

65238

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ROBBERY
IN ADA COUNTY
1974/1978

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Introduction

In the spring of 1975, the Law Enforcement Planning Commission undertook a pilot study of robberies that had occurred during 1974 within Ada County. Ada County was chosen as the site of the study because it is the largest populated area within the State and also consistently has the highest frequency of robbery. With over 130,000 in 1974, it held approximately 16.5% of the State's population.*

Now, four years later, the Statistical Analysis Center of the Law Enforcement Planning Commission conducted a second study of robberies in Ada County reported during 1978. Results of these studies are included within this report.

Crime data pertaining to 1974 and 1978 reported robberies, characteristics of the event, victims and apprehensions were gathered from the county's law enforcement agencies. In 1974 robberies were reported to the Boise City Police Department, the Meridian Police Department and to the Ada County Sheriff's Office. In 1978 two additional agencies, the Garden City and Kuna Police Departments, reported occurrences of robbery. In addition, data were obtained from the Ada County Prosecutor's Office, the District Court, the Idaho State Correctional Institution, and the Ada County Juvenile Detention Center.

The Statistical Analysis Center expresses appreciation to all who assisted in the completion of this report.

*According to the population estimate of 145,006 for 1978, Ada County still has 16.5% of Idaho's population.

Highlights of the Findings

1. From 1974 to 1978 robberies in Ada County increased 54%, while the population increased 10%. (p. 2)
2. Robberies of citizens on the streets or in their homes decreased. (p. 2, 11)
3. Individuals who were robbed of personal property in 1978 were more likely to be robbed by persons they knew (59%), compared to 29% who were acquainted in 1974. (p. 12)
4. Based on the first nine months, robberies in 1978 appeared to be declining. However, robbery occurrences in October, November, and December raised the 1978 total to a new high, with over one-half (55%) occurring in those three months.
5. Although convenience markets remained first among types of premises where robberies occurred, they dropped from 40% of the total in 1976 to 17% in 1978. (p. 4)
6. In 1974 gas stations ranked among locations robbed least frequently, but in 1978 rose to second in frequency. (p. 4)
7. Hours of heavy robbery activity began in late afternoon in 1978, ending before midnight; in 1974 the most frequent hours for robberies were between 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. (p. 7)
8. Losses, measured by dollar value, were greater in 1978 than in 1974; 76% of losses in 1974 were under \$200 compared to 47% under \$200 in 1978, with a large increase in the \$1000 or more category. (p. 8)
9. In 1978, statistics showed an increase in the number of females committing robberies. (p. 13)
10. Statistics also reveal a slight increase in 1978 in the number of robbers acting without accomplices. (p. 14)
11. Use of weapons increased in 1978, specifically the use of guns (p. 15), but
12. fewer victims were injured in 1978 than in 1974. (p. 15)
13. 1978 data indicates that if offenders could be identified, they were likely to be arrested. (p. 17)
14. Although robberies increased 54% over four years, the percentage of offenses cleared by arrest remained constant at 32%. (p. 18)

15. The rate at which robbery arrests against adults were eventually dismissed declined from 51.4% in 1974 to 5.4% in 1978. (pp. 19, 23, 26)
16. Compared to 1974 figures, the number of juveniles arrested for robbery nearly quadrupled in 1978, while the number of adults remained nearly the same. While juveniles accounted for only 7.9% of all 1974 robbery arrests, they represented 22.9% of all robbery arrests in 1978. (p. 30)
17. In 1978, only one-third as many adult defendants bonded out of jail as in 1974; the rate at which defendants remained in jail while awaiting legal process rose from 40% in 1974 to nearly 66% in 1978. (p. 22)
18. The rates at which adult robbery arrests were prosecuted, convicted, and incarcerated all rose dramatically in 1978 over 1974. Prosecutions rose by 35%, convictions by 25%, and incarceration as a sentencing alternative was up by over 54%.* (pp. 23, 26, 27)
19. The rate at which adult robbery arrests either were not or could not be prosecuted fell from 57% in 1974 to 19% in 1978.

* Rates based on number of arrestees.

The Study Site--Ada County

Ada County's population in 1974 was 131,700 and by 1978 increased approximately 10% to 145,006. During this same period robberies increased 54%. The number of robberies in Ada County per 100,000 population in 1974 was 58.3. This rate per 100,000 population has increased over the last four years to 82.8. Although this figure has risen significantly in Ada County, this is far below the 1977 nationwide rate of 487 robberies per 100,000 in cities with populations over 100,000. Additionally, the rate per 100,000 for the western states in 1977 was 214.

The Event

In 1974 the proportion of commercial robberies was significantly greater than the proportion of non-commercial robberies. This trend continued for the robberies reported in 1978, showing an increase in the percentage of commercial robberies. In 1978 74% were commercial robberies compared to 67% in 1974. Non-commercial robberies were 25% of the total in 1978* and 33% in 1974.

Table I lists the robberies by months of occurrences. In 1974 the number of robberies in November was much higher than for other months. While robberies in November remained high in 1978, December and October ranked higher. Over one-half of the robberies in 1978 occurred in the last three months, 55% compared to 37% for the same months in 1974.

*The target of one robbery was unknown.

Table I
Robberies per Month by Agency and Ada County Total

Month	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
January	4			4	10	1				11
February	7			7	9	1				10
March	4			4	4					4
April	4			4	2					2
May	5			5	4		1			5
June	2		1	3	4					4
July	9		1	10	2			1		3
August	5			5	6					6
September	3		3	6	4			1		5
October	3	1		4	11	1	5	3	1	21
November	16	1		17	16		2			18
December	7			7	20	1	3	1		25
Unknown					3					3
Total				76						117

For robberies in 1974 and 1978 there was no significant difference per day of week. Robberies were as likely to occur on any one day as the next. However, in 1978 Thursdays and Fridays showed a substantial increase over 1974.

Table II
Robberies per Day of Week by Agency and Ada County Total

Day of Week	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
Sunday	11			11	8	1	2	1		12
Monday	13	2	3	18	14		2			16
Tuesday	11		1	12	16	1	2	1		20
Wednesday	12			12	13		1			14
Thursday	6		1	7	12		2	2		16
Friday	6			6	19		1		1	21
Saturday	10			10	9	2	1	2		14
Unknown					4					4
Total				76						117

Table III illustrates that not only is there a significant difference between frequencies per hour of the day, but significant differences between the years studied. In 1974 48 (63%) of the robberies occurred between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m., while 43% of the robberies occurred in the four-hour span between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. In 1978 51 (47%) of the 109 robberies where times were known occurred between the same hours of 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. and 26% occurred in the four-hour span between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. Robberies occurred considerably earlier in the day in 1978; 70% of those 109 were between 4:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.

Table III
Robberies per Time of Day by Agency and Ada County Total

Time of Day	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
0000-0200	16		1	17	6		1	1		8
0201-0400	2			2	6	1	2			9
0401-0600	1			1	2		1			3
0601-0800	0			0	3					3
0801-1000	4			4	3		1			4
1001-1200	5		1	6	1					1
1201-1400	2			2		1				1
1401-1600	0			0	4					4
1601-1800	5		1	6	11					11
1801-2000	6		1	7	19		2		1	22
2001-2200	14	1		15	18	2	3			23
2201-2400	14	1	1	16	16		1	3		20
Unknown					6			2		8
Total				76						117

Robbery premises also showed notable changes in types of places where robberies occurred. In 1974 convenience markets (Circle K, Seven-Eleven, etc.) accounted for 30 (40%) of the 76 locations, with the next highest frequency public streets, 16 (21%). Although robberies of convenience markets were less frequent in 1978 and dropped to 17% of the known premises, they remained first in frequency. While robberies on public streets also decreased, robberies in parking lots increased; however, as a percent of the total robberies, these outdoor, public locations fell from 24% in 1974 to 12% in 1978.

Gas stations ranked second in 1978 and increased from 1% of the total in 1974 to 13% in 1978. All but three of the gas stations robbed in 1978 could be considered self-service only. Other premises which increased included supermarkets, hotels/motels, and banks/savings and loans. In addition, six types of premises were robbed in 1978 that had not been in 1974.

(National trends from 1973-1977 show bank robberies have increased 90% and gas station holdups, 36%. Decreases during this same period occurred in robberies of other commercial or business establishments, down 12%, and street robberies, down 2%.)

Table IV
Robbery Premise per Agency and Total for Ada County

Premise	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
Supermarket	2			2	7	1				8
Convenience Market	28	2		30	18	1	1			20
House	2			2	7				1	8
Public Street	13		3	16	2		1	3		6
Hotel/Motel	2			2	8			2		10
Bank/S & L	1			1	5		1			6
Mobile Home	2			2						0
Park	1			1	1					1
Restaurant	3		1	4	5					5
Drug Store--Large	2			2						0
Bar	4			4	3					3
Apartment	3			3	3	1				4
Gas Station	1			1	12	1	2			15
Parking Lot	2			2	6		1	1		8
School Lot	1			1	2					2
Medical Office	1			1						0
Drive-in/Take-out	1			1	2					2
Private Road/Woods	1			1						0
Unspecified Commercial Premises					3		1			4
Liquor Store					3					3
Pharmacy--Small					2					2
On Premise Food & Drink					4					4
Walk in/Drive in Movie							3			3
Department Store							1			1
Unknown					2					2
Total				76						117

Although it is illegal to enter any premise with the intent of committing robbery, the following table contains a category entitled "Legal." Entries here refer to entries, irrespective of intent, where it would not be illegal to enter, i.e. businesses during established business hours.

As shown in Table V, robbers entered 52 (68%) of the premises in 1974 and 84 (76% of known entries) in 1978. Most entries were through the unlocked front doors of commercial establishments open during business hours. In 1978 all but two entries were through doors of open businesses; in two instances offenders had been admitted to residences prior to the robberies. Of the six robberies involving forced entries, five were residences.

Table V
Robbery Entry per Agency and Total for Ada County

Entry	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
Legal	45	2		47	60	4	4	2		70
Illegal- no Force	1			1	7		1			8
Illegal- Force	3		1	4	5				1	6
Unknown					5		1			6
Door	49	2	1	52	72	4	6	2	1	85
Front	46	2		48	65	4	5	2	1	77
Rear	2			2	4		1			5
Side	1		1	2	3					3
Open/ Unlocked	47	2		49	67	4	6	2		79
Pry Tool	2		1	3	0					0
Body Force					1					1
Force screen only									1	1
Other					3					3
Unknown					1					1

The types of property taken during the robberies is given in Table VI. The frequencies do not add up to the totals 76 and 117 for the years analyzed since some robberies involved the loss of more than one type of property. In both 1974 and 1978 cash was the primary target, accounting for over 80% of items taken in both years. Frequencies for all other items ranged from one to four for both years; in 1978 six additional types of items were taken.

Table VI
Robbery Property Targets per Agency and Ada County Total

1974

1978

Property Targets	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
Cash	65	2	4	71	84	4	11	4		103
Credit Cards	2			2	2					2
Checks	4			4	3					3
Clothing										
Except Furs	1			1	1			1		2
Jewelry except										
Watches	1			1	1					1
Watches	2			2	1					1
Other Personal										
Accessories	2			2	1					1
Illegal Drugs	1			1						
Prescription										
Drugs	2			2	1					1
Handguns	1			1			1		1	2
Automobile	1		1	2	3					3
Auto, Truck,										
Cycle Parts					1					1
Phonograph/Stereo					1					1
Cameras							1			1
Liquor					1					1
Food								1		1
Other					2					2
Unknown					4					4

An analysis of the total loss categories shows a significant difference among the frequencies for each category. In 1974 most of the reported losses occurred between \$100.00 and \$199.99 with the next highest between \$50.00 and \$99.99. Victims in the 1978 robberies suffered greater losses with the highest frequency of losses in the \$200.00 - \$499.99 category. Up to the \$100.00 - \$199.99 category, frequencies of losses for both years did not vary to any great degree. From \$200 and over, losses were higher in 1978, particularly the frequency of losses over \$1000.

Table VII
Robbery Total Loss per Agency and Totals for Ada County

1974

1978

Total Loss	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
\$ 0	7			7	10		1			11
0.01-4.99	3			3	1					1
5.00-19.99	5			5	4		2			6
20.00-49.99	8		1	9	5	1				6
50.00-99.99	14	2		16	8	1	2		1	12
100.00-199.99	18			18	16	1	1	1		19
200.00-499.99	7		1	8	15		3	2		20
500.00-999.99	2		1	3	7	1				8
1000.00 or more	2		2	4	14		1			15
Unknown	3			3	15		1	3		19
Total				76						117

An additional analysis was made for convenience stores robbed in 1974 since they accounted for 40% of the reported offenses. As mentioned previously, convenience store robberies in 1978 remained highest in frequency, but dropped to 17% of the total. In 1974 and 1978 one loss was reported in the \$500 - 999.99 category. While there were no losses in the \$200 - 499.99 category in 1974, four were reported in 1978. Thirteen convenience stores had losses of \$100 - 199.99 in 1974 compared to four in 1978. All stores lost cash and one store reported an additional loss of checks for each year.

Times of robberies of convenience stores in 1978 shifted from 1974. Eight robberies occurred between midnight and 2:00 a.m. in 1974 and in 1978 none occurred in that same time frame. Conversely, no robberies occurred from 2:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. in 1974 and in 1978 six were reported. Overall, proportionately fewer convenience store robberies occurred between 6:00 p.m. and midnight in 1978 than in 1974.

Table VIII
Robbery Cash Loss for Convenience Stores
By Day of Week and Time of Day, 1974

Time	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
0000-0200			\$20.00- \$100.00- \$49.99 \$199.99 \$50.00 - \$99.99	Unknown	\$50.00- \$99.99 \$50.00- \$99.99	\$50.00- \$99.99	\$100.00- \$199.99
0201-0400							
0401-0600							
0601-0800							
0801-1000							
1001-1200	\$100.00- \$199.99						\$100.00- \$199.99
1200-1400		\$100.00- \$199.99					
1401-1600							
1601-1800							
1801-2000			\$100.00- \$199.99 \$100.00 - \$199.99			\$50.00- \$99.99	\$100.00- \$199.99
2001-2200	\$100.00- \$199.99	\$0.00		\$0.01- \$4.99	\$500.00- \$999.99 \$100.00- \$199.99	\$20.00- \$49.99 \$20.00- \$49.99	
2201-2400	\$100.00- \$199.99 \$100.00- \$199.99	Unknown		\$20.00- \$49.99		\$50.00- \$49.99 \$100.00- \$199.99	

2 Unknown

Table IX
 Robbery Cash Loss for Convenience Stores
 by Day of Week and Time of Day, 1978

Time	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
0000-0200							
0201-0400		\$0				\$20-49.99	
0401-0600		\$20-49.99	\$200-499.99		\$50-99.99		
0601-0800		\$500-999.99					
0801-1000							
1001-1200							
1200-1400							
1401-1600		\$100-199.99					
1601-1800						Unknown	
1801-2000	\$200-499.99		Unknown				
2001-2200	\$20-49.99	\$0					
	Unknown	\$200-499.99		\$100-199.99			\$5-19.99 \$100-199.99
2201-2400				\$100-199.99		\$200-499.99	

1 Unknown

The Victim*

Age spans of the victims are given in Table X. Included also for the age groups are percent of the total and percent of Ada County's population.

In general, victims of robberies in 1978 were younger than victims in 1974. Frequencies remained nearly equal for the two years. Due to the frequencies being virtually the same, two results occurred: 1) the risk of an individual being robbed decreased because of the increase in population, and 2) robberies of individuals made up a smaller percentage of the total in 1978, 24.8% compared to 36.8% in 1974.

Table X
Age Group of Robbery Victims and Ada County Population

1974

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Boise PD</u>	<u>Meridian PD</u>	<u>Ada Co. SO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>% Population</u>
9 yrs. or less	1			1	3.6	18.5
10-17 years	0			0	0	17.0
18-24 years	5		1	6	21.4	11.5
25-39 years	5		3	8	28.6	18.0
40-59 years	7			7	25.0	21.7
60 yrs. or more	4			4	14.3	13.2
Unknown	2			2	7.1	
Total				<u>28</u>		

1978

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Boise PD</u>	<u>Meridian PD</u>	<u>Ada Co. SO</u>	<u>Garden City PD</u>	<u>Kuna PD</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>% Population</u>
9 yrs. or less				1		1	3.4	18.5
10-17 years	1			1	1	3	10.3	14.0
18-24 years	8			1		9	31.0	13.5
25-39 years	8		1			9	31.0	20.2
40-59 years	2	1				3	10.3	20.1
60 yrs. or more	2					2	7.0	13.6
Unknown	2					2	7.0	
Total						<u>29</u>		

* This information about victims of robberies pertains only to individuals who were robbed of personal property and not to establishments or the people in their employ.

Sex of victims is compared in Table XI. In both years more males than females were victims of robberies. Also, in both 1974 and 1978 all victims were Caucasian with one exception.

Table XI

Sex of Robbery Victims by Agency and Ada County Totals

Sex	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
Male	13		3	16	19	1	1	3		24
Female	8		1	9	4				1	5
Males & Fem.	2			2						
Unknown	1			1						
Total				<u>28</u>						<u>29</u>

Table XII, showing the relationship between victims and offenders, reveals that 68% of victims were robbed by strangers in 1974, but in 1978 only 38% were robbed by strangers. In 1978 59% knew the offenders compared to 29% in 1974.

Table XII

Victim/Offender Relationship for Robberies in Ada County

Victim/Offender Relationship	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
Acquaintance	5		2	7	11	1	1	3	1	17
Stranger to Stranger	17		2	19	11					11
Marital/Common Law	1			1						
Unknown	1			1	1					1
Total				<u>28</u>						<u>29</u>

The Offender

Information about offenders was retrieved from offense reports based on testimony, recollection, and best guesses by victims, witnesses and police officers. Data include both offenders who were apprehended and those who were not.

In 1974 59% of offenders were between 18 and 24 years of age. The next highest frequency was for those between 25 and 39 years. It would initially appear that these two categories reversed in 1978. More offenders were between 25-39 with fewer offenders 18-24; however, if ages had been available for the 27 in the "unknown" category and for the 12 who were known to be adults, percentages of these categories would be affected.

Table XIII

Offender's Age for Robberies Reported in Ada County

Age Group	1974					1978						
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada County SO	Total	% Total Known	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada County SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total	% Total Known
10-17	9			9	13.2	5	1		1		8	8.9
18-24	38	2		40	58.8	24	1	4	1		30	33.3
25-39	15		1	16	23.5	31		3	1		35	38.9
40-59	2			2	2.9	2					2	2.2
Mixed												
Age Group	1			1	1.5	2		1			3	3.3
Unknown	4		4	8		20	2	2	3		27	
Adult, Unknown						11		1			12	13.3
				<u>76</u>							<u>117</u>	

In 1974 over 95% of offenders were males and only two cases involved a male and a female offender. In 1978 statistics show an increase in females committing robberies; 92% of offenders were males and five cases involved male and female offenders.

The majority of offenders for both years were white. However, excluding the unknown category, offenders of other ethnicities decreased in 1978.

Table XIV

Ethnic Composition of Robbery Offenders by
Agency and Ada County Totals

Ethnic	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
White	55	1	4	60	82		10		1	93
Spanish Surname	2	1		3	2					2
Black	3			3	1					1
Oriental	2			2						
Indian	4			4	1					1
Unknown			1	1	5	4	1	6		16
Mixed Ethnic Groups	3			3	3					3
Other					1					1
Total				<u>76</u>						<u>117</u>

The actual number of offenders present during the robbery is given in Table XV and shows a slight increase in the number of robbers acting without accomplices. In 62% of the robberies in 1974 only one offender was present; in 1978 68% of the robberies had only one offender.

Table XV

Number of Offenders Present During Robberies in Ada County

Number Present	1974				1978					
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total
One	44	1	2	47	66	4	6	2		78
Two	15	1	3	19	19		4	3	1	27
Three	7			7	7		1			8
Four	2			2				1		1
Six	1			1						
Unknown					3					3
Total				<u>76</u>						<u>117</u>
<u>Number Apprehended</u>										
One	14	1		15	20	2				22
Two	5		1	6	9		1	1	1	12
Three	2			2	3					3
Four	2			2						
None	46	1	4	51	63	2	10	5		80
Total				<u>76</u>						<u>117</u>

Researchers' interpretations of two categories in the following table varied in 1974 and 1978, and this explanation is proffered for the differences in the "no violence to person" and "personal threat-weapon" categories. However, analysis of violence to persons present during robberies discloses that 30% received injuries in 1974 compared to 13% in 1978. Simple batteries and injuries by weapons decreased in 1978. (Refer to Table XIX for types of injuries of the 15 who were injured in 1978.)

Table XVI

Violence to Persons Present During Robbery

1974					
<u>Violence</u>	<u>Boise PD</u>	<u>Meridian PD</u>	<u>Ada Co. SO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Total</u>
No Violence to Person	5	2		7	9.2
Personal Threat Only-- No Weapon	5			5	6.6
Simple Battery	10			10	13.2
Personal Threat-- Weapon	39		2	41	53.9
Injury--No Weapon	5		1	6	7.9
Injury--Weapon	5		2	7	9.2
Total				76	

1978							
<u>Violence</u>	<u>Boise PD</u>	<u>Meridian PD</u>	<u>Ada Co. SO</u>	<u>Garden City PD</u>	<u>Kuna PD</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Total</u>
No Violence to Person	56	1	8			65	55.6
Personal Threat Only-- No Weapon	2					2	1.7
Simple Battery	1			1		2	1.7
Personal Threat-- Weapon	22	2	2	5	1	32	27.4
Injury--No Weapon	7		1			8	6.8
Injury--Weapon	4	1				5	4.3
Unknown	3					3	2.6
Total						117	

The use of weapons increased in 1978, specifically the use of guns. In 1974 no weapons were involved in nearly one-fourth of the offenses compared to 11% of 1978 offenses. Even though perpetrators displayed weapons more often in 1978, fewer victims were injured than in 1974.

Table XVII

Type of Weapon Used by Offenders
By Agency and Totals for Ada County

Weapon	1974					1978						
	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Total	% Tot.	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total	% Tot.
Handgun	31	2	2	35	46.1	54	2	6	2		64	54.7
Shotgun	5			5	6.6	5			2		7	6.0
Knife	10		1	11	14.5	13		2	1	1	17	14.5
Bludgeon	2		1	3	3.9	3					3	2.6
Explosive	1			1	1.3							
Other	1		1	2	2.6	2	1		1		4	3.4
Unknown	1			1	1.3	6		1			7	6.0
Rifle						1	1				2	1.7
None	18			18	23.7	11		2			13	11.1
Total				76							117	

The following three tables contain additional information about the 1978 robberies only. No comparison data is available for 1974.

Victims, all persons who were confronted by robbers, offered no resistance in 85% of the offenses. From available data it was noted that resistance, physical or verbal, was equally successful or unsuccessful.

Table XVIII

Degree of Resistance by Victims
By Agency and Ada County Total, 1978

Degree of Resistance	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total	% Total
No Resistance	81	3	10	5		99	84.6
Physical Resistance-- Successful	2		1			3	2.6
Physical Resistance-- Unsuccessful	2			1		3	2.6
Verbal Resistance-- Successful	2					2	1.7
Verbal Resistance-- Unsuccessful	1				1	2	1.7
Other	3	1				4	3.4
Unknown	4					4	3.4
Total						117	

Of the 15 individuals who were injured, the majority of the injuries were not of a serious nature and no one required hospitalization. As a result of being injured during the robbery, three incurred medical expenses. Two of the three had not resisted the offender during the robbery. None of the injured were police officers.

Table XIX

Injuries to Robbery Victims
By Agency and Ada County Total, 1978

Injury	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total	% Total
Beaten Seriously	1					1	.9
Stabbed or Cut	1					1	.9
Punched/Slight Injury	2		1			3	2.6
Kicked, Punched/ Slight Injury	1			1		2	1.7
Kicked/Slight Injury	1					1	.9
Thrown to Ground	1					1	.9
Cut and Bruised	1					1	.9
Struck with Object	2	1				3	2.6
Thrown to Ground	1					1	.9
Bruised	2					2	1.7
None	79	3	10	5	1	98	83.8
Unknown	4					4	3.4
Total						117	

In 60% of the 117 robberies, offenders remained unidentified and at large. Arrests occurred in 32% of the offenses. Table XX shows that if offenders could be identified, they were likely to be arrested. In only 8% of offenses were offenders identified and not arrested.

Table XX

Perpetrator's Status of Robberies
By Agency and Ada County Total, 1978

Status	Boise PD	Meridian PD	Ada Co. SO	Garden City PD	Kuna PD	Total	% Total
Unknown at Large	57	1	9	3		70	59.8
Some Unknown at Large-- Some Identified at Large				2		2	1.7
Identified--No Arrest	5	1	1			7	6.0
Arrested	27	2	1	1	1	32	27.4
Some Arrested-- Some at Large	5					5	4.3
Unknown	1					1	.9

It is interesting to note that the same percentage of offenses was cleared by arrest in both 1974 and 1978, 32%. In 1978 more cases were cleared by exception. Statewide percentages for offenses cleared were 41% and 31% for 1974 and 1978 respectively.

Table XXI
Case Status of Robberies

<u>Status</u>	1974		1978	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Total</u>
Cleared by Arrest	24	31.6	37	31.6
Cleared by Exception	3	3.9	6	5.1
Not Cleared	49	64.5	74	63.2

SYSTEM RESPONSE:
ADA COUNTY SYSTEM RATES
Robbery 1978

Thirty-seven reported robbery incidents were cleared through the arrests of 37 adults and 11 juveniles. Because adults and juveniles enter distinctly different criminal justice systems, they will be described separately.

Adult Criminal Justice System

Flow Charts 1 and 2 on pages 20 and 21 show how adult robbery arrestees flowed through the Ada County criminal justice system. Both 1978 data, and 1974/1978 comparison data, follow these charts.

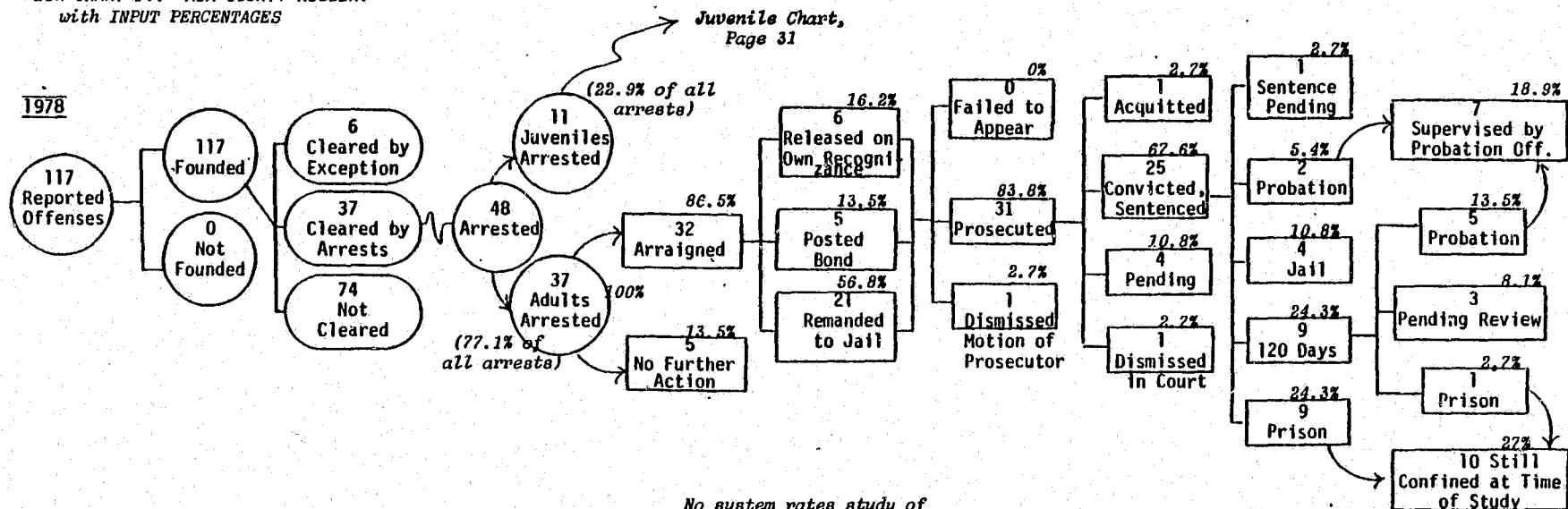
All percentage notations on Flow Chart 1 are "input percentages"; that is, they measure what proportion of the entire input (arrestees) that category represents. Flow Chart 2 percentages are "decision point percentages", in that they show what proportion that category is of the decision that was just made in the system. For instance, in Flow Chart 2, following the decision "Sentencing", is a category box "Prison", showing that 36% of all sentences were to prison. These 9 persons who were imprisoned represent 24.3% of all arrestees (total input), however, as indicated in Flow Chart 1.

On each flow chart, the similar chart for 1974 appears directly below the chart for 1978, for easy comparison. The most notable differences between 1978 figures and 1974 figures are:

- the absence of a "No Further Action" category in the 1974 system, and a possibly related decline in "Dismissed" cases in the 1978 system;
- the tripling, almost quadrupling, of the number of juveniles arrested in 1978 over those arrested in 1974, compared to the very little change in the number of adults arrested;
- the decline from 1974 to 1978 in the rate at which defendants posted bond, and a corresponding rise in the rate at which defendants remained in jail over the same four-year period;
- a dramatic rise in the 1978 rates of both prosecution and conviction, compared to the same rates in 1974;
- a 1978 rise over 1974 figures for the rate at which judges chose incarceration as a sentencing alternative, coupled with a decline in the rate at which probations were granted.

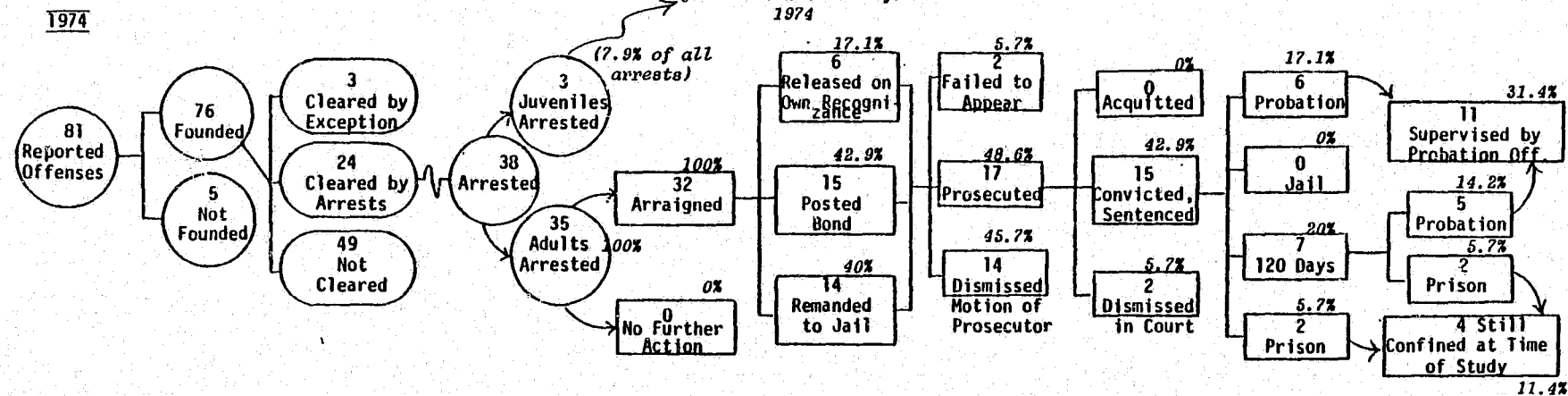
These and other characteristics of system rates findings are discussed in the pages following the flow charts.

FLOW CHART #1: ADA COUNTY ROBBERY
with INPUT PERCENTAGES



Juvenile Chart,
Page 31

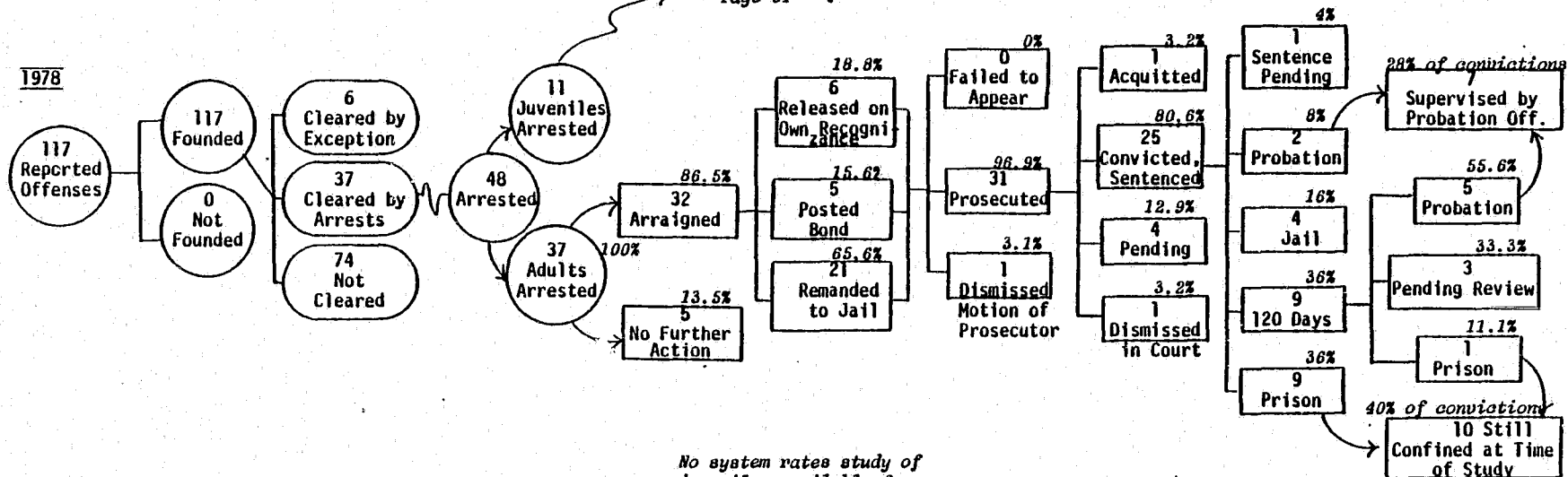
No system rates study of
juveniles available for
1974



FLOW CHART #2: ADA COUNTY ROBBERY
with DECISION POINT PERCENTAGES

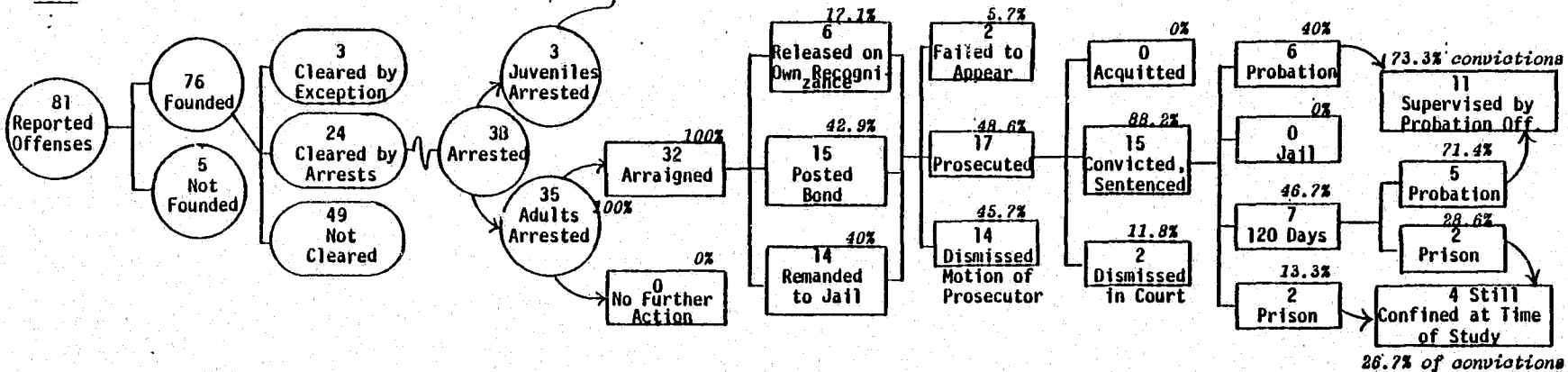
Juvenile Chart,
Page 31

1978



No system rates study of
juveniles available for
1974

1974



Pre-Trial Release

As noted in the 1978 flow charts, 32 individuals were arraigned on criminal charges after arrest. While awaiting legal process, the majority of these individuals - 21, or 65.5% of them - were remanded to the Ada County Jail. Table 22 details those who were remanded, those who posted bond, and those released on their own recognizance (ROR'd). The figures in Table 22 are arranged for comparison between types of pre-trial release status for males and females and between 1978 and 1974 pre-trial release data from the flow charts.

Table 22								
Pre-Trial Release Status by Sex and Comparison Year								
Pre-Trial Release Status	1978 Males		1978 Females		1978 TOTAL		1974 TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Released Own Recog'ance	6	21.4%	0	0	6	18.8%	6	17.1%
Posted Bond	2	7.1%	3	75%	5	15.6%	15	42.9%
Remanded to Jail	20	71.4%	1	25%	21	65.6%	14	40 %
TOTAL ARRESTEES: in each column category	28-M-100%		4-F-100%		32	100%	35	100%

Although no females were ROR'd in 1978, more females than males were able to post bonds ranging from \$200 to \$2500. Those who remained in jail had bail placed at figures ranging from \$250 on a misdemeanor charge to \$30,000 on felony charges.

Table 22 reveals a notable increase in the percentage of defendants remanded, from 40% in 1974 to 65.6% in 1978, and a related decrease in the proportion of defendants posting bond, from 42.9% in 1974 to 15.6% in 1978. The number of those failing to appear was reduced from 2 (5.7%) in 1974 to none in 1978, figures too small upon which to base any conclusions regarding appropriate custody status.

Age of Arrestees (Adults and Juveniles)

Ages were recorded for twenty-nine of the adult arrestees and all eleven of the juvenile arrestees. The average age among adults in 1978 was 24.5 years, an increase in age from the 1974 average of 22 years. The average age of juveniles arrested in 1978 was 15.9 years. There was no average age calculated for juveniles in 1974.

Prosecution of Arrestees

Of the 32 individuals charged by the Ada County Prosecuting Attorney's Office in 1978, 1 (3.1%) was dismissed by the prosecutor as the result of plea negotiations. The remaining 31 were prosecuted, as a result of which 25 (80.6%) were convicted, 1 (3.1%) was acquitted, and 1 (3.1%) was eventually dismissed by the court because of evidentiary deficiencies. Four cases (12.9%) are still pending, and are discussed on page 30 of this report.

Rates at which arrests were prosecuted are compared in Table 23. The rates at which robbery arrests were rigorously pursued in court (prosecuted) has risen from 48.6% in 1974 to 83.8% in 1978. Present Ada County Prosecuting Attorney, Jim Harris, attributes this increase to better police work, improved prosecutor screening processes, and the concentrated efforts of the prosecutor Major Crime Unit. Thirteen cases - 41.9% of the 31 - were prosecuted by the Major Crime Unit.

Table 23 Comparison of Prosecution Rates Ada County Robbery Arrests, 1974 and 1978					
1974			1978		
Number Arrests	Number Prosecutions	% of Arrests Prosecuted	Number Arrests	Number Prosecutions	% of Arrests Prosecuted
35	17	48.6%	37	31	83.8%

The factors influencing prosecution rates may also have contributed to a decline in dismissals from 18 in 1974 to two in 1978. The reader should note that five cases were eliminated during prosecutor screening processes, found as the "No Further Action" decision on the flow charts. It is generally assumed that cases screened out would have been dismissed had prosecution been attempted, because the screening process is designed to eliminate the expense of prosecuting weak cases, or cases wherein there was sufficient cause for arrest, but insufficient proof of guilt.

In 1978, however, 2 of the 5 cases screened out were transferred (via the screening process) to the jurisdiction of the FBI and federal courts. These cases were not processed by Ada County and are therefore not included in this Ada County System Rates Study. It should be noted, however, that these two cases resulted in conviction and incarceration in a federal prison, thereby raising the actual prosecution rate to 89% of all arrests, conviction rate to 73% of all arrests, and incarceration rate to 65% of all arrests.

Cases Not Prosecuted

The combined "No Further Action" cases (5) and "Dismissed" cases (2) for 1978 totaled 18.9% of arrests in which Ada County (either the prosecutor or the courts therein) declined to prosecute. In 1974, Ada County declined to prosecute 51.4% of all arrests; in addition, two defendants failed to appear for legal process, bringing the total of those not prosecuted to 20 persons, or 57% of all arrests. In summary, the percentage of robbery arrests which were not or could not be prosecuted, for various reasons, fell from 57 % in 1974 to about 19% in 1978.

Offenses Prosecuted

Because some of the 37 adult arrestees were prosecuted for being involved in several robbery incidents, and because some robbery incidents involved several arrestees as co-defendants, the number of robbery charges differs from the number of defendants. The 32 defendants prosecuted were charged with a total of 47 robberies/attempted robberies. Three individuals were charged with committing five robberies each and five individuals were charged with committing two robberies each. Seven of these eight defendants were convicted, although 9 of the 23 robbery charges against them were dismissed in exchange for pleas of guilty to the remaining charges. The eighth individual's case was dismissed in district court because of evidentiary deficiencies.

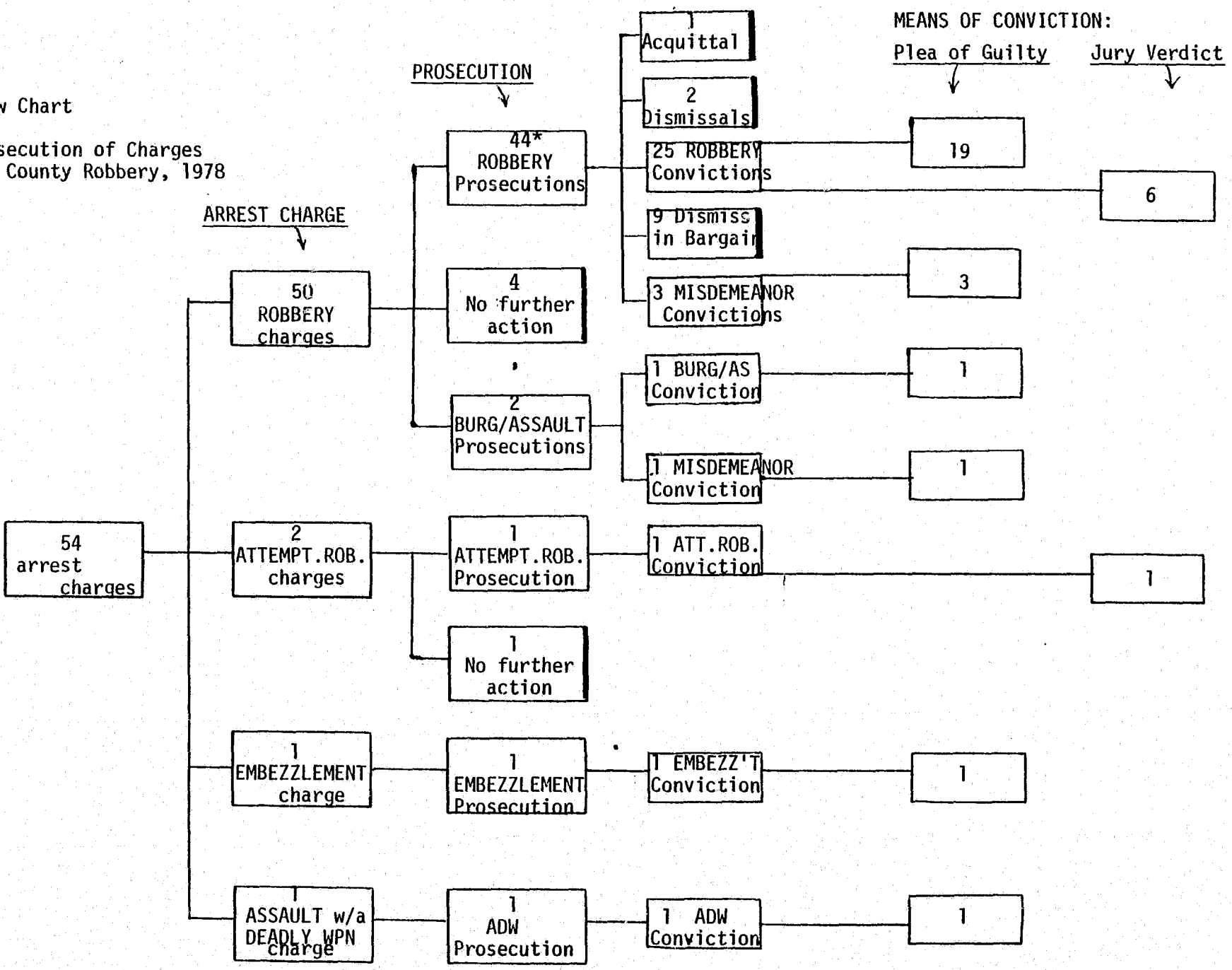
In all, the prosecution charged 11 persons with single robberies, 6 persons with multiple robberies, and 9 persons with multiple felonies including robberies. Additionally, 14 of these persons were charged with 19 counts "Possessing a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony," a charge which can result in a mandatory consecutive sentence of from 3 to 15 years, if convicted. Five of the robbery charges were eventually reduced to misdemeanors and one reported robbery was charged as embezzlement.

Flow Chart 3 clarifies how arrests and arrest charges were interpreted into prosecutorial action and the results of that action. Note that most charges were prosecuted as arrested, and most convictions were for the same charge upon which the defendant was prosecuted. In addition to the charges found on the Flow Chart, the nine persons prosecuted on multiple felonies were charged with such offenses as Assault with a Deadly Weapon (7 charges), Battery (3 charges), Burglary (2 charges), Possession of Controlled Substance (2 charges), Malicious Injury to Property (1 charge), Kidnapping (1 charge), Obstructing or Resisting an Officer (7 charges), and Reckless Driving (1 charge), all as companion charges to the robbery-related charge upon which the arrest was based.

25

Flow Chart

Prosecution of Charges
Ada County Robbery, 1978



*4 still pending legal process

Convictions and Other Case Conclusions

Flow Chart 3 shows convictions were obtained on 33 of the 54 arrest charges. Findings of guilt were obtained through pleas of guilty by 19 defendants to 26 charges, and through a jury decision for 6 defendants on 7 charges. In both 1974 and 1978 most findings of guilt were by means of the defendants' own pleas of guilty, but the number of trials increased substantially, from one in 1974 to 7 in 1978. Table 24 details means of conviction and other case conclusions, describing each as a percentage of arrests.

Table 24 Comparison of Case Conclusions Ada County Robbery Arrests, 1974 and 1978				
	1974		1978	
	Number	% of Arrests	Number	% of Arrests
Adult Arrests.....	35	100%	37	100%
Convictions*.....	15	42.9%	25	67.6%
by trial.....	1	6.7%	6	16.2%
by guilty plea.	14	40 %	19	51.4%
- to original				
charge*.....	7	20 %	15	40.5%
-to reduced				
charge.....	7	20 %	4	10.8%.
Acquittals.....	0	0	1	2.7%
Trials held.....	1	2.9%	7	18.9%
Dismissals*.....	18	51.4%	2	5.4%
by prosecutor*.	16	45.7%	1	2.7%
district court.	2	5.7%	1	2.7%

*Asterisks in Table 24 indicate those categories in which there was a 20% change or more between 1974 figures and 1978 figures.

Notice that in Table 24, as in Flow Chart 1, the rate at which arrests ended in conviction increased substantially in 1978; however, convictions as a percentage of prosecutions (Flow Chart 2) declined slightly, from 88.2% in 1974 to 80.6% in 1978. This decline cannot be considered a final trend, however, until the four pending cases reach disposition.

Sentencing

Convictions resulted in a much higher rate of incarceration in 1978 than in 1974. As outlined in Table 25, the most usual disposition of defendants in the 1974 robbery study was 120 days (46.7%) or probation (40%). In 1978, 120 days remained one of the two most-used dispositions (at 36%), but imprisonment was used just as frequently (36%) and probations fell to 8%. Jail, a sentencing alternative not used at all in the 1974 study, was chosen for 16% of the 1978 dispositions. Imprisonment in 1978 (including

both the 120-day category and straight prison sentences) constituted 72% of sentencing decisions, and, when combined with jail sentences, bring the incarceration rate to 88% of those convicted. One individual who was convicted is awaiting sentencing. If his case is subtracted from the 25 convictions, leaving only the 24 cases in which sentencing has taken place, 8.3% of all sentences granted probation and 91.7% of all sentences imposed incarceration.

Sentences to jail ranged from 7 to 30 days, and sentences to prison were for terms of from 5 to 20 years. Jail sentences were imposed in cases wherein the defendant had been convicted of a misdemeanor; prison sentences were imposed for felony convictions. Probations were granted on felony convictions.

As in 1974, most individuals receiving sentences of 120 days' retained jurisdiction were released on probation at the end of 120 days in prison. As a result, the total number of convicted persons eventually on probation in the 1974 study was 11 (73.3% of sentences), compared to 7 (28% of sentences) in 1978. The figures for 1978 probationers may increase in July of 1979, when two more defendants will have completed their 120 days imprisonment and will be eligible for review.

Table 25 Comparison of Sentencing Ada County Convictions, 1974 and 1978				
Sentencing Disposition	1974		1978	
	#	% of Convictions	#	% of Convictions
Prison Sentence*	2	13.3%	9	36%
120 Days	7	46.7%	9	36%
Jail Only	0	0	4	16%
Probation Only*	6	40 %	2	8%
Total Incarcerations for Any Period of Time*	9	60%	22	88%
*Asterisks in Table 25 indicate categories in which there was a 20% change or more between 1974 figures and 1978 figures.				

Time Frames

The average number of days from arrest to disposition was calculated for the 27 concluded cases, and the results are found in Table 26. Table 26 also details the time frames for various types of case conclusions and for various processes within the criminal justice system, and the number of individuals in each conclusory category. Where unusual circumstances may have distorted averages, explanatory footnotes have been added. Time frame comparisons for 1974 and 1978 are found in Table 27, following Table 26.

Table 26
Average Time-Frames
Ada County Robbery, 1978

Process or Conclusion	Number of Individuals	Average # Days
ARREST TO DISPOSITION (Dismissal, Acquittal, or Conviction and Sentencing).....	27	136.7
Arrest to dismissal.....	2	84
Arrest to trial.....	7	154 to 172*
a. arrest to jury acquittal.....	1	77
b. arrest to jury conviction.....	6	188.2
Arrest to plea of guilty.....	19	64.2
a. guilty to misdemeanor, magis.court....	4	60
b. guilty to felony, district court.....	15	65.3
Guilt to sentencing (trials and pleas).....	24	52
a. misdemeanor, magistrate court.....	4	49**
b. felony, district court.....	20	52.6***
Arrest to sentencing.....	24	86.4
(25 convictions, 24 sentences, 1 sentence pending)		

*In one case, the defendant's first trial was declared a mistrial and he was convicted at a second trial, 133 days later. The first figure in the table represents the average based on the time it took to get all defendants to one trial; the second figure includes this defendant's second trial, thereby indicating the average time to complete all trials. The average length of all trials was 1.4 days; none lasted more than two days.

**In two cases, sentencing was the same day as the guilty plea, and in the remaining two cases defendants were placed with the Job Corps for 98 days prior to sentencing. The overall average was 49 days.

***This figure includes two extremes: one case was delayed nearly a year (324 days) for the defendant to seek drug counseling prior to sentencing, and in another case the judge was able to sentence a defendant the same day he plead guilty, with no delay for a presentence investigation (0 days). If these two extremes are subtracted from the total, a more typical average time-frame of 44 days is obtained for the time from determination of guilt to time of sentencing.

The maximum time-frame was 439 days for a case in which a mistrial was declared and a second trial was necessary. The minimum time-frame was 5 days for a plea of guilty to a misdemeanor in magistrate court. However, one case was concluded in district court just 18 days after arrest.

Table 27 compares these 1978 time-frames to those found in the 1974 robbery study. The time required to process a case to dismissal increased considerably from 1974 to 1978, while the time required for conviction and sentencing was decreased. The difference between dismissal and conviction time-frames nearly disappeared in 1978.

Table 27 Time-Frame Comparisons Ada County Robbery, 1974 and 1978			
Process	1974 Average # Days	1978 Average # Days	% Change
Arrest to dismissal.....	53.6	84	+55.6%
Arrest to conviction and sentencing.....	120.7	86	-28.9%

Time-Frames and Conviction

In the following chart from the 1974 study, note that there was a strong correlation between immediacy of arrest and conviction. In 1978, this trend was completely absent. Although in some cases arrest took place as long as 82 days following commission of the offense, this delay did not prevent conviction. In three cases where conviction was not obtained in 1978 (1 acquittal and 2 dismissals), arrest took place within 1 day of the offense.

Table 28 Relationship Between Immediacy of Arrest and Conviction Ada County Robbery, 1974		
<u>Days Between Offense and Arrest</u>	<u>Number Arrested</u>	<u>Leading to Conviction</u>
0	6	4
1	9	6
2	5	1
3	1	0
4	1	1
6	2	0
9	1	1
19	2	0
24	1	0
51	4	0
127	2	1
134	1	1
158	1	0

Cases Pending

At the time data was collected on 1978 robberies in Ada County, 4 cases were still pending legal process. That is, no final determination of guilt or acquittal had yet taken place.

In one case, the defendant was placed in a mental institution and diagnosed as unable to participate in his own defense. If and when he is released or the diagnosis amended, the prosecution of this case will proceed. Meanwhile, the court has granted an indefinite continuance.

In two cases, the magistrate court did not find sufficient cause to bind the defendants over to district court after the preliminary hearings. The deputy prosecutor obtained further evidence from witnesses and re-filed the robbery charges. The defendants were both subsequently bound over and are presently awaiting trial.

The final pending case stems from an arrest which took place late in 1978 and is still awaiting trial.

Juvenile Criminal Justice System

Flow Chart 4 shows how juvenile robbery arrestees flowed through the Ada County Juvenile Justice System. Comparative data for 1974 juvenile robbery arrests is not available, but some interesting comparisons can be made with the adult system in 1978.

Both input percentages and decision point percentages appear on Flow Chart 4.

Arrests and Pre-Trial Releases

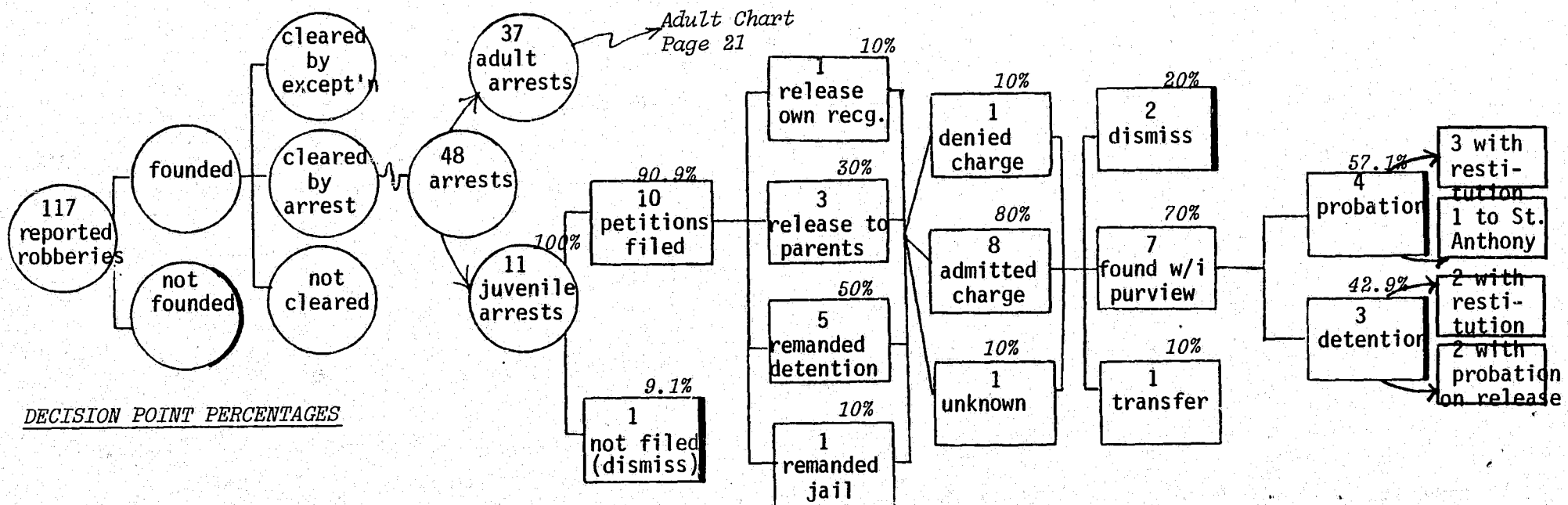
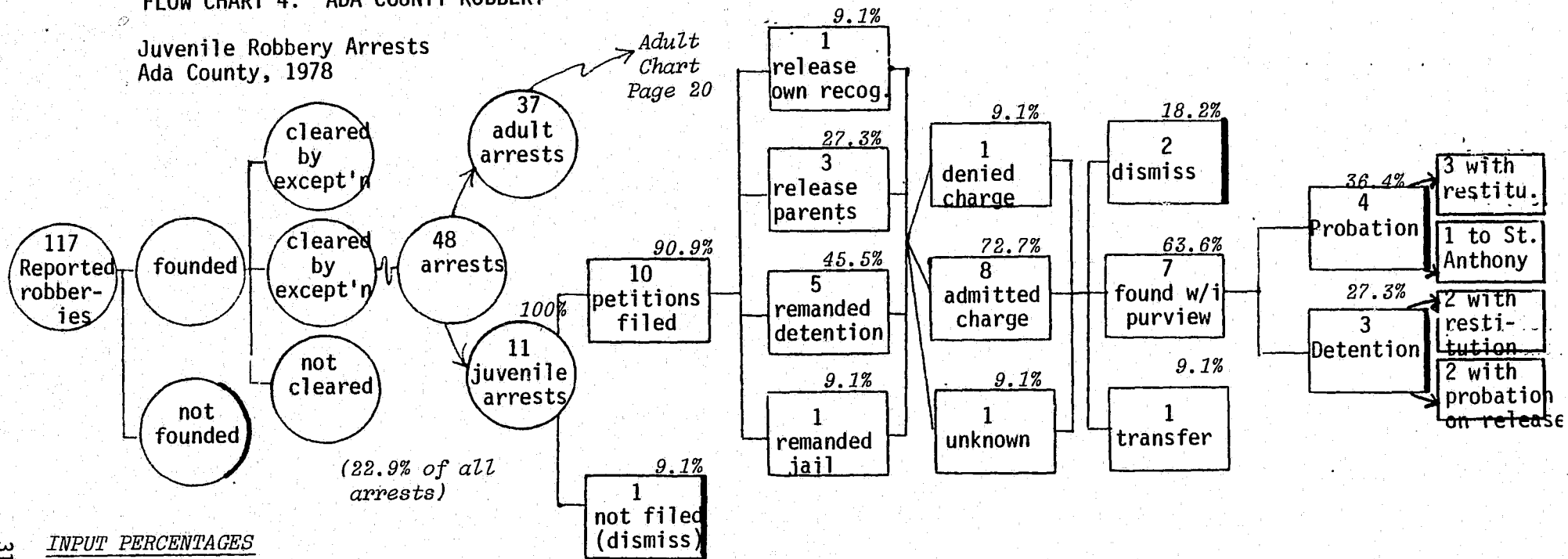
As noted previously, the number of juveniles arrested for robbery rose from 3 (7.9% of robbery arrests) in 1974 to 11 (22.9% of robbery arrests) in 1978. Following arrest, 4 (40%) of those being prosecuted were released either to their parents or on their own recognizance while awaiting legal process. Six (60%) were detained either in jail or in the Ada County Juvenile Center detention facility. The pre-trial release rate for juveniles was therefore less than 6% higher than that for adults in this study and the pre-trial incarceration rate was less than 6% lower than that for adults.

Dismissals and Release from Prosecution

As with adults, one case was not prosecuted by Ada County so that jurisdiction might be transferred to another authority. Two more were released from prosecution through dismissal, one "in the interests of justice," and one because personal complications delayed the case beyond the time the state felt it could proceed successfully. Although the prosecutor decided to file petitions for 10 of the 11 arrests (90.9%), the two dismissals reduced the actual rate of prosecution to 8, or 72.7% of arrests. Because one of the 7 was transferred, the percentage of arrests prosecuted in the Ada County Juvenile Justice System was 63.6%, all of whom were then found to be within the purview of the Youth Rehabilitation Act. This compares to a 1978 prosecution rate of 83.8% among arrests of adults in Ada County.

FLOW CHART 4: ADA COUNTY ROBBERY

Juvenile Robbery Arrests
Ada County, 1978



"Convictions": Innocence Vs. Guilt

One juvenile who denied charges against him had his case dismissed "in the interests of justice." Eight juveniles admitted guilt, and one of these was also dismissed (the delayed case just described). The remaining seven were "convicted," or found within the purview of the Youth Rehabilitation Act by virtue of their admissions of guilt.

When all youths admitting guilt are compared to all adults who pled guilty in this study, the rate at which arrestees admitted guilt was 72.7% among juveniles and 51.4% among adults. However, 37.5% of the charges to which juveniles admitted were reduced, whereas charges against adults were reduced in 16% of cases (refer to page 25). Table 28 details the charges to which juveniles admitted and the dispositions which resulted.

TABLE 28	
Charges to Which Juveniles Admitted Guilt Ada County Robbery Arrests, 1978	
<u>Charge and Number of Juveniles</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
1 Petty Larceny	1 Dismissed
1 Grand Larceny	1 Transferred
1 Assault with a Deadly Weapon	1 Prob. & Comm. Service
1 Attempted Robbery	1 Detention & Probation
4 Robbery	<div>1 Probation, Restitution</div> <div>1 Prob, H&W, Rest — St. Anthony</div> <div>2 Detention — <div>1 Rest</div> <div>1 Prob</div> </div>

Dispositions

Both Flow Chart 4 and Table 28 show that 3 of the 7 juveniles found within the purview of the Youth Rehabilitation Act were ordered to serve time in detention. Time served ranged from 12 to 60 days. In addition, one youth placed with the Department of Health & Welfare was recommended for, and assigned to, detention in the Youth Training Center at St. Anthony. Therefore, a total of 4 (57.1%) of the 7 "convicted" juveniles were "incarcerated" as a result of the robbery as compared to 88% incarceration for adults.

Four juveniles were ordered to pay cash restitution and a fifth was required to make restitution to the community through structured community service.

Time Frames

The average time elapsed between arrest and disposition of a juvenile in this study was 58.4 days. The least time required was 9 days and the greatest was 218 in a delayed dismissal case cited previously.

The average time from arrest to dismissal was 162 days, nearly double that for adults; the average time from arrest to admission and sentencing was 28.9 days, about one-third of that for adults.

END