over and to demographic and social subgroups of that population. Because they derived from a survey rather than a complete census, these estimates are subject to sampling error. They also are subject to response and processing errors. The effects of sampling error or variability can be accurately determined in a carefully designed survey. In this report, analytical statements involving comparisons have met the test that the differences cited are equal to or greater than approximately two standard errors; in other words, the chances are at least 95 out of 100 that the differences did not result solely from sampling variability. Estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases were considered unreliable and were not used in the analysis of survey results.

The 37 data tables in Appendix I of this report are organized in a sequence that generally corresponds to the analytical discussion. Two technical appendixes and a glossary follow the data tables: Appendix II consists of a facsimile of the survey questionnaire (Form NCS 6), and Appendix III supplies information on sample design and size, the estimation procedure, reliability of estimates, and significance testing; it also contains standard error tables.

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Crime and attitudes

During the 1960's, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice observed that "What America does about crime depends ultimately upon how Americans see crime. . . . The lines along which the Nation takes specific action against crime will be those that the public believes to be the necessary ones." Recognition of the importance of societal perceptions about crime prompted the Commission to authorize several public opinion surveys on the matter.¹ In addition to measuring the degree of concern over crime, those and subsequent surveys provided information on a variety of related subjects, such as the manner in which fear of crime affects people's lives, circumstances engendering fear for personal safety, members of the population relatively more intimidated by or fearful of crime, and the effectiveness of criminal justice systems. Based on a sufficiently large sample, moreover, attitude surveys can provide a means for examining the influence of victimization experiences upon personal outlooks. Conducted periodically in the same area, attitude surveys distinguish fluctuations in the degree of public concern; conducted under the same procedures in different areas, they provide a basis for comparing attitudes in two or more localities. With the advent of the National Crime Survey (NCS) program, it became possible to conduct large-scale attitudinal surveys addressing these and other issues, thereby enabling individuals to participate in appraising the status of public safety in their communities.

Based on data from a 1974 attitudinal survey, this report analyzes the responses of Buffalo residents to questions covering four topical areas: crime trends, fear of crime, residential problems and lifestyles, and local police performance. Certain questions, relating to household activities, were asked of only one person per household (the "household respondent"), whereas others were administered to all persons age 16 and over ("individual respondents"), including the household

respondent. Results were obtained for the total measured population and for several demographic and social subgroups.

Conceptually, the survey incorporated questions pertaining to behavior as well as opinion. Concerning behavior, for example, each respondent for a household was asked where its members shopped for food and other merchandise, where they lived before moving to the present neighborhood, and how long they had lived at that address. Additional questions asked of the household respondent were designed to elicit opinions about the neighborhood in general, about the rationale for selecting that particular community and leaving the former residence, and about factors that influenced shopping practices. None of the questions asked of the household respondent raised the subject of crime. Respondents were free to answer at will. In contrast, most of the individual attitude questions, asked of all household members age 16 and over, dealt specifically with matters relating to crime. These persons were asked for viewpoints on subjects such as crime trends in the local community and in the Nation, chances of being personally attacked or robbed, neighborhood safety during the day or at night, the impact of fear of crime on behavior, and the effectiveness of the local police. For many of these questions, response categories were predetermined and interviewers were instructed to probe for answers matching those on the questionnaire.

Although the attitude survey has provided a wealth of data, the results are opinions. For example, certain residents may have perceived crime as a growing threat or neighborhood safety as deteriorating, when, in fact, crime had declined and neighborhoods had become safer. Furthermore, individuals from the same neighborhood or with similar personal characteristics and/or experiences may have had conflicting opinions about any given issue. Nevertheless, people's opinions, beliefs, and perceptions about crime are important because they may influence behavior, bring about changes in certain routine activities, affect household security measures, or result in pressures on local authorities to improve police services.

The relationship between victimization experiences and attitudes is a recurring theme in the analytical section of this report. Information concerning such experiences was gathered with separate questionnaires, Forms NCS 3 and 4, used in

¹President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. *The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, February 1967, pp. 49-53.

administering the victimization component of the survey. Victimization survey results appeared in *Criminal Victimization Surveys in Buffalo* (1977), which also contains a detailed description of the survey-measured crimes, a discussion of the limitations of the central city surveys, and facsimiles of Forms NCS 3 and 4. For the purpose of this report, individuals who were victims of the following crimes, whether completed or attempted, during the 12 months prior to the month of the interview were considered "victimized": rape, personal robbery, assault, and personal larceny. Similarly, members of households that experienced one or more of three types of offenses—burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft—were categorized as victims. These crimes are defined in the glossary. Persons who experienced crimes other than those measured by the program, or who were victimized by any of the relevant offenses outside of the 12-month reference period, were classified as "not victimized." Limitations inherent in the victimization survey—that may have affected the accuracy of distinguishing victims from nonvictims—resulted from the problem of victim recall (the differing ability of respondents to remember crimes) and from the phenomenon of telescoping (the tendency of some respondents to recount incidents occurring outside, usually before, the appropriate time frame). Moreover, some crimes were sustained by victims outside of their city of residence; these may have had little or no effect in the formation of attitudes about local matters.

Despite the difficulties in distinguishing precisely between victims and nonvictims, it was deemed important to explore the possibility that being a victim of crime, irrespective of the level of seriousness or the frequency of occurrence, has an impact on behavior and attitudes. Adopting a simple dichotomous victimization experience variable—victimized and not victimized—for purposes of tabulation and analysis also stemmed from the desirability of attaining the highest possible degree of statistical reliability, even at the cost of using these broad categories. Ideally, the victim category should have distinguished the type or seriousness of crimes, the recency of the events, and/or the number of offenses sustained.² Such a procedure seemingly would have yielded more refined measures of the effects of crime upon atti-

tudes. By reducing the number of sample cases on which estimates were based, however, such a subcategorization of victims would have weakened the statistical validity of comparisons between the victims and nonvictims.

²Survey results presented in this report contain attitudinal data furnished by the victims of "series victimizations" (see glossary).

Summary

That crime was perceived as a growing social problem by Buffalo residents was clearly evident from results of the attitude survey. About three-fourths of the measured population believed crime was on the upswing in the Nation as a whole, and one-third sensed an increase in crime within their own communities. Moreover, only a fraction of the city's residents—fewer than 1 in 10—believed the crime rate had *declined* either nationally or locally. With this in mind, it is understandable that most individuals reported that their own chances of becoming a victim had increased over the years.

Fear of criminal attack, as measured by the survey, appeared to be largely dependent upon the time of day, with the evening hours predictably generating more fear than the daytime. In the daytime, nearly all residents felt at least reasonably safe when out alone in their own neighborhoods; at night, however, some two-fifths considered them unsafe. Similar results were obtained when the interview concerned other parts of the metropolitan area; because of the fear of crime, more people were apprehensive about journeying to places they wanted or needed to go at night than in the daytime.

In assessing the impact of crime on living patterns, the people of Buffalo were more apt to believe the lives of others—persons in general or their own neighbors—had been affected by crime or the fear of crime than their own. Furthermore, when household respondents were questioned about a number of their own activities, such as moving from an old neighborhood, selecting a new one, or shopping for groceries, crime was not often mentioned as a major motivating factor. Crime was considered to be the single most serious problem facing the local community by no more than one-fifth of the respondents. Throughout this series of questions, environmental issues, economic and housing conditions, and personal convenience were more important considerations.

Opinions about the level of crime were relatively homogeneous across all measured sectors of the population. The differences that existed were most often in degree and not direction; thus, al-

though a majority of persons of each sex said crime in the United States and risk of personal attack had increased, women were more likely than men to hold these views. When it came to the matter of personal safety, females, blacks, or older persons tended to be more fearful and were more likely to have modified their behavior than males, whites, or younger persons, respectively. Persons who experienced one or more personal or household victimizations during 1973 appeared, in general, more concerned about crime and its impact than those who had not been victimized, although differences were not always pronounced.

Residents of Buffalo were relatively satisfied with the performance of their local police, even though many had specific suggestions for improvement. Many recommendations dealt with functional applications, particularly the deployment of police in certain areas of the city and at certain times of the day. Perhaps reflecting in part a relatively high level of insecurity because of crime, blacks, of all measured groups, had the poorest impression of the police and were most concerned with improving police-community relations.

Chart A. Summary findings about crime trends

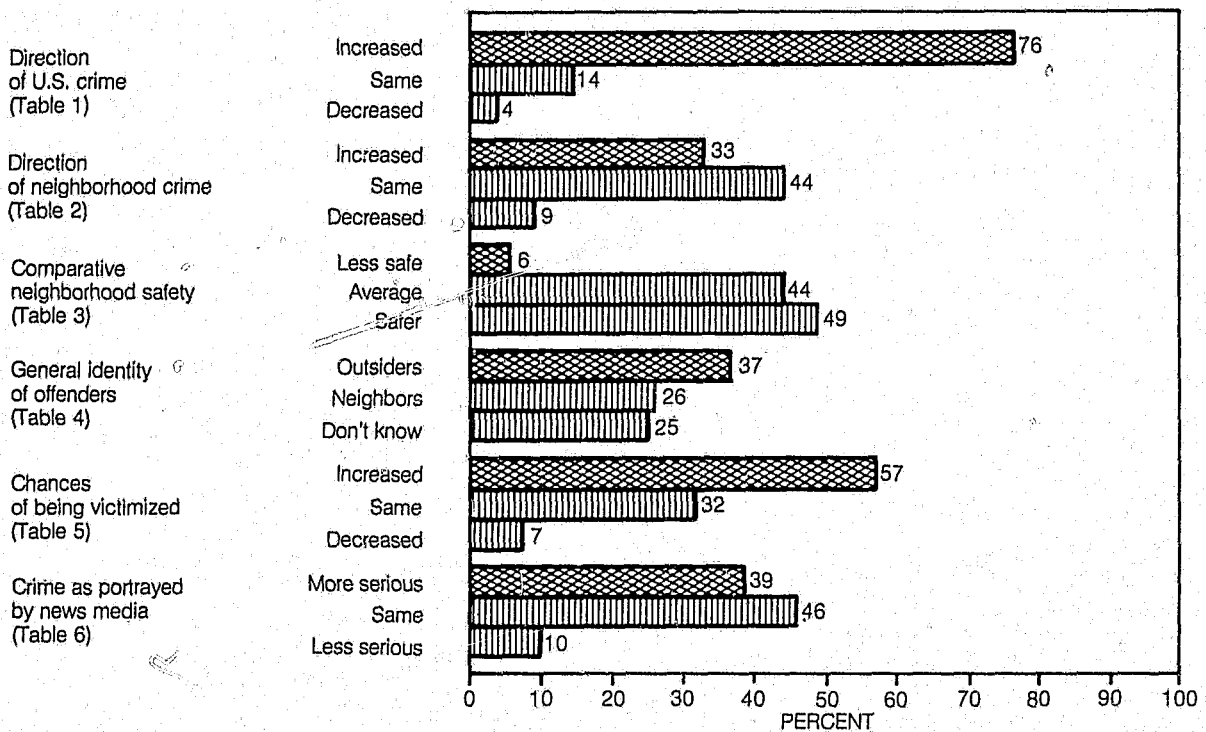


Chart B. Summary findings about fear of crime

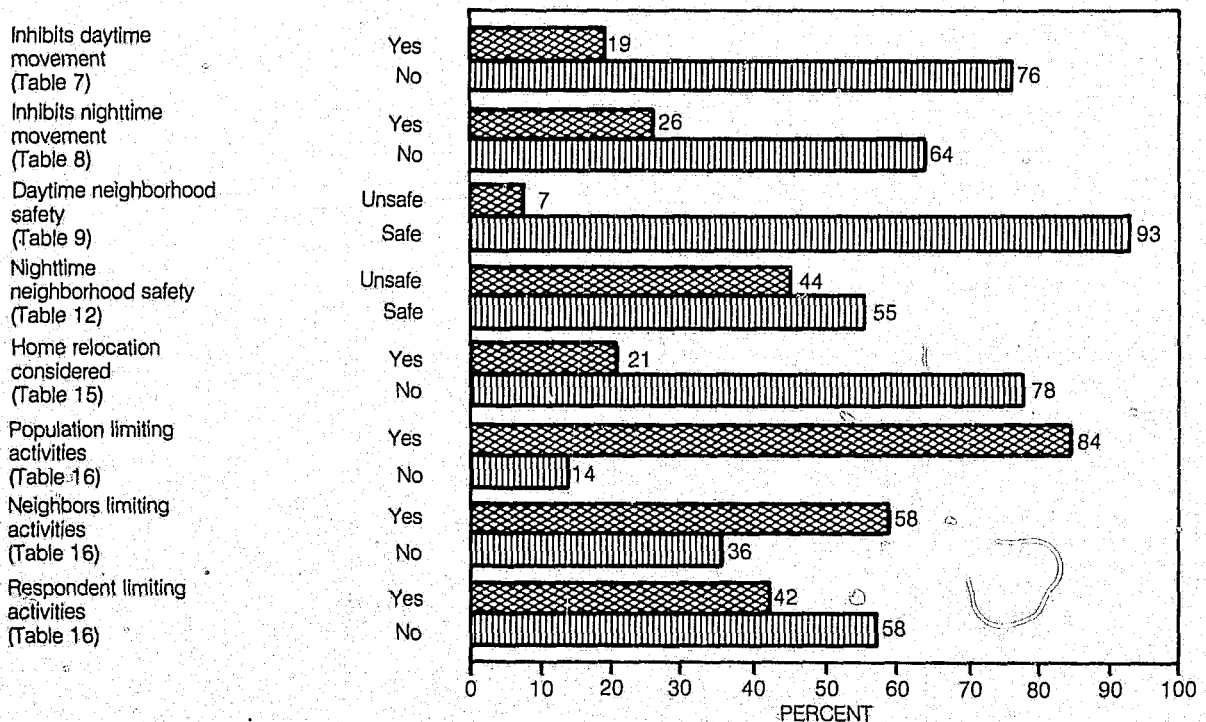


Chart C. Summary findings about residential problems

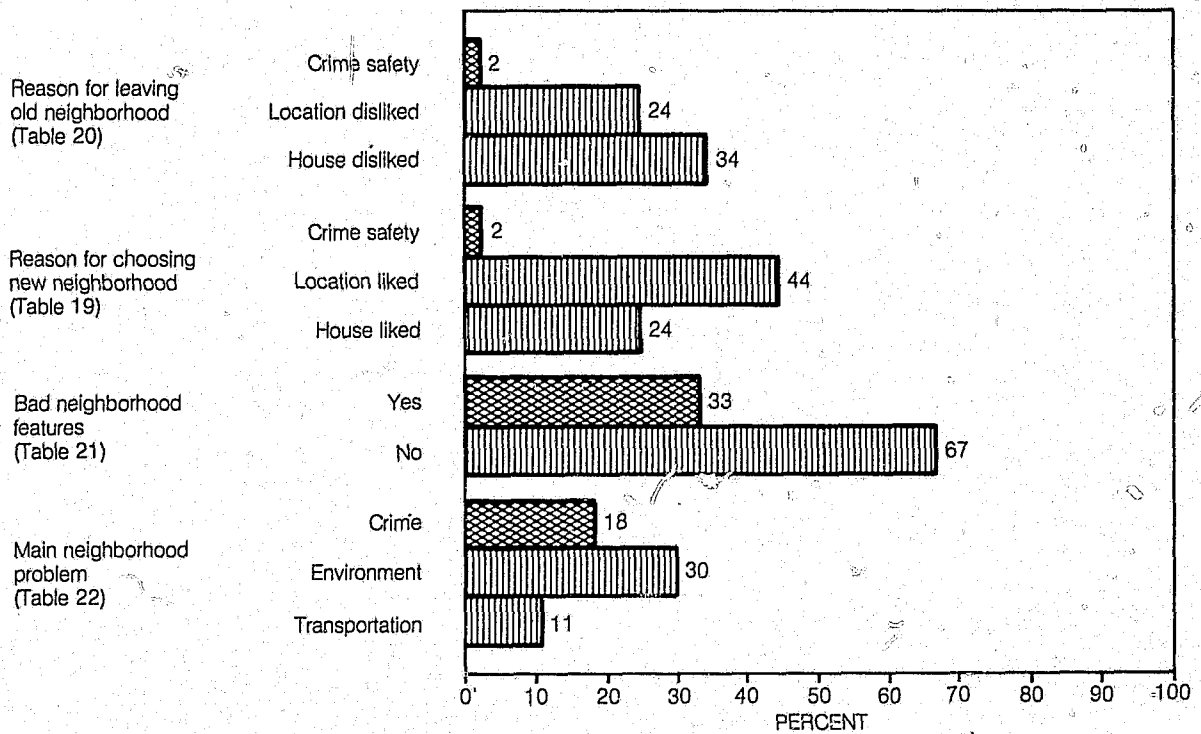
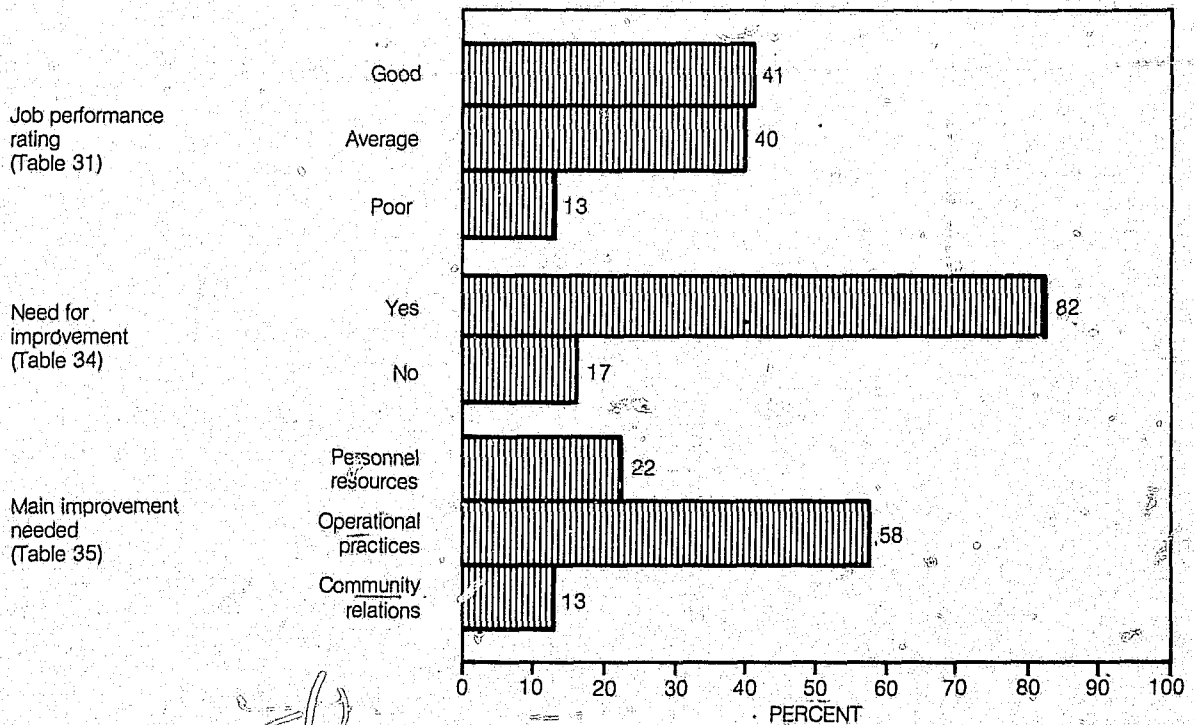


Chart D. Summary findings about police performance



Crime trends

This section of the report deals with the perceptions of Buffalo residents with respect to national and community crime trends, personal safety, and the accuracy with which newspapers and television were thought to be reporting the crime problem. The findings were drawn from Data Tables 1 through 6, found in Appendix I. The relevant questions, appearing in the facsimile of the survey instrument (Appendix II), are 9a, 9c, 10a, 12, 15a, and 15b; each question was asked of persons age 16 and over.

U.S. crime trends

When asked about crime at the national level, 76 percent of the residents of Buffalo age 16 and over said that crime had increased within the past year or two, but only 4 percent believed it had decreased. Some 14 percent considered the national trend unchanged, and the remaining 6 percent either did not know if there had been a change or went unrecorded. Responses were also obtained for a number of population subgroups; however, the age, race, or sex of respondents did not appear to be related to opinions about crime in the Nation, nor did victimization experience over the 12 months prior to interview.

Neighborhood crime trends

Although there was general agreement about the direction of crime in the United States, less unanimity was displayed when the question involved neighborhood crime. One-third of the residents believed that crime was increasing in their own neighborhoods, whereas 44 percent regarded the condition as stable. As in the previous question, only a small minority—in this case 9 percent—felt that crime was on the decline. A small number of persons, including some who had not lived in the community long enough to pass judgment, did not offer an opinion.

Persons who had been victimized in the preceding year took a more pessimistic view of the

course of crime in their own communities than those who had not. Of the victims, 41 percent believed that crime had increased, but only 30 percent of the nonvictims felt the same way. Alternatively, victims were less likely than nonvictims to feel that the rate had remained the same; there was no significant difference between the proportions believing that crime had declined.

Blacks were more likely than whites to believe neighborhood crime was on the decline and less likely to feel that it was unchanged, a somewhat unexpected finding because victimization rates for blacks have been shown to be equal to, if not greater than, those for whites. It should be noted, however, that this question was designed to elicit opinions on the direction, not the volume, of crime in the neighborhood, and it is conceivable that persons in a relatively high-risk area might have perceived conditions as improving, while those in safer vicinities might have seen crime as a growing problem.

With respect to neighborhood crime, individuals were asked to compare their local communities with others in Buffalo. About half of the measured population considered their neighborhoods less or much less dangerous than others, 44 percent regarded them as average, and only 6 percent believed they were more or much more dangerous. This lopsided distribution of responses should come as no surprise; it is reasonable to expect residents to look with favor on their own neighborhoods even if they are, in reality, less safe than others.

Neither blacks nor whites were apt to regard their own vicinities as more dangerous than surrounding ones, but whites appeared to be more certain of the safety of their neighborhoods. Over half of all whites, compared with about one-third of all blacks, regarded their own neighborhoods as less or much less dangerous. In contrast, blacks were more likely to rate their communities as average. Thus, differences of opinion were manifested along the range of responses from "average" to "much less dangerous." Few people of either race felt so endangered that they rated their vicinities as more perilous than others in the city.

There were small but statistically significant differences in perception between persons of each sex and type of victimization experience. Men were more likely than women to regard their

neighborhoods as less dangerous than others and less likely to view them as average. A greater proportion of nonvictims than victims considered their local areas to be less dangerous; on the other hand, victims were more apt to regard their communities as more perilous.

Who are the offenders?

Perceptions of the place of residence of perpetrators of neighborhood crimes were also examined. Specifically, individuals were asked if they thought most crimes were committed by persons living in the vicinity, by outsiders, or by a combination of both. A small number of individuals did not respond directly to the question, maintaining that there was no neighborhood crime; a much larger number, roughly one-fourth of all residents, did not know where the offenders lived. Of those who offered an opinion, the greatest number, 37 percent, believed outsiders were responsible. Another 26 percent thought neighboring persons were the perpetrators, and 8 percent felt that outsiders and residents shared the blame equally.

It should probably come as no surprise that outsiders were thought to be the offenders more often than people from the vicinity. Lacking direct information, there is a natural inclination to point the finger at strangers, especially for more serious crimes. Yet, survey findings indicate that this assessment might not be accurate. Persons who actually were victimized, and were therefore more apt to know the identity of the offenders, blamed neighborhood residents and outsiders about as often. Nonvictims, on the other hand, were less likely to think neighborhood residents were the culprits.

Age was also related to perceptions about where offenders lived. Although differences were not always significant, there was a gradual decrease with age in the proportion of persons holding neighborhood residents responsible for crime. The percentages ranged from a high of 41 for individuals age 16-19 to a low of 11 for those age 65 and over. At the same time, older persons were more likely to blame outsiders or to admit that they did not know. This disposition might be explained, in part, by the fact that younger persons have higher rates of victimization than older persons and, as mentioned above, victimization experience appears to be related to this particular

question. Whites were somewhat more likely than blacks to identify the offenders as outsiders, but no difference was evident between the proportion of members of each race attributing crime to people in the community. There was no meaningful relationship between sex and perception about the offenders' place of residence.

Chances of personal victimization

In addition to the items pertaining to neighborhood safety, Buffalo residents were asked if they believed their chances of sustaining a personal attack or robbery had gone up, remained the same, or gone down over the past few years. A majority, 57 percent, concluded that their own chances of being victimized had increased, whereas only a small minority, 7 percent, believed their chances decreased. Persons who felt there had been no change accounted for 32 percent of the population, and 4 percent had no opinion.

Although most of the measured subgroups recorded distributions similar to that for all residents, there were some noticeable intercategory differences. Women were more likely than men to have maintained that their chances of attack had increased and less likely to have felt they had remained the same or gone down. Furthermore, whites or persons victimized in the preceding 12 months registered higher proportions in the "going up" category than blacks or nonvictims, respectively. The relationship between age and perception of personal vulnerability was not particularly strong. Nonetheless, it was apparent that younger persons (age 16-24) were less likely than those age 25 and over to believe their chances of being attacked had increased. Curiously, these younger residents, for whom the victimization component of the survey recorded the highest rate for personal crimes of violence (the aggregate of rape, robbery, and assault), were more likely to hold that the risk had actually diminished.³ However, the number of these young persons who felt this way was small (10 percent).

³United States. National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service. *Criminal Victimization Surveys in 13 American Cities*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, June 1975, p. 37.

Crime and the media

Residents of Buffalo were asked to consider media coverage of crime and decide whether they considered crime to be less serious, about as serious, or more serious than the newspapers or television reported. Given the degree of concern over crime registered in previous responses, it would be anticipated that relatively few persons believed that the crime problem was being exaggerated by the media. The results confirmed this hypothesis. Only 10 percent of the population considered crime less serious than portrayed by the media, compared to 39 percent who felt it was even more serious and 46 percent who believed it was about as serious as reported. About 4 percent had no opinion on the subject. Response patterns were fairly homogeneous, but females, blacks, or victims were slightly more likely than their opposites to believe crime was more serious than reported in the news.

Fear of crime

Among other things, results covered thus far have shown that many residents of Buffalo believed crime had increased over the years leading up to the survey, and, in addition, felt their own chances of being attacked had risen. Whether or not they feared for their personal safety is a matter treated in this section of the report. Also examined is the impact of fear of crime on activity patterns and on considerations regarding changes of residence. Survey questions 11a, 11b, 11c, 13a, 13b, 16a, 16b, and 16c—all asked of persons age 16 and over—and Data Tables 7 through 18 are referenced here.

Crime as a deterrent to mobility

Individuals were asked if there were certain sectors of the metropolitan area where they had reason to go or would like to go but were afraid to do so because of crime. The vast majority of residents, 76 percent, said they were not afraid to travel to other parts of the Buffalo area during the

day; the remainder expressed fear (19 percent) or their answers were not recorded (5).⁴

The proportion of individuals who reported that they were not fearful of daytime travel varied only moderately among demographic groups. Males or blacks were more apt than females or whites, respectively, to say they were not afraid. Not surprisingly, persons who had not experienced a personal or household victimization were less likely to be fearful than those who had been victims. Among persons age 16-64, there was a tendency toward a decrease with age in the proportion of those maintaining they were not afraid, although most intergroup differences were not statistically significant. Persons age 65 and over, however, exhibited an unanticipated increase in the proportion of "not afraid" responses. This reversal of the downward trend was unexpected in view of the fact that elderly persons generally are believed to be the most fearful of any age group. However, it is possible that this finding was an artifact of question design rather than a true indicator of disparate attitudes. As previously noted, respondents were asked to consider only those sectors where they would have reason or would want to go, and it is not unlikely that the area under consideration varied directly with age. Specifically, persons age 65 and over, partly because of physical limitations and partly because of fear of crime, may limit their movements to a few neighborhoods that they regard as safe, whereas younger persons may be much less restrictive in their movements.

When asked about going elsewhere in the area at night, a significantly smaller proportion of the population, although still a majority, said they were unafraid. Some 64 percent of the population expressed lack of fear at night, compared with 76 percent in the daytime. Intercategory variations paralleled those discussed in the preceding question; men, blacks, or nonvictims were more likely than women, whites, or victims to say they were unafraid at night. The response pattern remained relatively constant for all age groups except per-

⁴It should be emphasized that respondents were not queried regarding all parts of the metropolitan area but only about those they *needed* or *desired* to enter. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that high risk places, those most highly feared, were excluded from consideration by many respondents. Had questions 13a and 13b applied unconditionally to all sectors of the area, the pattern of responses no doubt would have differed.

sons age 65 and over who, for the reasons suggested previously, had a significantly higher proportion of "unafraid" answers than any other group.

Neighborhood safety

To assess the extent to which individuals felt secure in their own neighborhoods, residents of Buffalo were asked, "How safe do you feel or would you feel being out alone in your neighborhood during the day (at night)." A majority of persons, 57 percent, felt very safe during the day, and most of the remainder, 36 percent, regarded the vicinity as reasonably safe. Altogether, 93 percent of the population selected either of the two categories; only 7 percent said they felt somewhat or very unsafe during the day.

Irrespective of age, race, sex, or victimization experience, most people regarded their own neighborhoods as safe in the daytime. Notwithstanding this consensus, there were noticeable variations in the degree of safety felt by different groups. To illustrate, 65 percent of the city's youngest residents believed themselves to be very safe in the daytime and 30 percent felt reasonably safe. Only 45 percent of Buffalo's oldest residents said they felt very safe, however, and 43 percent believed themselves to be reasonably safe. Overall, the trend was toward a more even distribution of "very safe" and "reasonably safe" responses as age increased. In addition, persons age 35 and over were more likely than younger persons to feel somewhat or very unsafe, even though the number in each group sharing this belief was small. With respect to race and sex, "very safe" responses were more characteristic of whites or males than blacks or females, respectively; the reverse was true for "reasonably safe" responses. These disparities between males and females and blacks and whites persisted at all age levels except 65 and over, where differences for the "reasonably safe" category were not statistically significant. Finally, females or blacks were more than twice as likely as males or whites to consider themselves at least somewhat unsafe when out alone during the day.

Interestingly enough, victimization experience did not appear to relate to impressions of neighborhood safety, victims and nonvictims having

near identical response distributions. A more detailed breakdown of victimization experience, however, incorporating type and seriousness of the crime, might well have revealed the existence of a relationship between the two variables.

The combined effects of race, sex, and age on perceptions of neighborhood safety show that a majority of persons in each of the demographic subgroups thus formed felt at least reasonably safe when out alone during the day. However, there were significant differences with respect to the strength of convictions, as measured by relative differences between responses categorized as "very safe" and "reasonably safe." In each sex/age category, whites were more likely than blacks to feel very safe, whereas blacks (with the exception of males age 65 and over) more often believed themselves to be reasonably safe. To illustrate, 85 percent of white males and 56 percent of white females age 16-19 considered their neighborhoods to be very safe; the corresponding figures for blacks of that age were 67 percent (males) and 38 percent (females). On the other hand, 30 percent of young black males and 48 percent of females believed themselves to be reasonably safe, compared to 15 percent of white males and 37 percent of females. Similar relationships existed for each age group, although the absolute size of the percentages varied.

The relationship between sex and perceptions of neighborhood safety described earlier remained strong for whites of all ages but weakened among blacks because of the relatively small number of individuals represented in each age category, which affected the statistical significance of apparent differences. For whites of each age group, males felt relatively safer than females; that is, they had a higher proportion of "very safe" responses and a lower proportion of "reasonably safe" responses. Black males were more likely than black females to feel very safe, except for persons age 20-24 and 65 and over. Similarly, for the "reasonably safe" category, differences were not statistically significant for blacks age 20-24 and those in age groups 35 and over.

Perceptions of personal safety at night were markedly different from those relating to daytime. A majority of residents continued to regard their neighborhoods as safe, but the proportion who did so—55 percent—was significantly lower than

that for daytime. Moreover, only 17 percent felt very safe at night (as opposed to 57 percent in the daytime), with 38 percent rating their neighborhoods reasonably safe. The 44 percent who felt unsafe were equally distributed between the "somewhat" and "very unsafe" categories.

Response patterns for subgroups were not unlike those identified in the daytime question; in general, younger persons, males, or whites felt safer in their neighborhoods when out alone at night than older persons, females or blacks. As before, victimization experience did not appear to be associated with perceptions of neighborhood safety. With respect to age, the proportion of individuals regarding their neighborhoods as at least reasonably safe remained roughly the same for persons in the two youngest groups examined, then increased for those age 25-34, after which it decreased for successive age groups. The two-thirds of all persons age 25-34 who felt safe alone in their own communities at night contrasted with the roughly two-fifths of persons age 65 and over who felt the same way. A complementary pattern existed for the "unsafe" responses, with the number of persons in the combined categories decreasing at age 25-34, then expanding through the remaining age groups.

Men were about twice as likely as women to feel reasonably or very safe at night, whereas significantly higher proportions of "somewhat unsafe" and "very unsafe" responses were recorded for females. These differences existed at all age levels. For example, 88 percent of all males age 25-34 said they were safe at night, compared to 46 percent of the females of the same age; for persons age 65 and over the corresponding proportions were 54 percent for males and 29 percent for females. Both whites and blacks showed comparable disparities between the responses by males and females in matching age groups.

Some 57 percent of all white residents, compared with 47 percent of the black residents, considered themselves reasonably or very safe at night. Blacks, by contrast, were more likely than whites to feel very unsafe, although they were no more likely to feel somewhat unsafe. At all age levels except 16-19, whites exhibited more confidence than blacks in the safety of their own communities, a relationship that maintained with few exceptions for both males and females.

Crime as a cause for moving away

Persons who felt unsafe when out alone in their neighborhoods either during the day or at night were asked if they considered the community dangerous enough to make them think seriously about moving. Approximately 44 percent of the surveyed population expressed feelings of insecurity, and of this group 21 percent regarded the situation as serious enough to consider moving. Nevertheless, the vast majority, 78 percent, had not seriously thought of leaving their neighborhood even though they expressed concern for their personal safety. Not unexpectedly, persons who were victims of crime were about twice as likely as nonvictims to have considered leaving their neighborhoods. In addition, males or blacks had considered a move relatively more often than females or whites.⁵

Crime as a cause for activity modification

A series of questions in the attitude questionnaire dealt with perceptions of the relationship between fear of crime and modification of behavior. Residents of Buffalo were asked if as a consequence of fear of crime people in general, those in the neighborhood, or they personally had limited or changed their activities over the past few years. No specific activities were identified, the intent being to elicit general impressions.

When asked about other persons—people in general or their own neighbors—most individuals believed that fear of crime had produced lifestyle changes. Clearly, however, they were much more likely to believe that people in general rather than those in their community, had changed: 84 percent of the residents of Buffalo replied in the affirmative when the question concerned "people in general" but only 58 percent said "yes" when the activities of neighborhood residents were in

⁵Based on responses shown in Data Table 15, this observation is somewhat misleading because the source question was asked only of persons who said they felt unsafe during daytime and/or nighttime. Totalling 44 percent of the relevant population, individuals who were asked the question included 25 percent of all males, contrasted with 60 percent of all females. Thus, 9 percent of the total population age 16 and over—including 6 percent of males and 11 percent of females—said they had seriously considered moving.

question. This attitude appears to be consistent with results reported earlier showing that fewer individuals believed crime was on the increase in their neighborhoods than in the Nation as a whole. Queried about their own habits, 42 percent of the residents acknowledged that they had limited or changed their activities, whereas a majority, 58 percent, said they had not. Thus, there was a significant drop in the proportion of persons believing that fear of crime had affected living patterns as the population in question became more recognizable and easily identifiable. This phenomenon has been noted in another work based on National Crime Survey attitude data from eight other cities.⁶ That report also found that fear of crime was believed to have a greater impact on other persons, be they people in general or neighbors, than on the respondents themselves.

Regarding the impact of fear of crime on personal activity, women were more likely than men to maintain that fear of victimization had affected their lives. This disparity between sexes was evident at each age level, with the greatest differences appearing in the younger age groups. Similarly, when race was considered, females continued to evince a higher proportion of affirmative responses, the sole exception being elderly blacks age 65 and over.

Differences of opinion also existed between the white and black populations. Some 52 percent of blacks, compared with 39 percent of whites, said that they had altered their activities as a consequence of crime, a trend which maintained for all but the youngest age group. White males in age groups 25 and over were much less likely than black males of the same age to feel that fear of crime had affected their lives; for younger males the differences were not statistically significant. A somewhat similar pattern existed for women, with whites having significantly lower proportions of affirmative responses for persons in age groups 20-64, but not for those age 16-19 and 65 and over.

Higher proportions of older than younger persons said they had modified their activities because of the fear of crime. However, there was no gradual increase with age. Instead, the population appeared divided into two groups, with a sig-

⁶Garofalo, James. National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service. *Public Opinion About Crime: The Attitudes of Victims and Nonvictims in Selected Cities.*

nificantly higher proportion of individuals age 35 and over than of those under 35 feeling that their lives had been affected by crime; the differences persisted for all race/sex categories. For the population as a whole, about a third of those age 16-34 believed they had limited or changed their activities, compared to slightly less than half of those 35 and over.

Somewhat surprisingly, victims and nonvictims did not have strikingly diverse views with regard to activity changes, although the differences were statistically significant. Some 45 percent of the victims, compared with 40 percent of the nonvictims, felt that their fear had influenced the way they lived.

Residential problems and lifestyles

The initial attitude survey questions were designed to gather information about certain specific behavioral practices of Buffalo householders and to explore perceptions about a wide range of community problems, one of which was crime. As indicated in the section entitled "Crime and Attitudes," certain questions were asked of only one member of each household, known as the household respondent. Information gathered from such persons is treated in this section of the report and found in Data Tables 19 through 26; the pertinent data were based on survey questions 2a through 7b. In addition, the responses to questions 8a through 8f, relating to certain aspects of personal lifestyle, also are examined in this section; the relevant questions were asked of all household members age 16 and over, including the household respondent, and the results are displayed in Data Tables 27 through 30. As can be seen from the questionnaire, and unlike the procedure used in developing sections of this report, the questions that served as a basis for the topics covered here did not reveal to respondents that the development of data on crime was the main purpose of the survey.

Neighborhood problems and selecting a home

Household respondents who had lived at the surveyed address for 5 years or less were asked what they considered to be the most important reason for selecting their present neighborhood and leaving the old one. The data show that only 2 percent of the respondents suggested crime was the central motivating factor in either of these two important decisions. Responses that might have incorporated concern over antisocial activities, such as "good schools," "neighborhood characteristics," or the "influx of bad elements" were also uncommon. The vast majority of individuals identified such factors as convenience of the new location, a change in living arrangements, and the cost or characteristics of the old or the new dwellings as the most important reasons.

Although crime was rarely regarded as the most important reason for moving out of an old neighborhood or selecting a new one, it was singled out somewhat more frequently when respondents were asked to identify the important neighborhood problems. One-third of all household informants felt that there were things about the community they did not like, and of those, 18 percent regarded crime or fear of crime as the most serious problem. An additional 26 percent pointed to the influx of a "bad element" or to problems with neighbors, responses that may have reflected a concern for personal safety. However, the single most common response, mentioned by 30 percent of the household respondents, had to do with environmental problems such as trash, noise, and overcrowding. Victims of crime singled out crime as the main neighborhood problem relatively more often than nonvictims.

Food and merchandise shopping practices

Information on shopping patterns, both for food and general merchandise, was also collected in the survey. With respect to food shopping, the data show that about three-fourths of the householders in Buffalo did their marketing in their own neighborhood and the remainder did not. Of those who shopped away from the neighborhood, only 1 percent said they did so because they were afraid of crime. Inadequate or nonexistent local stores and

higher prices were frequently cited as major reasons for shopping outside the neighborhood. As for clothing and general merchandise, three-fifths of the respondents said they usually went to suburban or neighborhood shopping centers, whereas most of the remainder shopped downtown. Again, however, when they were asked why, only a small minority said it was for fear of crime. Factors such as convenience and superior selection were considered to be the most important reasons by a majority.

Entertainment practices

Questions pertaining to personal entertainment patterns and preferences were asked of all qualified persons in the household. When queried about the relative frequency with which they went out for entertainment in the evening, about half of the residents of Buffalo said their habits had not changed over the past year or two, 34 percent felt they had cut down on their activities, and 16 percent said they went out more frequently. A number of causes, including crime, were given for changing entertainment patterns, but here again, crime was not often mentioned. Family interests, financial resources, and age, among others, were much more relevant considerations.

When they went out in the evening, most individuals usually picked restaurants or theaters within the city. The data show that 56 percent of the population remained within the city, 27 percent sought entertainment outside Buffalo, and 17 percent went with equal frequency to both areas. But, regardless of the location they chose, few said they were influenced primarily by fear of crime. Only 11 percent of those who went outside the city and far fewer of those who remained in the city cited crime as the major reason. Convenience of the in-city locations and better facilities in the suburbs were the most important reasons given by the respective groups.

Local police performance

Following the series of questions concerning neighborhood safety and crime as a deterrent to personal mobility, individuals age 16 and over were asked to assess the overall performance of the local police and to suggest ways, if any, in which police effectiveness might be improved. Data Tables 31 through 37, derived from survey questions 14a and 14b, contain the results on which this discussion is based.

Are they doing a good, average, or poor job?

Overall the police in Buffalo were judged favorably, with roughly four-fifths of the measured population believing they were doing either "a good or average job and 13 percent a poor job. It may be reasoned from these results and others, reported previously, that although there was a good deal of concern over rising crime and fear of being personally victimized, the local authorities were not held responsible.

There were important intercategory variations among residents of different races, ages, or victimization experiences. Of Buffalo's white population, 46 percent rated their police as good, compared with only 20 percent of the blacks. In contrast, about one-fourth of all blacks, but only one-tenth of whites, felt law enforcement authorities had performed poorly. When controlled for age, whites of all ages continued to give the police better ratings than blacks. Although not all differences were statistically significant, there were higher proportions of positive responses and lower proportions of neutral or negative responses as age increased. At the extremes, 23 percent of persons age 16-19 characterized their police as "good," 51 percent as "average," and 21 percent as "poor," whereas the corresponding percentages for persons 65 and over were 59, 27, and 5. In general, this pattern was repeated for both sexes and both races.

Predictably, persons who had fallen victim to crime in the preceding 12 months were less likely

than nonvictims to have given the police a "good" rating and more likely to have rated them as "poor." The proportions were 34 percent "good" and 19 percent "poor" for victims, and 44 percent "good" and 11 percent "poor" for nonvictims.

Of all the demographic groups examined, whites of both sexes age 50-64 were most likely to believe police service was good. In comparison, young black males in groups between the ages of 16 and 34 and black females age 16-19 appeared to have the highest proportion of "poor" responses, although differences were not always statistically meaningful. The relationship between age and police appraisal, mentioned earlier, was much weaker at this level of analysis because of the effect of large statistical variances. Nonetheless, for each racial group, the youngest males and females were much less likely than the oldest to rate their police as good and more likely to consider them poor or average. Finally, whites continued to have a more favorable opinion of the police than blacks, irrespective of age or sex.

How can the police improve?

Most individuals offered suggestions when asked for ways local law enforcement authorities could upgrade the service; only 17 percent felt there was no need for improvement. Among those in the latter category, older persons were much more likely than younger ones to be completely satisfied with the police. To illustrate, 28 percent of those 65 and over felt no need for improvement, compared with only 9 percent of persons 16-19. Whites or nonvictims were somewhat more likely than blacks or victims, respectively, to have stated that no improvement was needed.

Opinions regarding areas in need of improvement were grouped into eight specific categories. Roughly one-third of all individuals—more than any other—believed the most important need was for additional police officers in certain areas of the city or at certain times of the day, an opinion shared equally by men and women. The feeling that the size of the police force should be increased, and that law enforcement officers should be more prompt, responsive, and alert were also relatively common responses. Other specific suggestions including the need for better training, concentration on more important duties, increased

emphasis on traffic control, more courteous service, and less discrimination were given only infrequently. Of these recommendations, those which pertained to operational practices accounted for nearly three-fifths of the total, whereas about one-fifth focused on personnel resources and 13 percent on community relations.⁷ The remaining suggestions were not specified, but were grouped into an "other" category which accounted for 7 percent of the total.

White residents were more likely than blacks to call for improvements in the areas relating to personnel resources and operational practices, whereas blacks were three times more likely than whites to focus on community relations. Concerning community relations, 21 percent of blacks said that the police should be more courteous, improve their attitude, or develop better community relations, and 7 percent felt they should stop discriminating; the corresponding figures for whites were 8 and 1 percent, respectively. With the exception of males age 65 and over, for whom the data were unreliable, blacks at all age levels, both males and females, showed a greater concern than did whites for community relations matters. The disparity between the races was particularly great for elderly women age 65 and over; 18 percent of black women but only 3 percent of white women in that age group suggested improvements in community relations. For most sex/age categories, whites appeared more likely to have concentrated on improvements in the areas of personnel resources and operations, but as a consequence of excessive statistical variances these differences were not always significant.

With the exception of the differences according to race, there were few important variations in the response pattern. Men were slightly more likely

⁷For much of this discussion, the eight specific response items covered in Question 14b were combined into three categories, as follows: *community relations*: (1) "Be more courteous, improve attitude, community relations" and (2) "Don't discriminate." *Operational practices*: (1) "Concentrate on more important duties, serious crime, etc."; (2) "Be more prompt, responsive, alert"; (3) "Need more traffic control"; and (4) "Need more policemen of particular type (foot, car) in certain areas or at certain times." And, *personnel resources*: (1) "Hire more policemen" and (2) "Improve training, raise qualifications or pay, recruitment policies."

than women to offer suggestions dealing with personnel resources, but less likely to be concerned with the operational practices. Taken as a group, persons under the age of 35 mentioned improvements in community relations relatively more frequently than did older persons and were less concerned with problems relating to the size and quality of the police force.

Survey data tables

The 37 statistical data tables in this appendix present the results of the Buffalo attitudinal survey conducted early in 1974. They are organized topically, generally paralleling the report's analytical discussion. For each subject, the data tables consist of cross-tabulations of personal (or household) characteristics and the relevant response categories. For a given population group, each table displays the percent distribution of answers to a question.

All statistical data generated by the survey are estimates that vary in their degree of reliability and are subject to variances, or errors, associated with the fact that they were derived from a sample survey rather than a complete enumeration. Constraints on interpretation and other uses of the data, as well as guidelines for determining their reliability, are set forth in Appendix III. As a general rule, however, estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable. Such estimates, qualified by footnotes to the data tables, were not used for analytical purposes in this report.

Each data table parenthetically displays the size of the group for which a distribution of responses was calculated. As with the percentages, these base figures are estimates. On tables showing the answers of individual respondents (Tables 1-18 and 27-37), the figures reflect an adjustment based on an independent post-Census estimate of the city's resident population. For data from household respondents (Tables 19-26), the bases were generated solely by the survey itself.

A note beneath each data table identifies the question that served as source of the data. As an expedient in preparing tables, certain response categories were reworded and/or abbreviated. The questionnaire facsimile (Appendix II) should be consulted for the exact wording of both the questions and the response categories. For questionnaire items that carried the instruction "Mark all that apply," thereby enabling a respondent to furnish more than a single answer, the data tables reflect only the answer designated by the respondent as being the most important one rather than all answers given.

The first six data tables were used in preparing the "Crime Trends" section of the report. Tables 7-18 relate to the topic "Fear of Crime"; Tables 19-30 cover "Residential Problems and Life styles"; and the last seven tables display information concerning "Local Police Performance."

Table 1. Direction of crime trends in the United States

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Increased	Same	Decreased	Don't know	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	76.2	13.8	4.3	5.4	0.3
Sex						
Male (135,500)	100.0	74.9	14.2	5.7	4.8	0.4
Female (171,500)	100.0	77.2	13.5	3.2	5.8	0.3
Race						
White (248,800)	100.0	76.6	14.1	3.9	5.1	0.3
Black (56,500)	100.0	75.0	12.7	6.3	5.7	0.2
Other (1,700)	100.0	62.4	10.2	2.1	25.3	0.0
Age						
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	71.9	19.0	5.0	3.9	0.2
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	74.0	18.3	4.1	3.4	0.1
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	77.8	13.4	4.7	3.8	0.3
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	78.4	11.9	4.7	4.5	0.6
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	78.4	12.0	4.4	5.2	0.0
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	74.0	11.7	3.4	10.3	0.5
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	76.1	13.7	4.0	5.9	0.1
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	76.4	14.1	5.3	4.0	0.2

NOTE: Data based on question 10a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 2. Direction of crime trends in the neighborhood

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Increased	Same	Decreased	Haven't lived here that long	Don't know	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	33.4	43.7	8.8	4.7	9.0	0.3
Sex							
Male (135,500)	100.0	33.4	43.5	10.2	4.6	7.9	0.3
Female (171,500)	100.0	33.4	43.9	7.6	4.8	9.9	0.3
Race							
White (248,800)	100.0	34.0	46.2	5.7	4.4	9.3	0.4
Black (56,500)	100.0	31.4	33.4	22.2	5.7	7.3	0.1
Other (1,700)	100.0	20.1	28.0	18.1	19.9	23.8	0.0
Age							
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	33.5	40.2	13.3	6.8	6.2	0.1
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	31.8	42.5	7.9	10.0	7.4	0.3
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	33.2	42.1	7.6	9.1	7.9	0.3
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	33.3	43.9	10.6	3.2	8.5	0.5
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	36.6	45.1	8.2	1.8	8.1	0.1
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	30.9	46.5	6.6	0.7	14.8	0.5
Victimization experience							
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	30.2	46.5	8.5	4.4	10.0	0.4
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	41.4	36.9	9.3	5.5	6.7	0.2

NOTE: Data based on question 9a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 3. Comparison of neighborhood crime with other metropolitan area neighborhoods

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Much more dangerous	More dangerous	About average	Less dangerous	Much less dangerous	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	0.9	4.7	43.9	39.3	9.8	1.5
Sex							
Male (135,500)	100.0	0.9	5.1	40.1	40.8	11.9	1.2
Female (171,500)	100.0	0.9	4.5	46.8	38.0	8.2	1.6
Race							
White (248,800)	100.0	0.6	4.6	41.0	41.6	11.6	1.5
Black (56,500)	100.0	1.9	5.1	56.7	29.1	6.2	1.1
Other (1,700)	100.0	12.0	12.1	40.1	35.9	18.0	1.8
Age							
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	1.3	6.8	44.8	38.9	7.7	10.5
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	1.0	7.7	41.0	38.6	9.8	1.9
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	1.2	4.8	44.9	39.0	9.0	1.1
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	0.6	3.6	45.6	38.8	10.2	1.3
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	0.7	4.0	44.1	40.4	9.8	1.1
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	0.6	3.3	42.6	39.3	11.5	2.6
Victimization experience							
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	0.6	3.8	43.5	40.4	10.2	1.6
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	1.6	7.2	44.7	36.5	8.8	1.2

NOTE: Data based on question 12. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 4. Place of residence of persons committing neighborhood crimes

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	No neighborhood crime	People living here	Outsiders	Equally by both	Don't know	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	3.7	25.6	36.8	8.2	24.9	0.8
Sex							
Male (135,500)	100.0	3.8	26.6	37.5	9.5	21.9	0.7
Female (171,500)	100.0	3.7	24.9	36.2	7.1	27.2	1.0
Race							
White (248,800)	100.0	4.0	25.4	37.9	7.4	24.5	0.8
Black (56,500)	100.0	2.8	26.5	32.1	11.8	25.8	1.1
Other (1,700)	100.0	11.9	21.9	26.3	14.2	45.8	10.0
Age							
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	10.6	40.7	34.7	10.3	13.2	10.4
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	3.0	36.4	30.3	7.6	22.4	10.4
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	2.4	33.9	31.3	7.2	24.7	10.5
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	3.9	24.5	36.9	8.5	24.7	1.5
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	4.5	18.3	41.3	8.8	26.4	0.7
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	6.3	10.7	42.5	7.1	32.2	1.2
Victimization experience							
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	4.4	21.9	37.8	8.3	26.7	0.9
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	2.1	34.8	34.3	7.8	20.3	0.6

NOTE: Data based on question 9c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 5. Change in the chances of being attacked or robbed

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Going up	Same	Going down	No opinion	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	57.1	32.1	7.0	3.5	0.3
Sex						
Male (135,500)	100.0	51.3	36.4	9.2	2.8	0.3
Female (171,500)	100.0	61.6	28.7	5.1	4.1	0.3
Race						
White (248,800)	100.0	59.3	31.7	5.3	3.3	0.3
Black (56,500)	100.0	47.9	33.6	14.4	3.9	10.3
Other (1,700)	100.0	27.6	48.8	10.0	23.7	10.0
Age						
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	51.6	34.1	12.3	1.9	10.1
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	53.9	34.9	8.2	2.7	10.3
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	59.5	33.1	5.0	2.3	10.1
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	59.1	31.0	7.4	2.0	0.5
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	61.6	29.2	5.9	3.2	10.0
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	52.6	32.9	5.4	8.4	0.8
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	55.2	33.3	6.8	4.3	0.4
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	61.7	29.1	7.4	1.7	10.1

NOTE: Data based on question 15a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.**Table 6. Seriousness of crime problem relative to what newspapers and television report**

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Less serious	Same	More serious	No opinion	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	10.2	46.1	39.0	4.3	0.4
Sex						
Male (135,500)	100.0	13.8	45.1	36.7	3.8	0.5
Female (171,500)	100.0	7.3	46.8	40.7	4.8	0.4
Race						
White (248,800)	100.0	10.3	47.2	38.0	4.1	0.4
Black (56,500)	100.0	9.5	41.6	43.5	5.0	10.4
Other (1,700)	100.0	22.4	37.4	28.3	11.9	10.0
Age						
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	14.0	45.1	38.4	2.1	10.4
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	12.8	44.8	39.5	2.5	10.4
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	11.3	47.5	37.7	3.2	10.3
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	9.8	44.2	41.8	3.7	10.5
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	8.6	45.6	40.8	4.7	10.4
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	7.4	49.0	34.5	8.4	0.7
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	10.0	47.5	36.9	5.1	0.5
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	10.7	42.5	44.1	2.4	0.3

NOTE: Data based on question 15b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 7. Fear of going to parts of the metropolitan area during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	19.4	75.9	4.7
Sex				
Male (135,500)	100.0	17.6	78.9	3.5
Female (171,500)	100.0	20.9	73.5	5.6
Race				
White (248,800)	100.0	20.6	74.1	5.3
Black (56,500)	100.0	14.5	83.8	1.7
Other (1,700)	100.0	16.3	71.5	12.1
Age				
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	17.0	79.5	3.5
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	15.8	79.7	4.6
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	18.2	77.9	3.8
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	21.1	74.8	4.1
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	24.5	70.3	5.3
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	16.6	77.1	6.2
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	17.6	77.6	4.8
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	24.1	71.5	4.4

NOTE: Data based on question 13a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 8. Fear of going to parts of the metropolitan area at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	26.2	63.7	10.1
Sex				
Male (135,500)	100.0	24.6	67.8	7.6
Female (171,500)	100.0	27.4	60.5	12.1
Race				
White (248,800)	100.0	26.5	62.9	10.6
Black (56,500)	100.0	25.0	67.4	7.6
Other (1,700)	100.0	20.4	61.4	18.2
Age				
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	28.9	61.5	9.6
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	27.2	61.0	11.9
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	29.0	61.1	9.8
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	27.3	62.6	10.1
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	28.8	61.3	9.9
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	16.5	73.9	9.5
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	23.5	66.5	10.0
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	32.9	56.8	10.4

NOTE: Data based on question 13b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

Table 9. Neighborhood safety when out alone during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	57.1	35.5	5.4	1.6	0.5
Sex						
Male (135,500)	100.0	68.7	27.4	2.8	0.7	0.4
Female (171,500)	100.0	47.9	41.9	7.4	2.4	0.5
Race						
White (248,800)	100.0	60.7	33.2	4.7	1.0	0.5
Black (56,500)	100.0	41.4	45.5	8.4	4.3	0.4
Other (1,700)	100.0	54.3	43.9	1.8	1.0	0.0
Age						
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	64.5	30.1	4.4	1.0	0.0
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	62.0	32.6	4.0	1.3	0.1
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	64.1	31.1	3.5	1.1	0.1
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	58.7	34.7	4.3	1.7	0.5
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	53.3	37.4	7.1	1.8	0.5
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	45.3	43.4	7.7	2.4	1.2
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	57.4	35.4	5.2	1.4	0.6
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	56.3	35.6	5.8	2.2	0.1

NOTE: Data based on question 11b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 10. Neighborhood safety when out alone during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Sex and age						
Male						
16-19 (15,200)	100.0	79.7	18.9	10.9	10.5	10.0
20-24 (18,400)	100.0	75.7	21.9	1.6	10.7	10.0
25-34 (23,800)	100.0	76.9	21.1	1.4	10.4	10.1
35-49 (26,900)	100.0	67.8	28.2	2.6	10.6	10.6
50-64 (30,100)	100.0	63.7	31.2	3.8	10.8	10.4
65 and over (21,100)	100.0	53.6	39.1	5.4	10.8	11.1
Female						
16-19 (17,100)	100.0	50.9	40.1	7.6	11.4	10.0
20-24 (25,300)	100.0	52.0	40.3	5.7	1.7	10.3
25-34 (25,400)	100.0	52.1	40.6	5.5	1.8	10.1
35-49 (32,200)	100.0	51.1	40.1	5.7	2.6	10.4
50-64 (38,600)	100.0	45.1	42.2	9.6	2.5	10.6
65 and over (33,000)	100.0	40.0	46.2	9.1	3.4	1.3
Race and age						
White						
16-19 (23,700)	100.0	69.0	26.7	3.7	10.6	10.0
20-24 (36,300)	100.0	64.8	30.0	4.0	1.0	10.2
25-34 (38,500)	100.0	70.6	26.3	2.5	10.4	10.2
35-49 (43,400)	100.0	63.8	31.6	3.1	1.0	10.5
50-64 (58,400)	100.0	57.5	35.4	5.7	0.8	0.6
65 and over (48,500)	100.0	46.6	42.8	7.6	1.9	1.1
Black						
16-19 (8,400)	100.0	52.0	39.2	6.6	12.2	10.0
20-24 (6,800)	100.0	46.9	46.2	13.8	13.1	10.0
25-34 (10,200)	100.0	40.2	48.6	7.3	3.8	10.0
35-49 (15,300)	100.0	44.6	43.3	8.0	3.7	10.5
50-64 (10,300)	100.0	29.6	48.4	14.7	7.0	10.3
65 and over (5,500)	100.0	33.1	49.0	8.8	7.1	12.1

NOTE: Data based on question 11b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 11. Neighborhood safety when out alone during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Race, sex, and age						
White						
Male						
16-19 (11,000)	100.0	84.7	14.6	10.3	10.3	10.0
20-24 (15,600)	100.0	78.9	19.0	11.7	10.4	10.0
25-34 (19,500)	100.0	82.2	16.7	11.0	10.0	10.2
35-49 (20,100)	100.0	72.4	24.6	2.0	10.3	10.7
50-64 (25,400)	100.0	68.5	28.4	2.5	10.3	10.4
65 and over (18,500)	100.0	55.8	38.5	4.8	10.0	11.0
Female						
16-19 (12,700)	100.0	55.5	37.1	6.7	10.8	10.0
20-24 (20,700)	100.0	54.2	38.2	5.8	11.4	10.3
25-34 (19,000)	100.0	58.7	36.2	4.0	10.9	10.2
35-49 (23,400)	100.0	56.4	37.6	4.0	1.6	10.4
50-64 (33,000)	100.0	49.0	40.8	8.2	1.3	10.7
65 and over (30,100)	100.0	41.0	45.5	9.3	3.0	1.2
Black						
Male						
16-19 (4,100)	100.0	66.7	29.8	12.6	10.9	10.0
20-24 (2,600)	100.0	56.2	39.8	11.4	12.6	10.0
25-34 (4,100)	100.0	53.1	40.9	13.5	12.5	10.0
35-49 (6,600)	100.0	54.4	38.9	4.6	11.6	10.5
50-64 (4,700)	100.0	38.4	46.0	11.2	13.7	10.7
65 and over (2,600)	100.0	37.9	43.7	10.3	16.6	11.4
Female						
16-19 (4,300)	100.0	37.8	48.3	10.4	13.5	10.0
20-24 (4,200)	100.0	41.2	50.1	15.3	13.4	10.0
25-34 (6,100)	100.0	31.6	53.8	9.9	14.6	10.0
35-49 (8,700)	100.0	37.2	46.6	10.5	5.3	10.4
50-64 (5,600)	100.0	22.2	50.4	17.6	9.7	10.0
65 and over (2,900)	100.0	28.8	53.6	17.4	17.5	12.6

NOTE: Data based on question 11b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

1 Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 12. Neighborhood safety when out alone at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	16.7	38.3	22.2	22.2	0.6
Sex						
Male (135,500)	100.0	27.1	47.5	16.3	8.6	0.5
Female (171,500)	100.0	8.5	31.1	26.8	32.9	0.7
Race						
White (248,800)	100.0	17.6	39.2	22.1	20.5	0.7
Black (56,500)	100.0	12.8	34.4	22.3	30.0	10.5
Other (1,700)	100.0	14.3	47.9	31.7	16.0	10.0
Age						
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	23.2	40.5	19.4	16.7	10.1
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	20.4	41.1	20.2	18.1	10.1
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	22.5	43.9	19.0	14.2	10.3
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	17.4	39.5	23.2	19.3	0.6
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	13.3	36.7	24.1	25.3	0.6
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	7.9	30.6	24.6	35.2	1.7
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	16.3	38.6	21.9	22.3	0.8
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	17.6	37.6	22.9	21.8	10.1

NOTE: Data based on question 11a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 13. Neighborhood safety when out alone at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Sex and age						
Male						
16-19 (15,200)	100.0	37.5	47.1	12.4	2.7	10.2
20-24 (18,400)	100.0	36.8	48.4	10.6	4.2	10.0
25-34 (23,800)	100.0	35.1	52.7	8.7	3.3	10.3
35-49 (26,900)	100.0	25.5	47.9	19.6	6.2	10.8
50-64 (30,100)	100.0	21.2	46.8	20.4	11.3	10.3
65 and over (21,100)	100.0	12.4	41.6	22.5	21.9	1.6
Female						
16-19 (17,100)	100.0	10.5	34.6	25.7	29.2	10.0
20-24 (25,300)	100.0	8.4	35.8	27.2	28.3	10.3
25-34 (25,400)	100.0	10.8	35.6	28.8	24.5	10.3
35-49 (32,200)	100.0	10.6	32.4	26.2	30.2	10.5
50-64 (38,600)	100.0	7.1	28.8	27.1	36.2	0.8
65 and over (33,000)	100.0	5.1	23.6	25.9	43.7	1.8
Race and age						
White						
16-19 (23,700)	100.0	25.3	40.4	18.4	15.8	10.1
20-24 (36,300)	100.0	20.8	42.6	19.2	17.2	10.2
25-34 (38,500)	100.0	25.3	45.1	17.7	11.6	10.3
35-49 (43,400)	100.0	19.2	39.9	23.8	16.4	10.6
50-64 (58,400)	100.0	13.7	38.6	24.5	22.5	0.7
65 and over (48,500)	100.0	8.4	31.3	24.9	33.6	1.7
Black						
16-19 (8,400)	100.0	18.1	40.1	22.0	19.8	10.0
20-24 (6,800)	100.0	18.8	32.4	24.9	23.9	10.0
25-34 (10,200)	100.0	12.4	39.4	22.9	24.7	10.7
35-49 (15,300)	100.0	12.0	38.4	21.4	27.5	10.7
50-64 (10,300)	100.0	10.9	25.6	22.3	41.2	10.0
65 and over (5,500)	100.0	13.7	24.2	21.2	48.7	12.1

NOTE: Data based on question 11a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases; is statistically unreliable.

Table 14. Neighborhood safety when out alone at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Race, sex, and age						
White						
Male						
16-19 (11,000)	100.0	40.9	46.6	10.0	12.1	10.3
20-24 (15,600)	100.0	37.3	49.6	9.5	3.6	10.0
25-34 (19,500)	100.0	38.2	53.1	6.2	2.3	10.2
35-49 (20,100)	100.0	27.5	47.9	19.2	4.6	10.8
50-64 (25,400)	100.0	21.8	48.8	19.7	9.3	10.4
65 and over (18,500)	100.0	13.4	42.8	23.1	19.1	1.6
Female						
16-19 (12,700)	100.0	11.7	35.0	25.7	27.6	10.0
20-24 (20,700)	100.0	8.4	37.3	26.5	27.5	10.3
25-34 (19,000)	100.0	12.1	37.0	29.6	21.1	10.2
35-49 (23,400)	100.0	12.0	33.1	27.8	26.6	10.4
50-64 (33,000)	100.0	7.5	30.7	28.2	32.6	0.9
65 and over (30,100)	100.0	5.3	24.3	26.1	42.6	1.7
Black						
Male						
16-19 (4,100)	100.0	29.5	47.9	18.2	14.4	10.0
20-24 (2,600)	100.0	35.6	41.3	16.5	16.7	10.0
25-34 (4,100)	100.0	20.8	52.9	18.5	17.0	10.9
35-49 (6,600)	100.0	18.8	48.4	21.1	11.3	10.5
50-64 (4,700)	100.0	18.2	35.5	24.4	21.9	10.0
65 and over (2,600)	100.0	15.3	32.8	18.5	41.9	11.4
Female						
16-19 (4,300)	100.0	7.1	32.6	25.7	34.6	10.0
20-24 (4,200)	100.0	8.5	26.9	30.1	34.4	10.0
25-34 (6,100)	100.0	6.7	30.3	25.9	36.5	10.6
35-49 (8,700)	100.0	6.9	30.9	21.6	39.8	10.8
50-64 (5,600)	100.0	14.8	17.2	20.5	57.5	10.0
65 and over (2,900)	100.0	12.4	16.6	23.6	54.8	12.6

NOTE: Data based on question 11a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 15. Neighborhood dangerous enough to consider moving elsewhere

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (136,600)	100.0	20.7	77.5	1.8
Sex				
Male (33,900)	100.0	25.6	72.3	2.1
Female (102,700)	100.0	19.1	79.2	1.7
Race				
White (106,400)	100.0	19.8	78.3	1.8
Black (29,600)	100.0	23.7	74.5	1.8
Other (600)	100.0	26.3	73.7	0.0
Age				
16-19 (11,800)	100.0	23.0	75.8	1.2
20-24 (16,800)	100.0	25.0	72.3	2.7
25-34 (16,400)	100.0	27.6	71.4	1.0
35-49 (25,100)	100.0	23.9	73.9	2.2
50-64 (34,100)	100.0	19.6	79.2	1.2
65 and over (32,400)	100.0	12.8	84.7	2.4
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (97,500)	100.0	15.7	82.5	1.8
Victimized (39,100)	100.0	33.2	65.0	1.6

NOTE: Data based on question 11c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 16. Limitation or change in activities because of fear of crime

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	People in general			Total	People in neighborhood			Total	Personal		
		Yes	No	Not available		Yes	No	Not available		Yes	No	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	83.7	14.3	2.0	100.0	57.6	35.9	6.5	100.0	41.6	57.9	0.5
Sex												
Male (135,500)	100.0	82.2	16.0	1.8	100.0	55.9	38.3	5.8	100.0	32.1	67.4	0.4
Female (171,500)	100.0	84.8	13.0	2.1	100.0	58.9	34.0	7.1	100.0	49.0	50.3	0.6
Race												
White (248,800)	100.0	83.3	14.8	1.9	100.0	55.7	38.1	6.3	100.0	39.2	60.2	0.6
Black (56,500)	100.0	86.1	11.7	2.2	100.0	66.3	26.4	7.3	100.0	52.3	47.4	0.3
Other (1,700)	100.0	64.5	28.2	7.3	100.0	42.5	40.0	17.4	100.0	28.3	69.9	1.8
Age												
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	80.7	18.6	0.6	100.0	56.7	39.7	3.5	100.0	33.3	66.7	0.0
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	80.6	18.5	0.9	100.0	50.5	42.3	7.1	100.0	33.5	66.0	0.5
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	80.1	18.3	1.6	100.0	53.1	39.5	7.5	100.0	34.2	65.3	0.5
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	87.0	11.1	1.9	100.0	59.7	34.1	6.2	100.0	42.6	56.9	0.5
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	88.0	9.9	2.1	100.0	63.3	31.1	5.6	100.0	49.0	50.7	0.3
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	82.1	14.0	3.9	100.0	58.2	33.5	8.3	100.0	49.2	49.6	1.1
Victimization experience												
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	82.9	14.9	2.2	100.0	56.2	37.3	6.5	100.0	40.3	59.1	0.6
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	85.8	12.8	1.4	100.0	61.0	32.5	6.5	100.0	44.8	54.8	0.3

NOTE: Data based on question 16a, 16b, and 16c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 17. Personal limitation or change in activities
because of fear of crime**

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
Sex and age				
Male				
16-19 (15,200)	100.0	20.3	79.7	10.0
20-24 (18,400)	100.0	18.5	81.1	10.4
25-34 (23,800)	100.0	25.0	74.8	10.1
35-49 (26,900)	100.0	36.2	63.1	10.8
50-64 (30,100)	100.0	40.6	59.0	10.4
65 and over (21,100)	100.0	43.1	56.0	10.9
Female				
16-19 (17,100)	100.0	44.9	55.1	10.0
20-24 (25,300)	100.0	44.4	55.0	10.7
25-34 (25,400)	100.0	42.7	56.3	10.9
35-49 (32,200)	100.0	48.0	51.7	10.3
50-64 (38,600)	100.0	55.5	44.2	10.3
65 and over (33,000)	100.0	53.1	45.6	1.3
Race and age				
White				
16-19 (23,700)	100.0	31.9	68.1	10.0
20-24 (36,300)	100.0	31.7	67.7	10.6
25-34 (38,500)	100.0	30.3	69.2	10.5
35-49 (43,400)	100.0	37.7	61.6	10.6
50-64 (58,400)	100.0	46.7	53.0	10.2
65 and over (48,500)	100.0	47.9	50.9	1.3
Black				
16-19 (8,400)	100.0	38.2	61.8	10.0
20-24 (6,800)	100.0	43.0	57.0	10.0
25-34 (10,200)	100.0	49.8	49.9	10.3
35-49 (15,300)	100.0	56.2	43.5	10.2
50-64 (10,300)	100.0	61.6	37.4	11.1
65 and over (5,500)	100.0	61.4	38.6	10.0

NOTE: Data based on question 16c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 18. Personal limitation or change in activities
because of fear of crime**

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
Race, sex, and age				
White				
Male				
16-19 (11,000)	100.0	18.0	82.0	¹ 0.0
20-24 (15,600)	100.0	17.3	82.3	¹ 0.4
25-34 (19,500)	100.0	21.6	78.2	¹ 0.2
35-49 (20,100)	100.0	31.7	67.4	¹ 0.8
50-64 (25,400)	100.0	38.0	61.9	¹ 0.1
65 and over (18,500)	100.0	40.3	58.6	¹ 1.0
Female				
16-19 (12,700)	100.0	43.9	56.1	¹ 0.0
20-24 (20,700)	100.0	42.6	56.6	¹ 0.8
25-34 (19,000)	100.0	39.1	60.0	¹ 0.9
35-49 (23,400)	100.0	42.9	56.6	¹ 0.4
50-64 (33,000)	100.0	53.5	46.2	¹ 0.3
65 and over (30,100)	100.0	52.5	46.1	1.4
Black				
Male				
16-19 (4,100)	100.0	27.0	73.0	¹ 0.0
20-24 (2,600)	100.0	26.1	73.9	¹ 0.0
25-34 (4,100)	100.0	41.2	58.8	¹ 0.0
35-49 (6,600)	100.0	49.7	49.8	¹ 0.5
50-64 (4,700)	100.0	54.3	44.1	¹ 1.6
65 and over (2,600)	100.0	63.2	36.8	¹ 0.0
Female				
16-19 (4,300)	100.0	49.2	50.8	¹ 0.0
20-24 (4,200)	100.0	53.3	46.7	¹ 0.0
25-34 (6,100)	100.0	55.5	43.9	¹ 0.6
35-49 (8,700)	100.0	61.2	38.8	¹ 0.0
50-64 (5,600)	100.0	67.7	31.7	¹ 0.6
65 and over (2,900)	100.0	59.9	40.1	¹ 0.0

NOTE: Data based on question 16c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 19. Most important reason for selecting present neighborhood

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Always lived in neighborhood	Neighborhood characteristics	Good schools	Safe from crime	Lack of choice	Right price	Location	Characteristics of house	Other not available
All households (64,500)	100.0	10.2	12.7	1.5	1.6	13.1	13.8	29.8	10.2	7.3
Race										
White (48,600)	100.0	11.0	12.2	1.8	1.3	9.3	15.1	34.0	8.9	6.4
Black (15,300)	100.0	7.5	14.4	0.6	2.3	25.2	9.7	15.9	14.2	10.2
Other (600)	100.0	5.4	5.3	0.0	5.8	11.3	10.9	50.2	5.3	5.4
Annual family income										
Less than \$3,000 (13,500)	100.0	7.4	7.8	3.0	1.7	18.3	12.1	36.0	6.2	7.6
\$3,000-\$7,499 (17,600)	100.0	9.5	13.6	0.9	2.1	15.1	13.6	26.7	11.1	7.4
\$7,500-\$9,999 (8,100)	100.0	11.2	13.3	0.4	1.5	11.5	15.9	28.9	11.0	6.3
\$10,000-\$14,999 (12,500)	100.0	11.6	13.1	1.7	1.4	7.3	17.3	30.1	12.0	5.4
\$15,000-\$24,999 (5,300)	100.0	15.7	15.3	2.3	0.0	7.6	12.1	30.1	12.1	14.7
\$25,000 or more (800)	100.0	16.4	11.7	0.0	3.9	0.0	13.9	36.4	12.1	16.0
Not available (6,900)	100.0	8.2	16.8	0.5	1.5	15.5	11.0	25.1	9.5	12.0
Victimization experience										
Not victimized (41,300)	100.0	10.7	13.0	1.8	1.5	13.0	13.2	28.9	10.4	7.5
Victimized (23,200)	100.0	9.2	12.2	0.9	1.8	13.2	14.7	31.4	9.7	7.0

NOTE: Data based on question 2a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 20. Most important reason for leaving former residence

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Location	Characteristics of house	Wanted better house	Wanted cheaper house	Forced out	Living arrangements changed	Influx of bad elements	Crime	Neighborhood characteristics	Other and not available
All households (64,500)	100.0	18.5	15.3	14.0	4.8	11.4	20.6	1.2	2.4	5.5	6.4
Race											
White (48,600)	100.0	21.8	13.3	12.1	5.4	9.9	22.4	1.4	1.4	5.3	7.0
Black (15,300)	100.0	7.4	22.0	20.6	2.9	16.0	15.0	0.4	4.9	6.1	4.7
Other (600)	100.0	39.1	5.3	0.0	5.4	16.9	16.6	5.5	11.2	0.0	0.0
Annual family income											
Less than \$3,000 (13,500)	100.0	31.2	7.8	9.6	4.9	13.5	17.2	1.4	2.4	5.1	6.8
\$3,000-\$7,499 (17,600)	100.0	16.5	14.9	11.3	7.2	14.7	19.4	1.9	2.8	5.5	5.8
\$7,500-\$9,999 (8,100)	100.0	10.5	17.3	16.2	5.8	7.1	24.1	1.4	2.9	7.0	7.7
\$10,000-\$14,999 (12,500)	100.0	16.2	18.3	20.4	3.0	8.7	22.0	0.2	1.6	5.2	3.9
\$15,000-\$24,999 (5,300)	100.0	13.1	24.1	15.9	2.8	8.1	27.8	0.0	0.6	3.4	4.2
\$25,000 or more (800)	100.0	16.4	19.6	19.6	0.0	4.3	24.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.0
Not available (6,900)	100.0	16.3	15.8	13.3	2.4	12.4	17.1	1.5	3.4	6.8	11.1
Victimization experience											
Not victimized (41,300)	100.0	19.1	15.2	14.7	4.7	12.1	19.9	1.5	1.4	4.4	7.1
Victimized (23,200)	100.0	17.5	15.4	12.8	5.0	10.3	21.7	0.6	4.1	7.2	5.3

NOTE: Data based on question 4a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 21. Whether or not there are undesirable neighborhood characteristics

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All households (149,000)	100.0	32.9	66.8	0.3
Race				
White (120,500)	100.0	31.8	67.9	0.4
Black (27,900)	100.0	37.8	62.0	10.3
Other (700)	100.0	32.3	66.2	10.0
Annual family income				
Less than \$3,000 (26,100)	100.0	31.4	68.0	10.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (38,900)	100.0	32.3	67.4	10.2
\$7,500-\$9,999 (17,400)	100.0	34.5	65.3	10.2
\$10,000-\$14,999 (28,400)	100.0	36.4	63.3	10.2
\$15,000-\$24,999 (14,300)	100.0	33.1	66.8	10.0
\$25,000 or more (2,600)	100.0	26.6	73.0	10.0
Not available (21,300)	100.0	30.1	69.0	10.9
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (107,700)	100.0	28.4	71.2	0.4
Victimized (41,400)	100.0	44.5	55.2	10.2

NOTE: Data based on question 5a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 22. Most important neighborhood problem

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Traffic, parking	Environmental problems	Crime	Public transportation	Inadequate schools, shopping	Influx of bad elements	Problems with neighbors	Other and not available
All households (49,000)	100.0	9.4	30.0	18.2	1.2	6.8	9.5	17.2	7.7
Race									
White (38,300)	100.0	10.1	28.2	17.9	1.2	6.7	11.1	18.0	6.8
Black (10,500)	100.0	6.8	36.8	18.7	11.5	7.3	3.8	14.0	11.0
Other (1200)	100.0	13.7	13.7	44.6	10.0	10.0	10.0	27.7	10.0
Annual family income									
Less than \$3,000 (8,200)	100.0	5.4	30.8	24.3	11.9	5.8	6.8	18.0	6.9
\$3,000-\$7,499 (12,600)	100.0	9.7	27.4	17.7	11.4	6.4	11.9	18.1	7.3
\$7,500-\$9,999 (6,000)	100.0	8.8	30.8	18.0	10.5	5.5	10.5	21.0	5.0
\$10,000-\$14,999 (10,400)	100.0	12.3	32.7	17.0	10.0	8.5	6.7	15.5	7.3
\$15,000-\$24,999 (4,700)	100.0	12.9	25.2	12.9	13.2	15.7	11.4	16.3	12.3
\$25,000 or more (700)	100.0	21.5	26.2	13.4	10.0	10.0	14.3	18.6	26.1
Not available (6,400)	100.0	6.3	32.7	17.5	11.1	8.9	10.8	15.2	7.7
Victimization experience									
Not victimized (30,600)	100.0	8.8	32.4	15.9	1.3	6.9	10.7	16.7	7.3
Victimized (18,400)	100.0	10.5	26.0	22.0	11.0	6.7	7.4	17.9	8.5

NOTE: Data based on question 5a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 23. Whether or not major food shopping
done in the neighborhood**

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All households (149,000)	100.0	76.0	23.3	0.7
Race				
White (120,500)	100.0	80.4	18.9	0.7
Black (27,900)	100.0	57.3	42.0	10.7
Other (700)	100.0	56.9	43.1	10.0
Annual family income				
Less than \$3,000 (26,100)	100.0	76.7	21.9	1.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (38,900)	100.0	75.8	23.9	10.2
\$7,500-\$9,999 (17,400)	100.0	76.0	23.8	10.2
\$10,000-\$14,999 (28,400)	100.0	75.6	24.1	10.3
\$15,000-\$24,999 (14,300)	100.0	74.6	24.6	10.6
\$25,000 or more (2,600)	100.0	82.6	17.4	10.0
Not available (21,300)	100.0	76.4	22.1	1.6
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (107,700)	100.0	77.6	21.6	0.8
Victimized (41,400)	100.0	71.9	27.7	10.4

NOTE: Data based on question 6a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 24. Most important reason for not doing major food shopping
in the neighborhood**

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	No neighborhood stores	Inadequate stores	High prices	Crime	Not available
All households (34,700)	100.0	37.6	31.7	17.9	1.4	11.3
Race						
White (22,700)	100.0	38.2	31.8	13.5	1.8	14.8
Black (11,700)	100.0	36.8	30.6	27.0	10.8	4.9
Other (300)	100.0	32.0	68.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Annual family income						
Less than \$3,000 (5,700)	100.0	34.4	22.9	17.3	1.6	23.8
\$3,000-\$7,499 (9,300)	100.0	36.7	32.1	20.9	1.3	8.9
\$7,500-\$9,999 (4,200)	100.0	43.4	27.5	20.5	1.4	7.2
\$10,000-\$14,999 (6,900)	100.0	38.3	39.9	14.7	1.3	5.7
\$15,000-\$24,999 (3,500)	100.0	40.6	31.8	14.5	1.7	11.4
\$25,000 or more (500)	100.0	33.1	60.3	16.6	10.0	10.0
Not available (4,700)	100.0	35.4	30.7	18.6	1.5	13.9
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (23,300)	100.0	39.6	31.6	15.6	1.0	12.2
Victimized (11,500)	100.0	33.7	32.1	22.6	2.1	9.5

NOTE: Data based on question 6a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 25. Preferred location for general merchandise shopping

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Suburban or neighborhood	Downtown	Not available
All households (149,000)	100.0	59.6	36.5	4.0
Race:				
White (120,500)	100.0	66.1	30.5	3.4
Black (27,900)	100.0	31.2	62.5	6.3
Other (700)	100.0	71.3	24.0	4.8
Annual family income				
Less than \$3,000 (26,100)	100.0	51.0	45.6	3.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (38,900)	100.0	55.7	41.9	2.4
\$7,500-\$9,999 (17,400)	100.0	62.0	34.0	4.0
\$10,000-\$14,999 (28,400)	100.0	67.7	29.8	2.4
\$15,000-\$24,999 (14,300)	100.0	67.8	26.3	5.8
\$25,000 or more (2,600)	100.0	56.9	38.5	4.6
Not available (21,300)	100.0	59.0	32.9	8.2
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (107,700)	100.0	58.2	37.9	3.8
Victimized (41,400)	100.0	63.0	32.7	4.3

NOTE: Data based on question 7a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 26. Most important reason for usually doing general merchandise shopping in the suburbs (or neighborhood) or downtown

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Type of shopper and household characteristic	Total	Better parking	Better transportation	More convenient	Better selection, more stores	Crime in other location	Better store hours	Better prices	Prefer stores, location, etc.	Other and not available
Suburban (or neighborhood) shoppers										
All households (88,800)	100.0	15.2	2.1	42.1	14.0	5.8	1.3	8.7	6.5	4.2
Race										
White (79,600)	100.0	15.9	2.2	43.9	13.4	6.3	1.2	6.6	6.4	4.2
Black (8,700)	100.0	9.2	1.5	26.3	19.7	10.7	1.8	28.8	7.3	4.7
Other (500)	100.0	19.3	16.3	33.5	13.5	20.5	6.9	10.0	10.0	10.0
Annual family income										
Less than \$3,000 (13,300)	100.0	6.4	4.2	51.8	10.7	4.9	10.2	10.4	6.1	5.2
\$3,000-\$7,499 (21,700)	100.0	14.8	2.3	42.0	14.1	4.0	10.8	11.1	5.2	5.7
\$7,500-\$9,999 (10,800)	100.0	15.2	1.1	38.6	14.1	6.7	1.9	9.7	9.6	3.1
\$10,000-\$14,999 (19,300)	100.0	18.4	1.6	40.3	17.0	5.1	1.8	7.1	5.8	2.9
\$15,000-\$24,999 (9,700)	100.0	21.0	1.2	35.7	14.9	8.2	1.6	6.1	7.7	3.7
\$25,000 or more (1,500)	100.0	22.3	10.0	36.7	12.1	12.5	2.0	2.1	16.1	16.1
Not available (12,500)	100.0	15.2	12.1	43.8	12.2	7.4	1.3	7.3	6.7	14.0
Victimization experience										
Not victimized (62,700)	100.0	15.8	2.2	44.8	12.5	5.5	1.1	7.3	6.3	4.3
Victimized (26,000)	100.0	13.7	1.9	35.7	17.6	6.4	1.6	12.2	6.8	4.0
Downtown shoppers										
All households (54,400)	100.0	10.2	13.8	43.0	24.7	10.2	10.2	5.2	9.6	3.3
Race										
White (36,800)	100.0	10.2	17.6	41.3	23.9	10.0	10.2	3.2	10.4	3.3
Black (17,400)	100.0	10.3	5.5	46.6	26.6	10.6	10.2	9.3	7.9	3.1
Other (200)	100.0	10.0	11.2	37.9	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	21.0
Annual family income										
Less than \$3,000 (11,900)	100.0	10.5	22.3	40.0	20.4	10.3	10.0	6.3	7.7	12.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (16,300)	100.0	0.2	13.3	43.1	24.4	10.2	10.2	4.4	10.7	3.4
\$7,500-\$9,999 (5,900)	100.0	10.0	9.5	47.2	24.3	10.6	10.5	3.3	12.2	12.5
\$10,000-\$14,999 (8,500)	100.0	10.4	8.9	48.3	25.4	10.0	10.0	7.0	7.7	12.4
\$15,000-\$24,999 (3,800)	100.0	10.0	16.4	39.4	34.7	10.0	10.0	17.4	9.6	1.6
\$25,000 or more (1,000)	100.0	10.0	13.0	45.7	30.3	10.0	13.0	10.0	19.0	19.0
Not available (7,000)	100.0	10.0	15.2	39.2	25.9	10.0	10.0	13.7	10.4	5.7
Victimization experience										
Not victimized (40,800)	100.0	10.2	14.7	42.6	24.2	10.2	10.1	4.9	10.0	3.1
Victimized (13,500)	100.0	10.2	11.0	44.1	26.1	10.3	10.2	6.0	8.3	3.8

NOTE: Data based on question 7b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 27. Change in the frequency with which persons went out for evening entertainment

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	More	Same	Less	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	15.7	50.2	33.5	0.5
Sex					
Male (135,500)	100.0	16.0	51.8	31.7	0.5
Female (171,500)	100.0	15.5	49.0	34.7	0.5
Race					
White (248,800)	100.0	16.1	57.7	31.7	0.5
Black (56,500)	100.0	14.0	44.0	41.4	0.6
Other (1,700)	100.0	¹ 16.4	43.4	40.2	¹ 0.0
Age					
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	48.3	29.2	22.3	¹ 0.2
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	22.8	37.3	39.6	¹ 0.3
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	16.6	43.5	39.7	¹ 0.2
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	13.5	54.1	32.3	¹ 0.1
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	7.2	59.7	32.2	0.9
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	3.1	63.2	32.7	0.9
Victimization experience					
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	13.8	53.5	32.1	0.6
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	20.7	42.0	37.2	¹ 0.1

NOTE: Data based on question 8b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 28. Most important reason for increasing or decreasing the frequency with which persons went out for evening entertainment

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Type of change in frequency and population characteristic	Total	Money	Places to go, etc.	Convenience	Own health	Transportation	Age	Family	Activities, etc.	Crime	Want to, etc.	Other and not available
Persons going out more often												
All persons (48,300)	100.0	13.7	17.8	2.7	1.1	2.5	13.3	16.1	9.3	10.4	17.5	5.5
Sex												
Male (21,700)	100.0	17.1	15.5	2.5	10.5	3.4	15.0	12.4	10.5	10.3	16.3	6.4
Female (26,600)	100.0	11.0	19.7	2.9	1.6	1.8	11.9	19.0	8.4	10.5	18.4	4.8
Race												
White (40,200)	100.0	15.4	18.3	2.8	1.0	3.0	12.3	17.2	9.4	10.2	14.8	5.4
Black (7,900)	100.0	5.3	15.3	1.8	1.7	10.4	18.2	10.7	8.9	11.3	30.9	5.5
Other (300)	100.0	12.4	12.5	11.2	10.0	10.0	13.3	10.0	12.7	10.0	25.3	12.6
Age												
16-19 (15,600)	100.0	8.0	20.2	1.5	10.0	4.0	35.3	3.3	7.3	10.4	16.0	4.0
20-24 (10,000)	100.0	18.2	25.4	3.3	10.7	4.0	5.0	7.7	11.3	10.0	19.6	4.7
25-34 (8,200)	100.0	22.8	13.2	3.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	24.0	8.4	10.0	17.8	7.0
35-49 (7,900)	100.0	16.6	11.7	3.0	1.3	10.9	10.0	33.0	9.0	10.9	17.3	6.4
50-64 (5,000)	100.0	6.7	12.0	3.4	3.4	10.7	1.3	30.4	12.2	10.7	20.4	8.7
65 and over (1,700)	100.0	4.4	17.8	4.5	6.3	10.0	14.9	23.1	14.4	12.0	18.3	14.3
Victimization experience												
Not victimized (30,300)	100.0	13.0	17.3	2.9	1.5	2.4	13.3	17.7	9.1	10.3	16.8	5.7
Victimized (18,000)	100.0	15.0	18.5	2.5	10.6	2.7	13.2	13.3	9.7	10.6	18.6	5.3
Persons going out less often												
All persons (102,900)	100.0	24.2	4.5	0.8	7.6	1.6	9.3	17.1	11.3	9.3	8.1	6.2
Sex												
Male (43,000)	100.0	28.0	3.1	0.8	7.0	1.3	9.9	13.7	14.5	6.8	8.3	6.6
Female (59,900)	100.0	21.4	5.4	0.8	8.0	1.9	8.9	19.5	9.0	11.1	8.0	5.9
Race												
White (78,800)	100.0	26.2	3.8	0.8	8.0	1.5	10.2	18.1	10.7	7.2	7.1	6.3
Black (23,400)	100.0	17.2	6.2	10.6	6.3	1.8	6.5	14.0	13.3	16.6	11.6	5.9
Other (700)	100.0	29.7	20.2	10.0	10.0	19.6	10.0	19.9	15.5	14.7	10.4	10.0
Age												
16-19 (7,200)	100.0	14.7	13.1	10.5	10.9	13.3	12.4	16.6	21.7	5.5	14.5	6.8
20-24 (17,300)	100.0	24.2	5.9	10.8	10.6	10.8	1.2	27.7	19.5	2.2	12.3	4.8
25-34 (19,600)	100.0	31.8	4.2	1.0	1.5	10.7	1.2	31.4	12.3	3.7	5.8	6.3
35-49 (19,100)	100.0	31.5	2.6	1.3	4.6	1.1	5.2	14.0	12.7	10.9	9.6	6.6
50-64 (22,100)	100.0	23.6	2.7	10.5	12.5	2.5	14.9	8.8	7.5	12.8	7.3	7.0
65 and over (17,700)	100.0	12.5	4.0	10.6	20.9	2.4	26.5	4.7	11.2	18.0	3.5	5.7
Victimization experience												
Not victimized (70,400)	100.0	22.9	4.3	0.6	9.3	1.7	11.4	16.5	10.4	9.1	7.8	6.0
Victimized (32,500)	100.0	27.1	4.8	1.3	3.9	1.5	4.7	18.3	13.2	9.8	8.8	6.7

NOTE: Data based on question 8b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 29. Places usually visited for evening entertainment

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Inside city	Outside city	About equal	Not available
All persons (204,900)	100.0	55.9	27.4	16.6	¹ 0.1
Sex					
Male (97,700)	100.0	56.0	27.4	16.4	¹ 0.1
Female (107,200)	100.0	55.7	27.4	16.8	¹ 0.0
Race					
White (170,900)	100.0	51.2	31.3	17.5	¹ 0.1
Black (32,700)	100.0	79.9	7.4	12.4	¹ 0.2
Other (1,400)	100.0	72.4	¹ 20.1	¹ 7.5	¹ 0.0
Age					
16-19 (29,000)	100.0	76.4	15.3	8.3	¹ 0.0
20-24 (38,900)	100.0	56.8	27.6	15.5	¹ 0.1
25-34 (39,500)	100.0	48.8	31.7	19.3	¹ 0.1
35-49 (38,900)	100.0	52.8	27.8	19.2	¹ 0.2
50-64 (29,000)	100.0	49.9	31.9	18.1	¹ 0.1
65 and over (19,400)	100.0	55.9	26.4	17.8	¹ 0.0
Victimization experience					
Not victimized (138,900)	100.0	54.6	28.5	16.8	¹ 0.1
Victimized (65,900)	100.0	58.5	25.1	16.4	¹ 0.1

NOTE: Data based on question 8d. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 30. Most important reason for usually seeking evening entertainment inside or outside the city

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Type of place and population characteristic	Total	Convenience, etc.	Parking, traffic	Crime in other place	More to do	Prefer facilities	Other area more expensive	Friends, relatives	Other and not available
Persons entertained inside city									
All persons (114,500)	100.0	66.5	0.3	0.4	4.2	13.0	1.4	11.7	2.4
Sex									
Male (54,700)	100.0	66.5	10.4	10.4	4.3	12.6	2.0	10.9	2.8
Female (59,800)	100.0	66.4	10.2	10.5	4.2	13.4	0.9	12.3	2.1
Race									
White (87,400)	100.0	63.9	0.4	0.5	4.7	15.2	1.3	12.3	1.7
Black (26,100)	100.0	74.3	10.1	10.3	2.7	6.1	1.9	9.7	4.9
Other (1,000)	100.0	89.6	10.0	10.0	10.0	13.5	10.0	16.9	10.0
Age									
16-19 (22,200)	100.0	73.5	10.0	10.3	6.5	6.5	10.9	11.0	1.4
20-24 (22,100)	100.0	66.6	10.1	10.1	5.2	13.1	11.1	12.2	1.4
25-34 (19,300)	100.0	63.0	10.3	10.2	4.7	17.2	11.2	10.1	3.2
35-49 (20,600)	100.0	66.9	10.2	10.2	2.6	14.6	1.7	10.5	3.4
50-64 (19,500)	100.0	63.3	11.0	11.4	2.2	15.3	2.4	11.6	2.7
65 and over (10,900)	100.0	62.6	10.4	10.6	3.7	11.8	11.0	16.8	3.1
Victimization experience									
Not victimized (75,900)	100.0	66.3	0.4	10.3	4.0	12.9	1.2	12.6	2.3
Victimized (38,600)	100.0	66.7	10.2	10.7	4.7	13.3	1.8	9.8	2.9
Persons entertained outside city									
All persons (56,100)	100.0	15.3	4.3	11.0	6.5	45.7	0.9	12.9	3.4
Sex									
Male (26,800)	100.0	15.6	5.9	10.5	6.5	44.6	1.3	11.5	4.1
Female (29,400)	100.0	15.0	2.9	11.4	6.4	46.7	10.4	14.2	2.9
Race									
White (53,400)	100.0	15.3	4.6	11.4	6.5	45.4	0.7	13.1	3.1
Black (2,400)	100.0	14.9	10.0	14.3	14.2	53.3	14.6	15.8	13.2
Other (300)	100.0	13.5	10.0	10.0	12.6	36.8	10.0	37.1	10.0
Age									
16-19 (4,500)	100.0	18.7	10.0	8.9	11.1	35.7	10.9	22.4	2.2
20-24 (10,700)	100.0	15.2	11.8	10.4	10.5	44.5	10.6	14.2	2.7
25-34 (12,600)	100.0	15.3	4.2	9.7	7.6	48.6	11.6	9.4	3.7
35-49 (10,800)	100.0	14.0	5.9	14.9	3.8	47.7	10.3	9.1	4.4
50-64 (12,500)	100.0	15.1	7.4	11.8	4.0	46.0	10.9	11.1	3.8
65 and over (5,100)	100.0	15.6	13.0	7.0	12.8	44.6	10.8	23.3	2.9
Victimization experience									
Not victimized (39,600)	100.0	15.9	4.8	10.1	6.3	45.8	0.9	12.5	3.6
Victimized (16,500)	100.0	13.8	3.2	13.1	6.8	45.3	10.7	13.9	3.3

NOTE: Data based on question 8a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 31. Opinion about local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know	Not available
All persons (307,000)	100.0	40.8	40.3	13.2	5.5	0.3
Sex						
Male (135,500)	100.0	39.9	41.0	14.3	4.5	0.2
Female (171,500)	100.0	41.5	39.6	12.3	6.3	0.3
Race						
White (248,800)	100.0	45.6	38.7	10.7	4.7	0.3
Black (56,500)	100.0	20.1	47.1	24.0	8.7	10.2
Other (1,700)	100.0	21.7	40.2	22.2	15.8	10.0
Age						
16-19 (32,300)	100.0	23.3	50.7	20.7	5.0	10.3
20-24 (43,700)	100.0	26.1	48.2	19.9	5.9	10.0
25-34 (49,300)	100.0	30.2	47.2	18.0	4.3	10.3
35-49 (59,000)	100.0	39.7	42.5	13.1	4.4	10.4
50-64 (68,700)	100.0	52.3	33.7	8.4	5.2	10.3
65 and over (54,000)	100.0	59.4	27.1	5.1	8.2	10.2
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (219,800)	100.0	43.6	39.2	11.0	6.0	0.3
Victimized (87,200)	100.0	33.7	43.0	18.8	4.3	10.3

NOTE: Data based on question 14a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 32. Opinion about local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know	Not available
Sex and age						
Male						
16-19 (15,200)	100.0	23.9	50.4	21.1	4.4	10.2
20-24 (18,400)	100.0	25.1	44.8	23.7	6.4	10.0
25-34 (23,800)	100.0	30.7	47.1	18.9	3.1	10.3
35-49 (26,900)	100.0	41.2	42.3	12.7	3.5	10.2
50-64 (30,100)	100.0	50.1	35.8	9.2	4.5	10.3
65 and over (21,100)	100.0	58.7	29.9	5.5	5.7	10.2
Female						
16-19 (17,100)	100.0	22.8	50.9	20.4	5.5	10.4
20-24 (25,300)	100.0	26.8	50.7	17.1	5.5	10.0
25-34 (25,400)	100.0	29.7	47.2	17.2	5.4	10.4
35-49 (32,200)	100.0	38.3	42.7	13.4	5.1	10.5
50-64 (38,600)	100.0	54.0	32.1	7.8	5.7	10.3
65 and over (33,000)	100.0	59.9	25.4	4.8	9.8	10.2
Race and age						
White						
16-19 (23,700)	100.0	27.8	51.4	16.0	4.5	10.3
20-24 (36,300)	100.0	28.9	48.2	17.7	5.2	10.0
25-34 (38,500)	100.0	34.0	47.8	14.5	3.3	10.3
35-49 (43,400)	100.0	46.8	39.2	10.0	3.5	10.5
50-64 (58,400)	100.0	56.9	31.7	7.2	3.8	10.4
65 and over (48,500)	100.0	61.4	26.2	4.7	7.5	10.2
Black						
16-19 (8,400)	100.0	10.8	49.8	33.4	5.5	10.4
20-24 (6,800)	100.0	12.6	48.3	31.2	7.8	10.0
25-34 (10,200)	100.0	15.2	45.8	31.2	7.6	10.3
35-49 (15,300)	100.0	19.6	51.5	21.8	6.8	10.2
50-64 (10,300)	100.0	26.5	44.7	15.7	13.1	10.0
65 and over (5,500)	100.0	41.9	35.6	8.4	14.1	10.0

NOTE: Data based on question 14a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 33. Opinion about local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know	Not available
Race, sex, and age						
White						
Male						
16-19 (11,000)	100.0	28.5	51.1	16.4	3.9	10.0
20-24 (15,600)	100.0	27.6	44.9	21.5	6.0	10.0
25-34 (19,500)	100.0	33.6	48.6	14.9	2.5	10.3
35-49 (20,100)	100.0	49.6	37.7	9.5	2.9	10.3
50-64 (25,400)	100.0	54.9	33.9	7.8	3.0	10.4
65 and over (18,500)	100.0	61.2	29.0	4.6	5.0	10.2
Female						
16-19 (12,700)	100.0	27.2	51.7	15.6	5.1	10.5
20-24 (20,700)	100.0	29.8	50.7	14.9	4.6	10.0
25-34 (19,000)	100.0	34.5	46.9	14.1	4.2	10.3
35-49 (23,400)	100.0	44.4	40.5	10.4	4.1	10.6
50-64 (33,000)	100.0	58.4	30.0	6.7	4.4	10.4
65 and over (30,100)	100.0	61.5	24.4	4.7	9.0	10.2
Black						
Male						
16-19 (4,100)	100.0	12.1	49.7	32.3	15.1	10.8
20-24 (2,600)	100.0	12.3	45.1	35.8	16.8	10.0
25-34 (4,100)	100.0	16.3	41.2	36.6	15.9	10.0
35-49 (6,600)	100.0	16.4	55.9	22.3	5.4	10.0
50-64 (4,700)	100.0	24.4	45.8	17.1	12.7	10.0
65 and over (2,600)	100.0	40.8	36.2	12.3	10.7	10.0
Female						
16-19 (4,300)	100.0	9.6	50.0	34.5	16.0	10.0
20-24 (4,200)	100.0	12.8	50.4	28.4	8.4	10.0
25-34 (6,100)	100.0	14.5	48.8	27.5	8.7	10.6
35-49 (8,700)	100.0	22.1	48.2	21.5	7.8	10.4
50-64 (5,600)	100.0	28.3	43.7	14.5	13.4	10.0
65 and over (2,900)	100.0	42.9	35.0	15.0	17.1	10.0

NOTE: Data based on question 14a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

1 Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 34. Whether or not local police performance needs improvement

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (289,300)	100.0	81.5	16.6	2.0
Sex				
Male (129,100)	100.0	82.3	15.6	2.1
Female (160,200)	100.0	80.8	17.3	1.9
Race				
White (236,400)	100.0	80.4	18.0	1.6
Black (51,500)	100.0	86.2	10.1	3.7
Other (1,400)	100.0	92.3	4.9	2.8
Age				
16-19 (30,600)	100.0	88.4	9.3	2.3
20-24 (41,100)	100.0	87.4	10.8	1.9
25-34 (47,000)	100.0	86.9	10.2	2.9
35-49 (56,200)	100.0	81.6	16.1	2.3
50-64 (64,900)	100.0	78.2	20.0	1.8
65 and over (49,500)	100.0	71.4	27.8	0.8
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (206,100)	100.0	79.8	18.5	1.7
Victimized (83,300)	100.0	85.5	11.8	2.7

NOTE: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 35. Most important measure for improving local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Most important measure	All persons (185,800)	Sex		Race			Age						Victimization experience	
		Male (87,900)	Female (97,900)	White (147,300)	Black (37,500)	Other (1,000)	16-19 (21,100)	20-24 (29,400)	25-34 (34,200)	35-49 (37,400)	50-64 (39,900)	65 and over (23,800)	Not victimized (126,600)	Victimized (59,200)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Personnel resources														
Total	21.8	23.4	20.3	23.4	15.4	17.1	12.2	19.4	17.9	21.6	27.0	30.2	23.1	19.0
More police	16.7	17.2	16.3	18.4	10.4	17.1	9.4	10.7	12.0	16.4	23.4	26.4	18.2	13.6
Better training	5.1	6.2	4.0	5.1	5.1	10.0	2.7	8.6	5.9	5.2	3.6	3.7	4.9	5.4
Operational practices														
Total	58.4	55.2	61.3	60.4	50.4	61.2	61.3	56.9	57.2	57.5	60.2	57.8	58.1	59.2
Focus on more important duties, etc.	7.9	8.4	7.4	8.0	7.3	17.1	11.8	10.5	8.5	7.4	5.8	4.3	7.5	8.6
Greater promptness, etc.	17.2	13.4	20.6	16.2	21.1	19.4	22.6	18.2	20.8	16.2	14.9	11.3	16.3	19.0
Increased traffic control	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.6	10.4	10.0	10.4	1.6	1.0	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.4	1.2
More police certain areas, times	32.0	32.0	32.0	34.7	21.4	34.7	26.4	26.6	26.9	32.7	37.2	41.1	32.8	30.4
Community relations														
Total	13.2	13.6	12.9	9.4	28.1	17.3	20.6	18.6	17.3	13.9	6.2	4.9	12.6	14.5
Courtesy, attitudes, etc.	10.6	11.1	10.2	8.0	20.9	17.1	15.3	14.9	14.3	11.9	4.8	3.8	10.0	11.9
Don't discriminate	2.6	2.4	2.7	1.4	7.2	10.2	5.3	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.4	1.1	2.6	2.6
Other	6.6	7.7	5.5	6.7	6.1	14.3	5.9	5.1	7.5	6.9	6.5	7.2	6.2	7.4

NOTE: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 36. Most important measure for improving local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Personnel resources	Operational practices	Community relations	Other
Sex and age					
Male					
16-19 (10,100)	100.0	10.9	58.8	23.1	7.2
20-24 (12,400)	100.0	21.7	52.5	20.0	5.7
25-34 (17,400)	100.0	20.9	52.3	16.4	10.3
35-49 (18,200)	100.0	23.1	54.2	14.4	8.3
50-64 (18,900)	100.0	29.4	58.0	6.1	6.6
65 and over (10,900)	100.0	31.4	56.3	4.6	7.6
Female					
16-19 (11,000)	100.0	13.6	63.5	18.3	4.6
20-24 (17,000)	100.0	17.7	60.1	17.6	4.7
25-34 (16,800)	100.0	14.9	62.3	18.2	4.6
35-49 (19,200)	100.0	20.1	60.7	13.5	5.6
50-64 (21,000)	100.0	24.9	62.2	6.4	6.5
65 and over (12,900)	100.0	29.2	59.0	5.0	6.8
Race and age					
White					
16-19 (14,800)	100.0	13.0	66.0	16.3	4.7
20-24 (24,300)	100.0	20.8	59.8	14.4	4.9
25-34 (26,700)	100.0	19.8	58.9	13.3	8.0
35-49 (26,900)	100.0	23.1	60.8	9.0	7.1
50-64 (33,500)	100.0	28.2	60.9	3.9	7.1
65 and over (21,100)	100.0	31.6	58.2	3.1	7.1
Black					
16-19 (6,100)	100.0	10.7	50.8	30.1	8.3
20-24 (5,000)	100.0	13.1	42.0	39.0	5.9
25-34 (7,100)	100.0	11.0	49.6	33.3	6.2
35-49 (10,300)	100.0	18.1	49.6	26.4	5.8
50-64 (6,400)	100.0	20.9	56.4	18.9	3.8
65 and over (2,700)	100.0	19.3	55.2	18.1	7.4

NOTE: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 37. Most important measure for improving
local police performance**

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Personnel resources	Operational practices	Community relations	Other
Race, sex, and age					
White					
Male					
16-19 (7,100)	100.0	11.4	64.7	18.3	5.6
20-24 (10,500)	100.0	22.2	56.2	16.4	5.1
25-34 (14,100)	100.0	22.2	53.7	13.0	11.1
35-49 (13,400)	100.0	24.6	58.2	8.8	8.4
50-64 (15,900)	100.0	30.2	58.4	3.8	7.6
65 and over (9,500)	100.0	32.3	57.2	3.3	7.2
Female					
16-19 (7,700)	100.0	14.5	67.0	14.6	3.9
20-24 (13,800)	100.0	19.7	62.6	12.9	4.8
25-34 (12,600)	100.0	17.1	64.7	13.7	4.4
35-49 (13,500)	100.0	21.7	63.3	9.2	5.9
50-64 (17,600)	100.0	26.3	63.1	3.9	6.7
65 and over (11,600)	100.0	31.0	58.9	3.1	7.0
Black					
Male					
16-19 (3,000)	100.0	¹ 9.8	46.1	32.9	11.2
20-24 (1,800)	100.0	19.7	31.7	38.8	¹ 9.8
25-34 (3,000)	100.0	14.0	44.1	34.4	¹ 7.4
35-49 (4,700)	100.0	19.4	43.4	29.7	7.4
50-64 (3,000)	100.0	24.4	55.6	19.0	¹ 1.0
65 and over (1,400)	100.0	25.2	51.1	¹ 14.1	¹ 9.6
Female					
16-19 (3,200)	100.0	11.5	55.1	27.7	¹ 5.6
20-24 (3,100)	100.0	9.6	48.2	38.7	¹ 3.5
25-34 (4,100)	100.0	8.7	53.2	32.8	¹ 5.3
35-49 (5,600)	100.0	16.9	54.9	23.7	¹ 4.4
50-64 (3,400)	100.0	17.8	57.3	19.0	¹ 5.9
65 and over (1,400)	100.0	¹ 13.3	59.3	22.2	¹ 5.2

NOTE: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Survey instrument

Form NCS 6, the attitude survey instrument, contains two batteries of questions. The first of these, covering items 1 through 7, was used to elicit data from a knowledgeable adult member of each household (i.e., the household respondent). Questions 8 through 16 were asked directly of each household member age 16 and over, including the household respondent. Unlike the procedure followed in the victimization component of the survey, there was no provision for proxy responses on behalf of individuals who were absent or incapacitated during the interviewing period.

Data on the characteristics of those interviewed, as well as details concerning any experiences as victims of the measured crimes, were gathered with separate instruments, Forms NCS 3 and 4, which were administered immediately after NCS 6. Following is a facsimile of the latter questionnaire; supplemental forms were available for use in households where more than three persons were interviewed. Facsimiles of Forms NCS 3 and 4 have not been included in this report, but can be found in *Criminal Victimization Surveys in Buffalo, 1977*.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF THE CENSUSNATIONAL CRIME SURVEY
CENTRAL CITIES SAMPLE

ATTITUDE QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (Title 13, U.S. Code). It may be seen only by sworn Census employees and may be used only for statistical purposes.

A. Control number

PSU

Serial

Panel

HH

Segment

B. Name of household head

C. Reason for noninterview

(310)

1 ☐ TYPE A2 ☐ TYPE B3 ☒ TYPE C

(311)

Race of head

1 ☐ White2 ☐ Negro3 ☐ Other

TYPE Z

Interview not obtained for --

Line number

(312)

(313)

(314)

(315)

CENSUS USE ONLY

(316)

1

(317)

(318)

(319)

HOUSEHOLD ATTITUDE QUESTIONS

Ask only household respondent

Before we get to the major portion of the survey, I would like to ask you a few questions related to subjects which seem to be of some concern to people. These questions ask you what you think, what you feel, your attitudes and opinions.

(320)

1. How long have you lived at this address?

1 ☐ Less than 1 year2 ☐ 1-2 years3 ☐ 3-5 years4 ☐ More than 5 years - SKIP to 5a

ASK 2a

(321)

2a. Why did you select this particular neighborhood? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Neighborhood characteristics - type of neighbors, environment, streets, parks, etc.2 ☐ Good schools3 ☐ Safe from crime4 ☐ Only place housing could be found, lack of choice5 ☐ Price was right6 ☐ Location - close to job, family, friends, school, shopping, etc.7 ☐ House (apartment) or property characteristics - size, quality, yard space, etc.8 ☐ Always lived in this neighborhood9 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one reason)

(322)

b. Which reason would you say was the most important?

Enter item number

(323)

3a. Where did you live before you moved here?

1 ☐ Outside U.S.2 ☐ Inside limits of this city3 ☐ Somewhere else in U.S. - Specify

SKIP to 4a

State

County

(324)

b. Did you live inside the limits of a city, town, village, etc.?

1 ☐ No2 ☐ Yes - Enter name of city, town, etc.

(325)

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

(326)

4a. Why did you leave there? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Location - closer to job, family, friends, school, shopping, etc., here2 ☐ House (apartment) or property characteristics - size, quality, yard space, etc.3 ☐ Wanted better housing, own home4 ☐ Wanted cheaper housing5 ☐ No choice - evicted, building demolished, condemned, etc.6 ☐ Change in living arrangements - marital status, wanted to live alone, etc.7 ☐ Bad element moving in8 ☐ Crime in old neighborhood, afraid9 ☐ Didn't like neighborhood characteristics - environment, problems with neighbors, etc.10 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one reason)

(327)

b. Which reason would you say was the most important?

Enter item number

(328)

5a. Is there anything you don't like about this neighborhood?

0 ☐ No - SKIP to 6a

Yes - What? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Traffic, parking2 ☐ Environmental problems - trash, noise, overcrowding, etc.3 ☐ Crime or fear of crime4 ☐ Public transportation problem5 ☐ Inadequate schools, shopping facilities, etc.6 ☐ Bad element moving in7 ☐ Problems with neighbors, characteristics of neighbors8 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one answer)

(329)

b. Which problem would you say is the most serious?

Enter item number

(330)

6a. Do you do your major food shopping in this neighborhood?

0 ☐ Yes - SKIP to 7a

No - Why not? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ No stores in neighborhood, others more convenient2 ☐ Stores in neighborhood inadequate, prefers (better) stores elsewhere3 ☐ High prices, commissary or PX cheaper4 ☐ Crime or fear of crime5 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one reason)

(331)

b. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number

(332)

7a. When you shop for things other than food, such as clothing and general merchandise, do you USUALLY go to suburban or neighborhood shopping centers or do you shop "downtown?"

1 ☐ Suburban or neighborhood2 ☐ Downtown

(333)

b. Why is that? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Better parking, less traffic2 ☐ Better transportation3 ☐ More convenient4 ☐ Better selection, more stores, more choice5 ☐ Afraid of crime6 ☐ Store hours better7 ☐ Better prices8 ☐ Prefers (better) stores, location, service, employees9 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one reason)

(334)

c. Which one would you say is the most important reason?

Enter item number

(335)

INTERVIEWER - Complete interview with household respondent, beginning with Individual Attitude Questions.

INDIVIDUAL ATTITUDE QUESTIONS - Ask each household member 16 or older

KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD

337 Line number Name

338 8a. How often do you go out in the evening for entertainment, such as to restaurants, theaters, etc.?

1 ☐ Once a week or more 4 ☐ 2 or 3 times a year

2 ☐ Less than once a week - more than once a month 5 ☐ Less than 2 or 3 times a year or never

3 ☐ About once a month

339 b. Do you go to these places more or less now than you did a year or two ago?

1 ☐ About the same - SKIP to Check Item A

2 ☐ More

3 ☐ Less

340 Why? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Money situation 7 ☐ Family reasons (marriage, children, parents)

2 ☐ Places to go, people to go with 8 ☐ Activities, job, school

3 ☐ Convenience 9 ☐ Crime or fear of crime

4 ☐ Health (own) 10 ☐ Want to, like to, enjoyment

5 ☐ Transportation 11 ☐ Other - Specify

6 ☐ Age

(If more than one reason)

341 c. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number

CHECK ITEM A Is box 1, 2, or 3 marked in 8a?

☐ No - SKIP to 8a ☐ Yes - ASK 8d

342 d. When you do go out to restaurants or theaters in the evening, is it usually in the city or outside of the city?

1 ☐ Usually in the city

2 ☐ Usually outside of the city

3 ☐ About equal - SKIP to 8a

343 e. Why do you usually go (outside the city/in the city)? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ More convenient, familiar, easier to get there, only place available

2 ☐ Parking problems, traffic

3 ☐ Too much crime in other place

4 ☐ More to do

5 ☐ Prefer (better) facilities (restaurants, theaters, etc.)

6 ☐ More expensive in other area

7 ☐ Because of friends, relatives

8 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one reason)

344 f. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number

345 9a. Now I'd like to get your opinions about crime in general. Within the past year or two, do you think that crime in your neighborhood has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

1 ☐ Increased 4 ☐ Don't know - SKIP to c

2 ☐ Decreased 5 ☐ Haven't lived here that long - SKIP to c

3 ☐ Same - SKIP to c

346 b. Were you thinking about any specific kinds of crimes when you said you think crime in your neighborhood has (increased/decreased)?

0 ☐ No Yes - What kinds of crimes?

347 c. How about any crimes which may be happening in your neighborhood - would you say they are committed mostly by the people who live here in this neighborhood or mostly by outsiders?

1 ☐ No crimes happening in neighborhood 3 ☐ Outsiders

2 ☐ People living here 4 ☐ Equally by both 5 ☐ Don't know

348 10a. Within the past year or two do you think that crime in the United States has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

1 ☐ Increased 3 ☐ Same

2 ☐ Decreased ASK b 4 ☐ Don't know SKIP to 11a

349 b. Were you thinking about any specific kinds of crimes when you said you think crime in the U.S. has (increased/decreased)?

0 ☐ No Yes - What kinds of crimes?

350 11a. How safe do you feel or would you feel being out alone in your neighborhood AT NIGHT?

1 ☐ Very safe 3 ☐ Somewhat unsafe

2 ☐ Reasonably safe 4 ☐ Very unsafe

351 b. How about DURING THE DAY - how safe do you feel or would you feel being out alone in your neighborhood?

1 ☐ Very safe 3 ☐ Somewhat unsafe

2 ☐ Reasonably safe 4 ☐ Very unsafe

CHECK ITEM B Look at 11a and b. Was box 3 or 4 marked in either item?

☐ Yes - ASK 11c ☐ No - SKIP to 12

352 11c. Is the neighborhood dangerous enough to make you think seriously about moving somewhere else?

0 ☐ No - SKIP to 12

353 Yes - Why don't you? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Can't afford to 5 ☐ Plan to move soon

2 ☐ Can't find other housing 6 ☐ Health or age

3 ☐ Relatives, friends nearby 7 ☐ Other - Specify

4 ☐ Convenient to work, etc.

(If more than one reason)

354 d. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number

355 12. How do you think your neighborhood compares with others in this metropolitan area in terms of crime? Would you say it is -

1 ☐ Much more dangerous? 4 ☐ Less dangerous?

2 ☐ More dangerous? 5 ☐ Much less dangerous?

3 ☐ About average?

356 13a. Are there some parts of this metropolitan area where you have a reason to go or would like to go DURING THE DAY, but are afraid to because of fear of crime?

0 ☐ No Yes - Which section(s)?

357 Number of specific places mentioned

358 b. How about AT NIGHT - are there some parts of this area where you have a reason to go or would like to go but are afraid to because of fear of crime?

0 ☐ No Yes - Which section(s)?

359 Number of specific places mentioned

360 14a. Would you say, in general, that your local police are doing a good job, an average job, or a poor job?

1 ☐ Good 3 ☐ Poor

2 ☐ Average 4 ☐ Don't know - SKIP to 15a

361 b. In what ways could they improve? Any other ways? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ No improvement needed - SKIP to 15a

2 ☐ Hire more policemen

3 ☐ Concentrate on more important duties, serious crime, etc.

4 ☐ Be more prompt, responsive, alert

5 ☐ Improve training, raise qualifications or pay, recruitment policies

6 ☐ Be more courteous, improve attitude, community relations

7 ☐ Don't discriminate

8 ☐ Need more traffic control

9 ☐ Need more policemen of particular type (foot, car) in certain areas or at certain times

10 ☐ Don't know

11 ☐ Other - Specify

(If more than one way)

362 c. Which would you say is the most important?

Enter item number

363 15a. Now I have some more questions about your opinions concerning crime. Please take this card. (Hand respondent Attitude Flashcard, NCS-574) Look at the FIRST set of statements. Which one do you agree with most?

1 ☐ My chances of being attacked or robbed have GONE UP in the past few years

2 ☐ My chances of being attacked or robbed have GONE DOWN in the past few years

3 ☐ My chances of being attacked or robbed haven't changed in the past few years

4 ☐ No opinion

364 b. Which of the SECOND group do you agree with most?

1 ☐ Crime is LESS serious than the newspapers and TV say

2 ☐ Crime is MORE serious than the newspapers and TV say

3 ☐ Crime is about as serious as the newspapers and TV say

4 ☐ No opinion

365 16a. Do you think PEOPLE IN GENERAL have limited or changed their activities in the past few years because they are afraid of crime?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

366 b. Do you think that most PEOPLE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD have limited or changed their activities in the past few years because they are afraid of crime?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

367 c. In general, have YOU limited or changed your activities in the past few years because of crime?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

INTERVIEWER - Continue Interview with this respondent on NCS-3

Technical information and reliability of the estimates

Survey results contained in this publication are based on data gathered during early 1974 from persons residing within the city limits of Buffalo, including those living in certain types of group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings. Nonresidents of the city, including tourists and commuters, did not fall within the scope of the survey. Similarly, crewmembers of merchant vessels, Armed Forces personnel living in military barracks, and institutionalized persons, such as correctional facility inmates, were not under consideration. With these exceptions, all persons age 16 and over living in units designated for the sample were eligible to be interviewed.

Each interviewer's first contact with a unit selected for the survey was in person, and, if it were not possible to secure interviews with all eligible members of the household during the initial visit, interviews by telephone were permissible thereafter. Proxy responses were not permitted for the attitude survey. Survey records were processed and weighted, yielding results representative both of the city's population as a whole and of various sectors within the population. Because they are based on a sample survey rather than a complete enumeration, the results are estimates.

Sample design and size

Estimates from the survey are based on data obtained from a stratified sample. The basic frame from which the attitude sample was drawn—the city's complete housing inventory, as determined by the 1970 Census of Population and Housing—was the same as that for the victimization survey. A determination was made that a sample roughly half the size of the victimization sample would yield enough attitudinal data on which to base reliable estimates. For the purpose of selecting the victimization sample, the city's housing units were distributed among 105 strata on the basis of various characteristics. Occupied units, which comprised the majority, were grouped into 100 strata defined by a combination of the following characteristics: type of tenure (owned or rented); number of household members (five categories); household income (five categories); and race

of head of household (white or other than white). Housing units vacant at the time of the Census were assigned to an additional four strata, where they were distributed on the basis of rental or property value. A single stratum incorporated group quarters.

To account for units built after the 1970 Census, a sample was drawn, by means of an independent clerical operation, of permits issued for the construction of residential housing within the city. This enabled the proper representation in the survey of persons occupying housing built after 1970.

In order to develop the half sample required for the attitude survey, each unit was randomly assigned to 1 of 12 panels, with units in the first 6 panels being designated for the attitude survey. This procedure resulted in the selection of 5,954 housing units. During the survey period, 824 of these units were found to be vacant, demolished, converted to nonresidential use, temporarily occupied by nonresidents, or otherwise ineligible for both the victimization and attitude surveys. At an additional 299 units visited by interviewers it was impossible to conduct interviews because the occupants could not be reached after repeated calls, did not wish to participate in the survey, or were unavailable for other reasons. Therefore, interviews were taken with the occupants of 4,831 housing units, and the rate of participation among units qualified for interviewing was 94.2 percent. Participating units were occupied by a total of 9,646 persons age 16 and over, or an average of two residents of the relevant ages per unit. Interviews were conducted with 9,036 of these persons, resulting in a response rate of 93.7 percent among eligible residents.

Estimation procedure

Data records generated by the attitude survey were assigned either of two sets of final tabulation weights, one for the records of individual respondents and another for those of household respondents. In each case, the final weight was the product of two elements—a factor of roughly twice the weight used in tabulating victimization data estimates and a ratio estimation factor. The following steps determined the tabulation weight for personal victimization data and were, therefore, an integral part of the estimation procedure for attitude data gathered from individual respondents: (1) a basic weight, reflecting the selected unit's probability of being included in the sample; (2) a factor

to compensate for the subsampling of units, a situation that arose in instances where the interviewer discovered many more units at the sample address than had been listed in the decennial Census; (3) a within-household noninterview adjustment to account for situations where at least one but not all eligible persons in a household were interviewed; (4) a household noninterview adjustment to account for households qualified to participate in the survey but from which an interview was not obtained; (5) a household ratio estimate factor for bringing estimates developed from the sample of 1970 housing units into adjustment with the complete Census count of such units; and (6) a population ratio estimate factor that brought the sample estimate into accord with post-Census estimates of the population age 12 and over and adjusted the data for possible biases resulting from undercoverage or overcoverage of the population.

The household ratio estimation procedure (step 5) achieved a slight reduction in the extent of sampling variability, thereby reducing the margin of error in the tabulated survey results. It also compensated for the exclusion from each stratum of any households already included in samples for certain other Census Bureau programs. The household ratio estimator was not applied to interview records gathered from residents of group quarters or of units constructed after the Census. For household victimization data (and attitude data from household respondents), the final weight incorporated all of the steps described above except the third and sixth.

The ratio estimation factor, second element of the final weight, was an adjustment for bringing data from the attitude survey (which, as indicated, was based on a half sample) into accord with data from the victimization survey (based on the whole sample). This adjustment, required because the attitude sample was randomly constructed from the victimization sample, was used for the age, sex, and race characteristics of respondents.

Reliability of estimates

As previously noted, survey results contained in this report are estimates. Despite the precautions taken to minimize sampling variability, the estimates are subject to errors arising from the fact that the sample employed was only one of a large number of possible samples of equal size that could have been used applying the same sample design and selection procedures.

Estimates derived from different samples may vary somewhat; they also may differ from figures developed from the average of all possible samples, even if the surveys were administered with the same schedules, instructions, and interviewers.

The standard error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among estimates from all possible samples and is, therefore, a gauge of the precision with which the estimate from a particular sample approximates the average result of all possible samples. The estimate and its associated standard error may be used to construct a confidence interval, that is, an interval having a prescribed probability that it would include the average result of all possible samples. The average value of all possible samples may or may not be contained in any particular computed interval. However, the chances are about 68 out of 100 that a survey-derived estimate would differ from the average result of all possible samples by less than one standard error. Similarly, the chances are about 90 out of 100 that the difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error; about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be 2.0 times the standard error; and 99 out of 100 chances that it would be less than 2.5 times the standard error. The 68 percent confidence interval is defined as the range of values given by the estimate minus the standard error and the estimate plus the standard error; the chances are 68 in 100 that the average value of all possible samples would fall within that range. Similarly, the 95 percent confidence interval is defined as the estimate plus or minus two standard errors.

In addition to sampling error, the estimates presented in this report are subject to nonsampling error, chiefly affecting the accuracy of the distinction between victims and nonvictims. A major source of nonsampling error is related to the ability of respondents to recall whether or not they were victimized during the 12 months prior to the time of interview. Research on recall indicates that the ability to remember a crime varies with the time interval between victimization and interview, the type of crime, and, perhaps, the sociodemographic characteristics of the respondent. Taken together, recall problems may result in an understatement of the "true" number of victimized persons and households, as defined for the purpose of this report. Another source of nonsampling error pertaining to victimization experience involves telescoping, or bringing within the

appropriate 12-month reference period victimizations that occurred before or after the close of the period.

Although the problems of recall and telescoping probably weakened the differentiation between victims and nonvictims, these would *not* have affected the data on personal attitudes or behavior. Nevertheless, such data may have been affected by nonsampling errors resulting from incomplete or erroneous responses, systematic mistakes introduced by interviewers, and improper coding and processing of data. Many of these errors also would occur in a complete census. Quality control measures, such as interviewer observation and a reinterview program, as well as edit procedures in the field and at the clerical and computer processing stages, were utilized to keep such errors at an acceptably low level. As calculated for this survey, the standard errors partially measure only those random nonsampling errors arising from response and interviewer errors; they do not, however, take into account any systematic biases in the data.

Regarding the reliability of data, it should be noted that estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable. Such estimates are identified in footnotes to the data tables and were not used for purposes of analysis in this report. For Buffalo, a minimum weighted estimate of 300 was considered statistically reliable, as was any percentage based on such a figure.

Computation and application of the standard error

For survey estimates relevant to either the individual or household respondents, standard errors displayed on tables at the end of this appendix can be used for gauging sampling variability. These errors are approximations and suggest an order of magnitude of the standard error rather than the precise error associated with any given estimate. Table I contains standard error approximations applicable to information from individual respondents and Table II gives errors for data derived from household respondents. For percentages not specifically listed in the tables, linear interpolation must be used to approximate the standard error.

To illustrate the application of standard errors in measuring sampling variability, Data Table I in this report shows that 76.2 percent of all Buffalo residents age 16 and over (307,000 persons) be-

lieved crime in the United States had increased. Two-way linear interpolation of data listed in Table I would yield a standard error of about 0.5 percent. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated percentage of 76.2 would be within 0.5 percentage points of the average result from all possible samples; i.e., the 68 percent confidence interval associated with the estimate would be from 75.7 to 76.7. Furthermore, the chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimated percentage would be roughly within 1 percentage point of the average for all samples; i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be about 75.2 to 77.2 percent. Standard errors associated with data from household respondents are calculated in the same manner, using Table II.

In comparing two sample estimates, the standard error of the difference between the two figures is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard errors of each estimate considered separately. As an example, Data Table 12 shows that 27.1 percent of males and 8.5 percent of females felt very safe when out alone in the neighborhood at night, a difference of 18.6 percentage points. The standard error for each estimate, determined by interpolation, was about 0.8 (males) and 0.5 (females). Using the formula described previously, the standard error of the difference between 27.1 and 8.5 percent is expressed as $\sqrt{(0.8)^2 + (0.5)^2}$, which equals approximately 0.9. Thus, the confidence interval at one standard error around the difference of 18.6 would be from 17.7 to 19.5 (18.6 plus or minus 0.9) and at two standard errors from 16.8 to 20.4. The ratio of a difference to its standard error defines a value that can be equated to a level of significance. For example, a ratio of about 2.0 (or more) denotes that the difference is significant at the 95 percent confidence level (or higher); a ratio ranging between about 1.6 and 2.0 indicates that the difference is significant at a confidence level between 90 and 95 percent; and a ratio of less than about 1.6 defines a level of confidence below 90 percent. In the above example, the ratio of the difference (18.6) to the standard error (0.9) is equal to 20.7, a figure well above the 2.0 minimum level of confidence applied in this report. Thus, it was concluded that the difference between the two proportions was statistically significant. For data gathered from household respondents, the significance of differences between two sample estimates is tested by the same procedure, using standard errors in Table II.

**Table I. Individual respondent data: Standard error approximations
for estimated percentages**

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percent	Estimated percent of answers by individual respondents					
	1.0 or 99.0	2.5 or 97.5	5.0 or 95.0	10.0 or 90.0	25.0 or 75.0	50.0
100	6.2	9.8	13.6	18.8	27.1	31.3
250	3.9	6.2	8.6	11.9	17.1	19.8
500	2.8	4.4	6.1	8.4	12.1	14.0
1,000	2.0	3.1	4.3	5.9	8.6	9.9
2,500	1.2	2.0	2.7	3.8	5.4	6.3
5,000	0.9	1.4	1.9	2.7	3.8	4.4
10,000	0.6	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.7	3.1
25,000	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.0
50,000	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.4
100,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.0
250,000	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
500,000	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4

NOTE: The standard errors in this table are applicable to information in Data Tables 1-18 and 27-37.

**Table II. Household respondent data: Standard error approximations
for estimated percentages**

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percent	Estimated percent of answers by household respondents					
	1.0 or 99.0	2.5 or 97.5	5.0 or 95.0	10.0 or 90.0	25.0 or 75.0	50.0
100	5.4	8.5	11.9	16.3	23.6	27.2
250	3.4	5.4	7.5	10.3	14.9	17.2
500	2.4	3.8	5.3	7.3	10.5	12.2
1,000	1.7	2.7	3.8	5.2	7.5	8.6
2,500	1.1	1.7	2.4	3.3	4.7	5.4
5,000	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.3	3.3	3.9
10,000	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.6	2.4	2.7
25,000	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.7
50,000	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.2
100,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.9
250,000	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5

NOTE: The standard errors in this table are applicable to information in Data Tables 19-26.

Glossary

Age—The appropriate age category is determined by each respondent's age as of the last day of the month preceding the interview.

Annual family income—Includes the income of the household head and all other related persons residing in the same household unit. Covers the 12 months preceding the interview and includes wages, salaries, net income from business or farm, pensions, interest, dividends, rent, and any other form of monetary income. The income of persons unrelated to the head of household is excluded.

Assault—An unlawful physical attack, whether aggravated or simple, upon a person. Includes attempted assault with or without a weapon. Excludes rape and attempted rape, as well as attacks involving theft or attempted theft, which are classified as robbery.

Burglary—Unlawful or forcible entry of a residence, usually, but not necessarily, attended by theft. Includes attempted forcible entry.

Central city—The largest city of a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA).

Community relations—Refers to question 14b (ways of improving police performance) and includes two response categories: "Be more courteous, improve attitude, community relations" and "Don't discriminate."

Downtown shopping area—The central shopping district of the city where the respondent lives.

Evening entertainment—Refers to entertainment available in public places, such as restaurants, theaters, bowling alleys, nightclubs, bars, ice cream parlors, etc. Excludes club meetings, shopping, and social visits to the homes of relatives or acquaintances.

General merchandise shopping—Refers to shopping for goods other than food, such as clothing, furniture, housewares, etc.

Head of household—For classification purposes, only one individual per household can be the head person. In husband-wife households, the husband arbitrarily is considered to be the head. In other households, the head person is the individual so regarded by its members; generally, that person is the chief breadwinner.

Household—Consists of the occupants of separate living quarters meeting either of the following

criteria: (1) Persons, whether present or temporarily absent, whose usual place of residence is the housing unit in question, or (2) Persons staying in the housing unit who have no usual place of residence elsewhere.

Household attitude questions—Items 1 through 7 of Form NCS 6. For households that consist of more than one member, the questions apply to the entire household.

Household larceny—Theft or attempted theft of property or cash from a residence or its immediate vicinity. Forcible entry, attempted forcible entry, or unlawful entry are not involved.

Household respondent—A knowledgeable adult member of the household, most frequently the head of household or that person's spouse. For each household, such a person answers the "household attitude questions."

Individual attitude questions—Items 8 through 16 of Form NCS 6. The questions apply to each person, not the entire household.

Individual respondent—Each person age 16 and over, including the household respondent, who participates in the survey. All such persons answer the "individual attitude questions."

Local police—The police force in the city where the respondent lives at the time of the interview.

Major food shopping—Refers to shopping for the bulk of the household's groceries.

Measured crimes—For the purpose of this report, the offenses are rape, personal robbery, assault, personal larceny, burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft, as determined by the victimization component of the survey. Includes both completed and attempted acts that occurred during the 12 months prior to the month of interview.

Motor vehicle theft—Stealing or unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle, including attempts at such acts. Motor vehicles include automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and any other motorized vehicles legally allowed on public roads and highways.

Neighborhood—The general vicinity of the respondent's dwelling. The boundaries of a neighborhood define an area with which the respondent identifies.

Nonvictim—See "Not victimized," below.

Not victimized—For the purpose of this report, persons not categorized as "victimized" (see below) are considered "not victimized."

Offender—The perpetrator of a crime.

Operational practices—Refers to question 14b (ways of improving police performance) and includes four response categories: "Concentrate on more important duties, serious crime, etc."; "Be more prompt, responsive, alert"; "Need more traffic control"; and "Need more policemen of particular type (foot, car) in certain areas or at certain times."

Personal larceny—Theft or attempted theft of property or cash, either with contact (but without force or threat of force) or without direct contact between victim and offender.

Personnel resources—Refers to question 14b (ways of improving police performance) and includes two response categories: "Hire more policemen" and "Improve training, raise qualifications or pay, recruitment policies."

Race—Determined by the interviewer upon observation, and asked only about persons not related to the head of household who were not present at the time of interview. The racial categories distinguished are white, black, and other. The category "other" consists mainly of American Indians and/or persons of Asian ancestry.

Rape—Carnal knowledge through the use of force or the threat of force, including attempts. Statutory rape (without force) is excluded. Includes both heterosexual and homosexual rape.

Rate of victimization—See "Victimization rate," below.

Robbery—Theft or attempted theft, directly from a person, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon.

Series victimizations—Three or more criminal events similar, if not identical, in nature and incurred by a person unable to identify separately the details of each act, or, in some cases, to recount accurately the total number of such acts. The term is applicable to each of the crimes measured by the victimization component of the survey.

Suburban or neighborhood shopping areas—Shopping centers or districts either outside the city limits or in outlying areas of the city near the respondent's residence.

Victim—See "Victimized," below.

Victimization—A specific criminal act as it affects a single victim, whether a person or household. In criminal acts against persons, the number of victimizations is determined by the number of victims of such acts. Each criminal act against a

household is assumed to involve a single victim, the affected household.

Victimization rate—For crimes against persons, the victimization rate, a measure of occurrence among population groups at risk, is computed on the basis of the number of victimizations per 1,000 resident population age 12 and over. For crimes against households, victimization rates are calculated on the basis of the number of victimizations per 1,000 households.

Victimized—For the purpose of this report, persons are regarded as "victimized" if they meet either of two criteria: (1) They personally experienced one or more of the following criminal victimizations during the 12 months prior to the month of interview: rape, personal robbery, assault, or personal larceny. Or, (2) they are members of a household that experienced one or more of the following criminal victimizations during the same time frame: burglary, household larceny, or motor vehicle theft.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

USER EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Buffalo: Public Attitudes About Crime
NCJ-46236, SD-NCS-C-21

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2. For that purpose, the report— ☐ Met most of my needs ☐ Met some of my needs ☐ Met none of my needs

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