

City of New Orleans

The Mayor's Criminal
Justice Coordinating Council

69773

MAYOR ERNEST N. MORIAL, Chairman

CRIME IN NEW ORLEANS:

A RESOURCE BOOK

Prepared by

THE MAYOR'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

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THE MAYOR'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE
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INTRODUCTION

The bulk of the data used in this crime analysis comes from the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) compiled monthly by the New Orleans Police Department and submitted by them to the FBI for inclusion in the Bureau's annual publication, Crime in the United States. The focus of UCR is on the seven major index or Part I crimes of homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft. These seven major offenses are used throughout the country as an index or standard for comparing criminal activity in different areas. In summary, the UCR provides information on Part I crimes reported to the police and demographic data on individuals arrested for committing Part I and Part II crimes. Data on individuals arrested in New Orleans in 1979 and an analysis of less serious Part II crimes are not presented in this overview.

Another source of data for this analysis is the Major Offense Report (MOR) developed annually by the N.O.P.D. The MOR gives reported index crime by police district and zone which makes it a very useful tool in identifying high crime areas, changing crime patterns, and thereby, in planning for effectiveness use of resources.

The Annual Report of the N.O.P.D.'s Juvenile Division is used extensively in the analysis of juvenile crimes. This report gives very useful demographic data on juveniles arrested in New Orleans for commission of delinquent acts, including age, sex, race, area of residence and the areas of the city where offenses occur.

Though the above data sources are very useful, and in fact the best data available, they do have significant limitations. That is, reported crime, when used as a measure of criminal activity in an area, must be viewed with caution. It must be recognized that reported crime does not necessarily represent the actual level of or changes in criminal activity in an area, but may be more reflective of other variables such as organized efforts to increase reporting, media coverage or public apathy. One has but to look at recent victimization studies conducted by LEAA and the Census Bureau to realize that crime in general is grossly underreported. As a means of measuring real changes in annual crime rates, reported offense data are probably less reliable than as a measure of total crime.

This document is not intended to be a definitive statement on crime in New Orleans. Rather, it is anticipated that the analysis presented here will provide both the professional and the interested citizen with a basic reference source on crime in New Orleans in 1979.

MAJOR INDEX CRIMES: STATE VS. CITY

In 1979, the New Orleans crime rate was 9,500 major index offenses per 100,000 population while the state had a rate of 5,337 per 100,000 inhabitants. Major index crimes reported in New Orleans comprised 25% of the state's total in 1979. New Orleans also accounted for 39% of the state's violent crime and 23% of the property crime while comprising only 14 % of the state population.

The following table illustrates the effect of New Orleans crime totals on the incidence of specific major index crimes in Louisiana. Significantly, over one-third (36%) of the criminal homicides reported in the state occurred in New Orleans. New Orleans also experienced a disproportionate percentage (60%) of the robberies which occurred in Louisiana. Rapes and assaults in New Orleans comprised 27% and 28% of state totals respectively. Motor vehicle thefts in New Orleans represent (37%) of the state total.

REPORTED MAJOR INDEX CRIME IN NEW ORLEANS

In the five year period from 1975 to 1979, reported major index crimes in New Orleans rose 32%. Between 1975 and 1979, New Orleans experienced increases in violent and property crimes of 52% and 27%, respectively. See Table 2.

Homicides in the city increased by 57% from 153 in 1975 to 240 in 1979. There were 186 more rapes reported in New Orleans in 1979 than there were in 1975. This reflects a 78% increase over 1975 figures. Robberies in the city increased

TABLE 1

1979 MAJOR INDEX CRIMES:

STATE VS. CITY

INDEX CRIMES	LOUISIANA	NEW ORLEANS	% OF STATE'S CRIME OCCUR- RING IN NEW ORLEANS
CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	673	240	36
RAPE	1,550	423	27
ROBBERY	8,825	5,276	60
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	16,109	4,548 *	28
BURGLARY	56,125	12,810	23
THEFT	115,648	24,687	21
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	16,399	6,088	37
TOTAL INDEX CRIMES	215,329	54,072	25
TOTAL VIOLENT	27,157	10,487	39
TOTAL PROPERTY	188,172	43,585	23

SOURCE: Major Offense Reports, 1979, and Louisiana Uniform Crime Reports, 1979.

* This figure includes attempts.

MAJOR INDEX CRIMES
Offenses Reported - Five Year Trend

Data Element	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	% Change - 1975-1979
MURDER	153	170	173	219	240	+ 56.8
RAPE	237	264	360	406	423	+ 78.4
ROBBERY	3,596	2,600	3,279	4,164	5,276	+ 46.7
ASSAULT	2,924	2,901	2,135	2,849	4,548 *	+ 55.5
BURGLARY	9,689	8,400	8,692	10,514	12,810	+ 32.2
THEFT	17,989	19,440	19,754	22,183	24,687	+ 37.2
AUTO THEFT	6,528	5,031	5,504	5,491	6,088	-6.7
TOTAL	41,116	38,806	39,897	45,826	54,072	+ 31.5
VIOLENT	6,910	5,935	5,947	7,638	10,487	+ 51.7
PROPERTY	34,206	32,871	33,950	38,188	43,585	+ 27.4

SOURCE: Major Offense Reports, 1975 - 1979.

* Includes "Attempts"

TABLE 2

TABLE 3

1978 - 1979

MAJOR INDEX CRIMES -

Offenses Reported

Index Crimes	1978		1979		% Change 1978 - 1979
	#	%	#	%	
MURDER	219	0	240	0	+ 9.59
RAPE	406	1	423	1	+ 4.19
ROBBERY	4,164	9	5,276	10	+26.71
ASSAULT	2,849	6	4,548	8	+59.63
BURGLARY	10,514	23	12,810	24	+21.84
THEFT	22,183	48	24,687	46	+11.29
AUTO THEFT	5,491	12	6,088	11	+10.87
TOTAL	45,826	100	54,072	100	+17.99
VIOLENT	7,638	17	10,487	19	+37.30
PROPERTY	38,188	83	43,585	81	+14.13

SOURCE: Major Offense Reports, 1978, 1979.

by 47% from 1975 to 1979. Thefts, which have risen 37% from 1975 to 1979, accounted for 46% of the total major index crimes reported in the city in 1979. Assaults increased by 50% over the five year period. However, this increase can be attributed in part to "attempts" being included in the 1979 data, and not in any previous years. Reported burglaries have shown a very strong increase of about 32% over the five year period.

Focusing on the previous two years, the city's reported violent crimes numbered 7,638 in 1978 and rose to 10,487 in 1979, an increase of 37%. Property crime totals climbed from 38,188 in 1978 to 43,585 in 1979 for an increase of 14%. Total reported index crimes increased by 18% during this one year period. The offenses of assault, robbery and burglary accounted for a large part of this 18% overall increase. The incidence of assault rose by 59.6% between 1978 and 1979, but again much of this increase can be attributed to the inclusion of "attempts" in the 1979 data. Reported robberies in the city increased by 27% during this period. Burglary also showed a substantial rise with a 22% increase over 1978 figures. Refer to Table 3 for details.

HIGH CRIME AREAS: REPORTED INDEX OFFENSES BY POLICE DISTRICT AND SELECTED ZONES

A review of total reported index offenses by police district shows that the greatest incidence of index crime in New Orleans occurs in the First District (CBD/French Quarter), followed by the Fifth District (Faubourg Marigny, Desire Florida and the 9th Ward); the Second District (Uptown, University); the Sixth District (Central City, Irish Channel); the Seventh District (eastern

New Orleans); the Eighth District (Mid-City); the Third District (Lakeview, Gentilly, City Park); and, the Fourth District (Algiers). Table number 4 gives the actual number of reported offenses in each police district, while Map 1 shows high crime areas by district and zones.

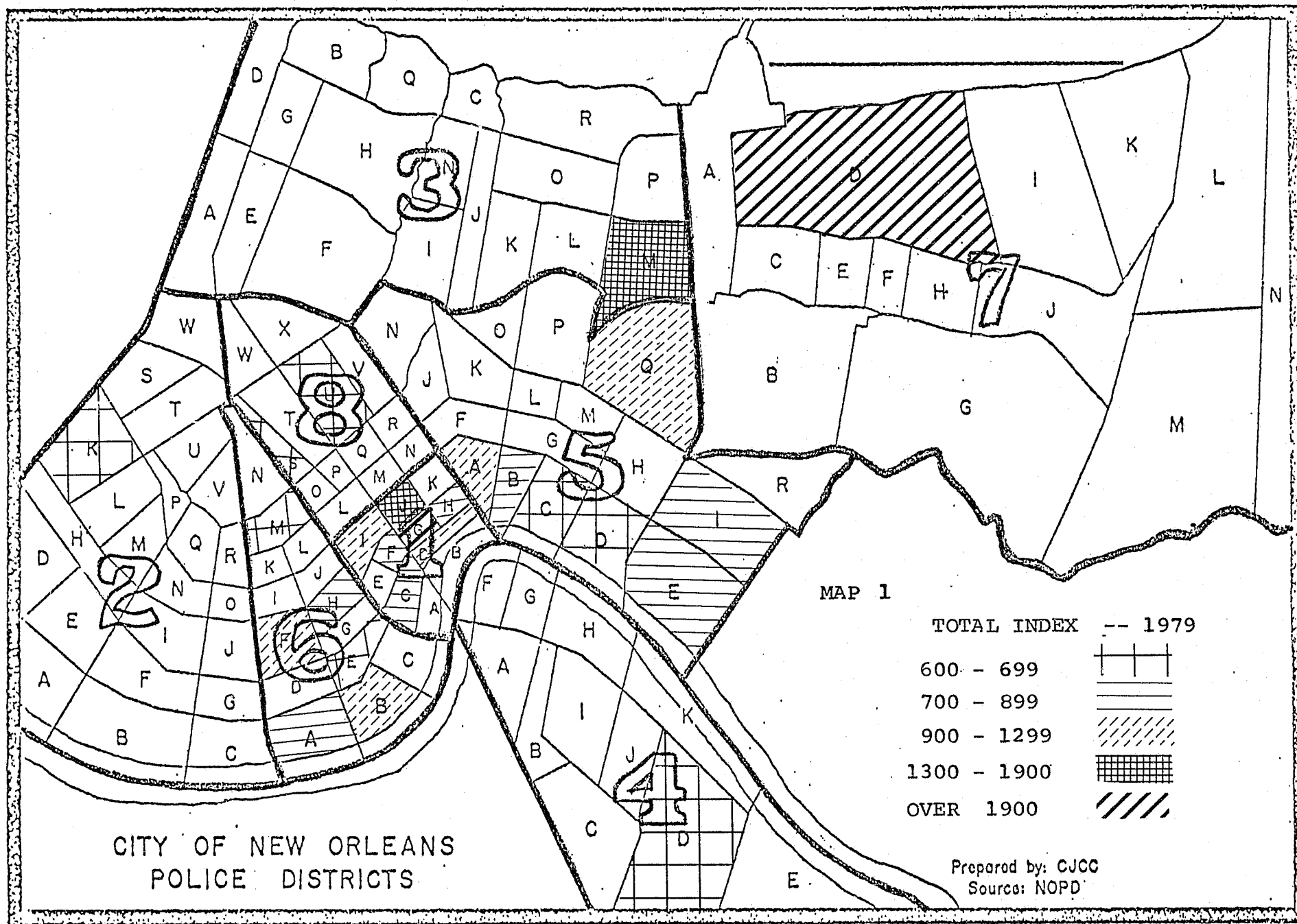
The first District had the highest incidence of reported property crimes in New Orleans in 1979 and ranked third in offenses against persons. The disproportionately high number of thefts in the 1st District (6323) which accounts for roughly 60% of the reported index crime in that district, is to be expected because of the many stores, shops and automobiles in the CBD, the French Quarter and the Superdome. This area also led the city in the number of auto thefts in 1979 with 1324. The only crime of violence reported in relatively high numbers in this district was robbery. Zone 1G, which led the city in thefts, also reported more robberies in 1979 (216) than any other police zone.

The Fifth District ranked either first or second in the numbers of reported offenses for each of the seven index crimes. This district ranked second in murders (57), first in reported rape (104), second in robbery (1,052) and first in aggravated assault (1,062). With regard to property crime, the 5th District ranked first in reported burglary (2,989), second in the number of thefts (3,566) and second in reported incidences of

TABLE 4
1979 MAJOR INDEX CRIMES
REPORTED OFFENSES BY POLICE DISTRICT

Offense District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Citywide Total
MURDER	19	20	14	19	57	74	13	24	240
RAPE	48	71	23	23	104	88	36	30	423
ROBBERY	948	762	357	225	1052	1245	229	458	5276
ASSAULT	613	575	294	302	1062	964	286	452	4548
BURGLARY	984	2439	957	1194	2989	2046	1257	944	12,810
THEFT	6323	3419	2282	1508	3566	2860	2453	2276	24,687
AUTO THEFT	1424	766	436	312	1189	716	601	644	6088
TOTAL	10,359	8052	4363	3583	10,019	7993	4875	4828	54,072
% OF CITY TOTAL	19.1	14.89	8.07	6.63	18.53	14.78	9.02	8.93	----
VIOLENT	1628	1428	688	569	2275	2371	564	964	10,487
PROPERTY	8731	6624	3675	3014	7744	5622	4311	3864	43,585

SOURCE: Major Offense Report, 1979.



auto theft (1189). Based on reported index offenses, zone 5Q, which contains the 5000 unit Desire Housing Project, is one of the most violent areas in the city. In 1979 it ranked first among police zones in the number of reported rapes (18) and aggravated assaults (228) and ranked third in the number of murders (8). Also, zone 5Q ranked second in the number of burglaries (398) in 1979 among all police zones.

The Second District, which ranked third in the number of reported index offenses in 1979, showed a 19% increase in reported crime over 1978 figures. This District is the largest of the four high crime police districts and this in part accounts for the large number of reported index offenses. That is, as no single zone has a disproportionately large number of offenses, reported offenses are distributed relatively evenly among the 23 zones which make up this district.

The highest crime zones within the 2nd District in 1979 were 2K with 669 reported index offenses followed by zones 2U (563), 2T (560) and 2G (547). Police zones which showed strong increases in reported crime from 1978 to 1979 were 2G and 2J, an area bounded by Freret Street, Napoleon Avenue, Louisiana Avenue and Magazine Street. Overall reported crime in this area increased by 50% over 1978 figures with robbery showing a 50% increase and reported burglaries up over 88%.

The Sixth District, though it ranked fourth in overall index crime, had more murders (74) and robberies (1245) in

1979 then any other police district. Further, this area was second among all police districts in the number of reported rapes and aggravated assaults making it the most violent district in the city with a total of 2371 reported violent offenses in 1979. Police Zone 6B, which includes the St. Thomas Housing Project, was the second most violent police zone in New Orleans in 1979 based on reported index crime. Zones 6F, 6J and 6H also ranked very high in violent index crimes.

Though the remaining four police districts are relatively low in total reported offenses, two zones within these districts, zones 3M and 7D, are among the cities highest crime areas. They rank second and third respectively in total reported index crime behind 1G in the French Quarter.

Zone 3M, which had 1298 reported index offenses in 1979, is bounded by Dreux Avenue, the Industrial Canal, Old Gentilly Road and by Peoples Avenue. The great bulk (989) of reported crime in zone 3M is for theft. Violent offenses are relatively low. Much of the crime in this area may be the result of displacement of criminal activity from zone 5Q and the Desire Housing Project which is heavily patrolled by the N.O.P.D.

Zone 7D, located in eastern New Orleans, is bounded by Downman Road, Dwyer Road, Paris Road and Lake Pontchartrain and ranked second behind zone 1G in total reported index offense in 1979. Like zone 3M, crimes against person in this area are relatively low though robberies have shown a definite upward

trend over the past several years.

In 1979 this area led all other police zones in New Orleans in the number of reported burglaries and auto thefts with 540 and 260 respectively. Zone 7D ranked second behind zone 1G , the French Quarter, in the number of reported thefts. Reported burglaries increased by over 35% between 1978 and 1979. The extensive development of middle-income apartment complexes single family dwellings and shopping centers is a factor in the rapid growth of crime in eastern New Orleans.

JUVENILE CRIME

It is appropriate that juvenile crime receive special emphasis in this analysis both because it constitutes a significant percentage of total crimes and because of the recognition made here that any thoughtful strategy to reduce crime must include a strong juvenile component. More to the point, in addition to various types of special enforcement and rehabilitation efforts, a major emphasis of any crime reduction effort must be aimed at delinquency prevention. It seems only logical that a major portion of our resources should go toward preventing youth from ever developing into adult criminals.

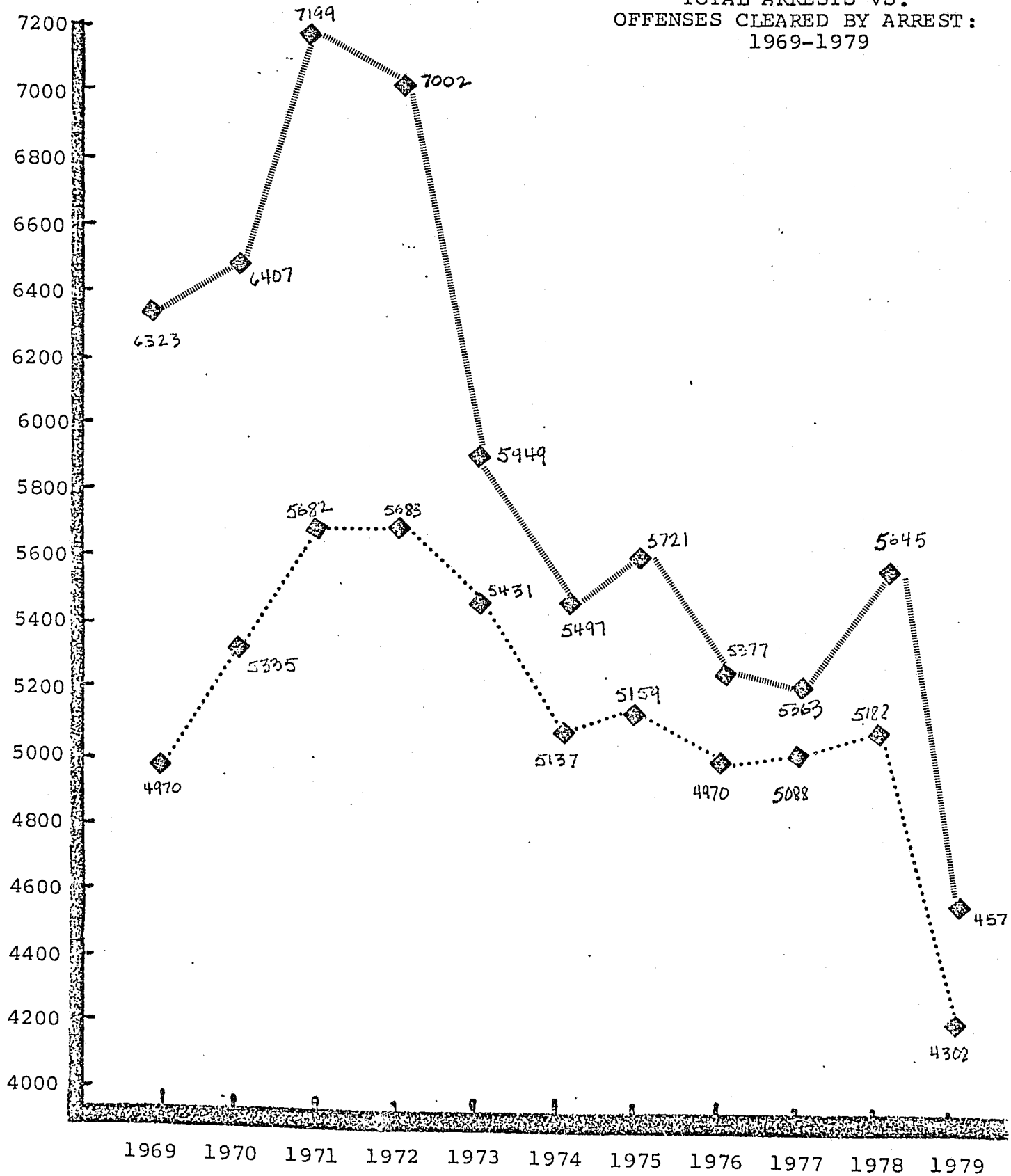
It should be noted that juvenile crime data presented here are based solely on arrest information and this should not be confused with reported offense data. Since there is no way of knowing what percentage of reported offenses are actually committed by juveniles, it must be emphasized that the number of offenses cleared by the arrest of juveniles does not indicate

the total extent of juvenile crime, rather only those who are actually arrested. To add some perspective to the juvenile crime problem, in 1979 juvenile arrests totaled 4572 or just under 10% of the 48,240 total arrests made by the N.O.P.D. Significantly though, juveniles accounted for roughly 27% of the 11,353 total arrests for the more serious Part I index crimes. Table 5 gives a breakdown of the number of adults and juveniles arrested for each of the seven index crimes. Obviously, some offenses are more clearly "juvenile crimes" than others. For instance, juveniles make up 45% of all arrests for auto theft in 1979 but accounted for only 7% of arrests for murder.

As stated, the best available measure of juvenile criminal activity is the number of offenses cleared annually by the arrest of juveniles. Figure I shows that the movement of offenses cleared by arrest (CBA) over the past ten years has been reasonably stable, especially when compared with fluctuation in total juvenile arrests, another measure of youth crimes. Again referring to Figure 1, offenses CBA peaked in 1971, as did total arrests, and began a steady decline over the next five year period. The large gap between total arrests and offenses CBA that existed in the years 1969-1972 indicates that a great number of unnecessary arrests were being made. That is, youth were being arrested who were not subsequently linked with any particular offense.

FIGURE 1

TOTAL ARRESTS VS.
OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST:
1969-1979



TOTAL ARRESTS = —————
OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST =

SOURCE: Juvenile
Division, Annual Report

TABLE 5

PERSONS ARRESTED FOR INDEX CRIMES:
ADULT VS. JUVENILE

DATA ELEMENTS	MURDER		RAPE		ROBBERY		AGGR. ASSAULT		BURGLARY		LARCENY/ THEFT		MOT. VEH. THEFT		TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
ADULT	158	93	92	85	1089	75	956	80	1469	75	4328	70	156	55	8248	73
JUVENILE	11	7	16	15	361	25	238	20	501	25	1850	30	128	45	3105	27
TOTAL	169	100	108	100	1450	100	1194	100	1970	100	6178	100	284	100	11,353	100

SOURCE: 1979 N. O. P. D. UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS

The gap narrowed significantly by 1973 when 5949 arrests resulted in 5431 offenses CBA as compared to 1971 when 7199 arrests led to 5682 offenses being cleared, a much less efficient ratio. Also it can be seen, using offenses cleared by arrest as a measure, that the frequency of juvenile crime in New Orleans has shown relatively small fluctuation over the past ten years despite much wider fluctuation in total arrests.

Changes in the types of offenses cleared by the arrest of juveniles are shown in Figure 2. Non-serious offenses here composed of uncontrollable and ungovernable and runaway offenses, show a very significant decline beginning in 1971. This decline coincides with the decrease in total arrests which also began in 1971, and is likely a function of a then growing emphasis on selective enforcement of non-serious offenses, especially runaways.

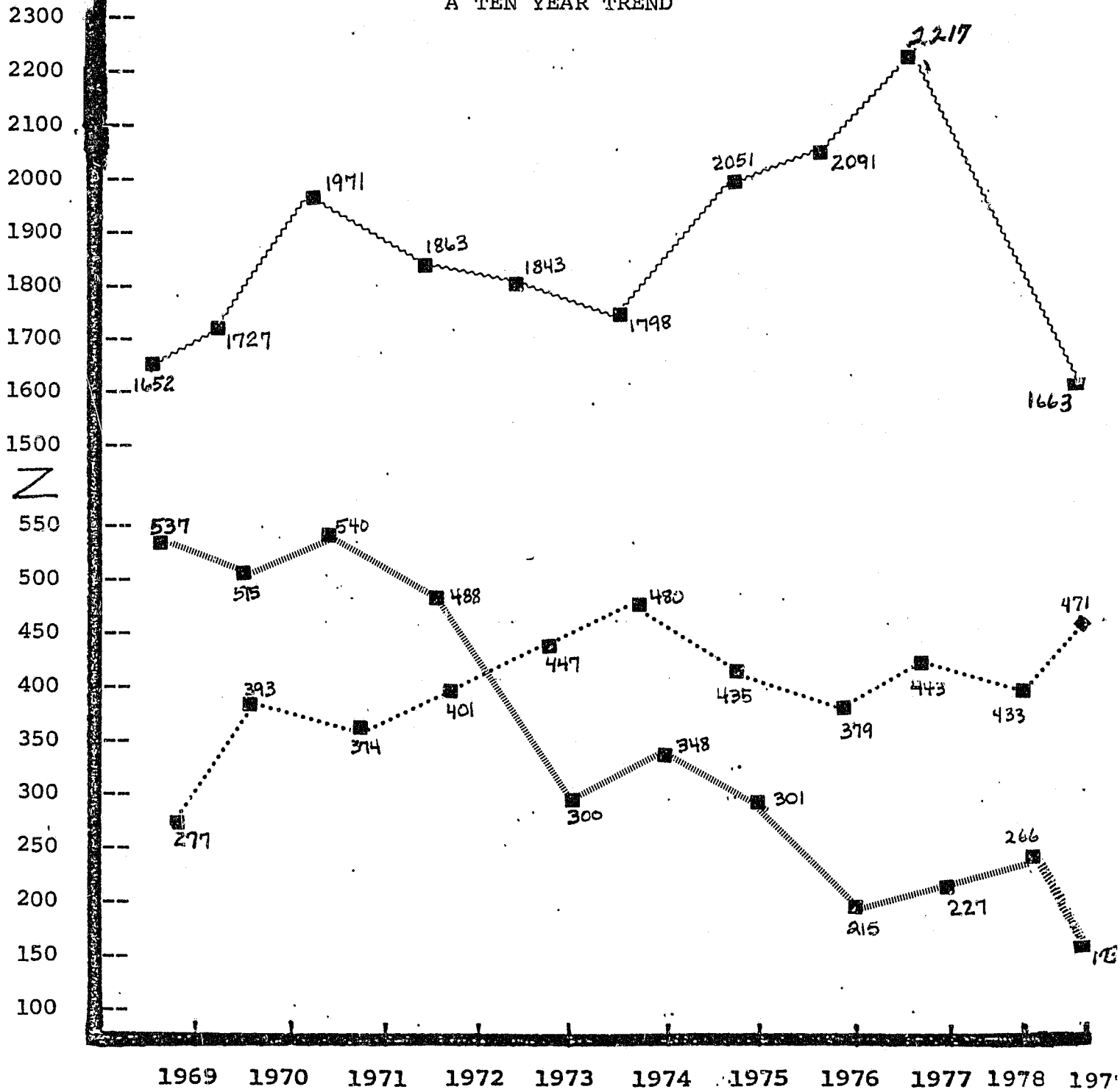
Violent offenses, represented in Figure 2 by aggravated assault and robbery, though fluctuating a great deal, have shown a tendency to increase over the past ten years. During this period, a high of 480 offenses cleared by arrest was reached in 1974 with offenses leveling off at around 450 per year through 1979.

Property offenses (burglary and theft), like the violent crime category, have shown a steady upward trend from 1969 through 1978 with the highest level of the ten year period

FIGURE 2

SELECTED OFFENSES CLEARED BY THE ARREST OF JUVENILES:

A TEN YEAR TREND



NON-SERIOUS = (U&U; RUNAWAY)
 PROPERTY = ~~~~~~ (BURGLARY; THEFT).
 VIOLENT = -.-.-.-.- (AGG. ASSAULT; ROBBERY)

SOURCE: JUVENILE DIVISION, ANNUAL REPORT

being reached in 1977. However, arrests for property offenses dropped by 25% between 1978 and 1979.

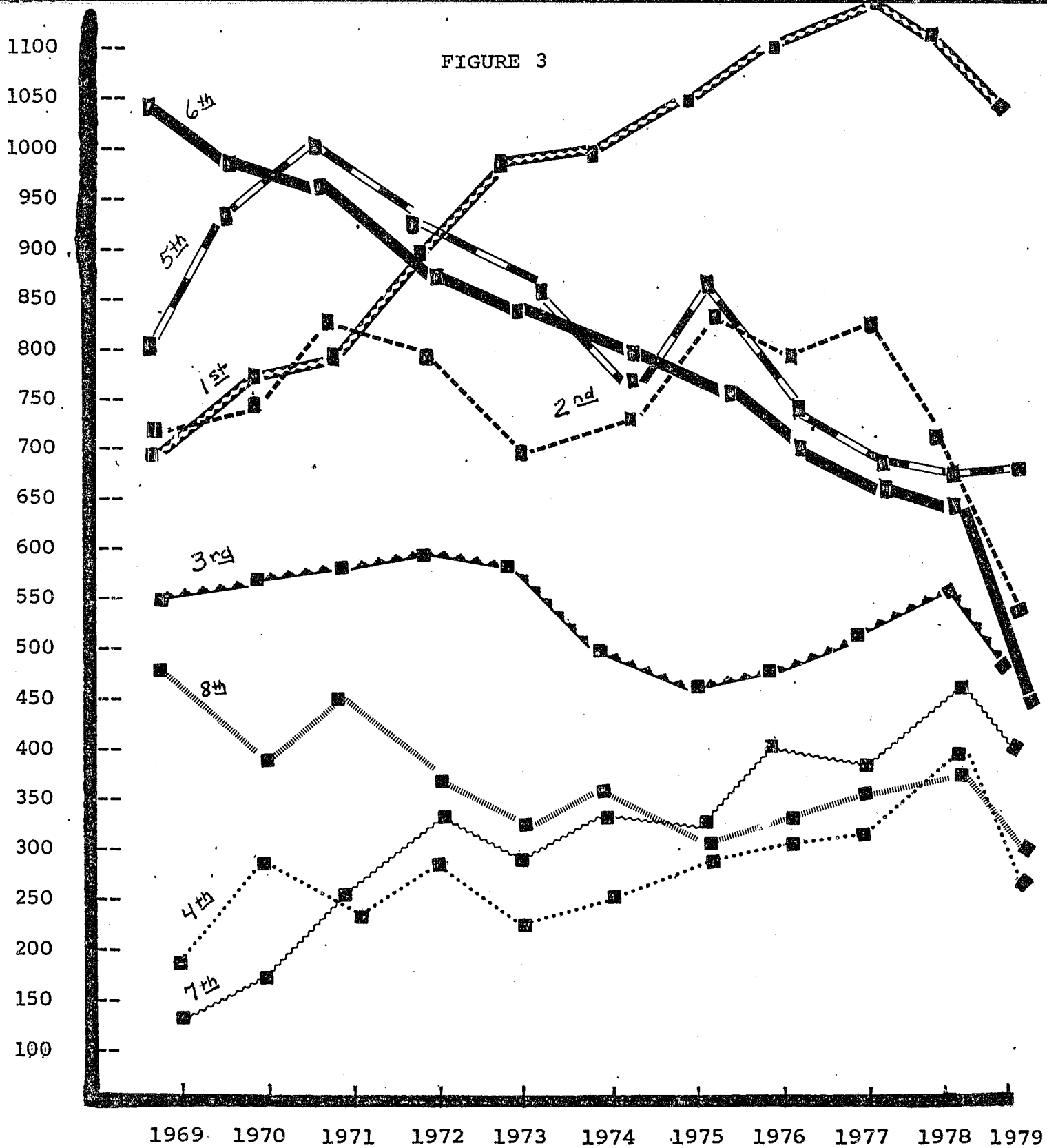
Based on these data it appears that although total arrests and offenses cleared by arrest have decreased markedly over the past ten years, the types of offenses committed have become somewhat more serious. While this could indicate that juveniles are committing more serious crimes, it could also mean based on changes in enforcement patterns that police activity is now focused more on solving serious offenses rather than on making widespread arrests, often for non-serious offenses. Thus, certain offenses that previously went undetected are now being discovered.

GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF JUVENILE CRIME

This section will isolate the areas of the city, by police district and zone, which have high frequencies of juvenile crime. Juvenile crime is here measured by the area of the city in which offenses CBA of youth occurred. Also, data are presented by police district and zone, on where those juveniles arrested during 1979 reside in New Orleans.

Figure 3 utilizes a line graph to depict the trend in juvenile crime in each of the eight police districts over the past ten years. Clearly there are several significant changing patterns. Perhaps most significant is the continuous, strong upward trend in offenses committed by youth in the First District which contains the Central Business District, the French Quarter and the Superdome. While the First District has

FIGURE 3



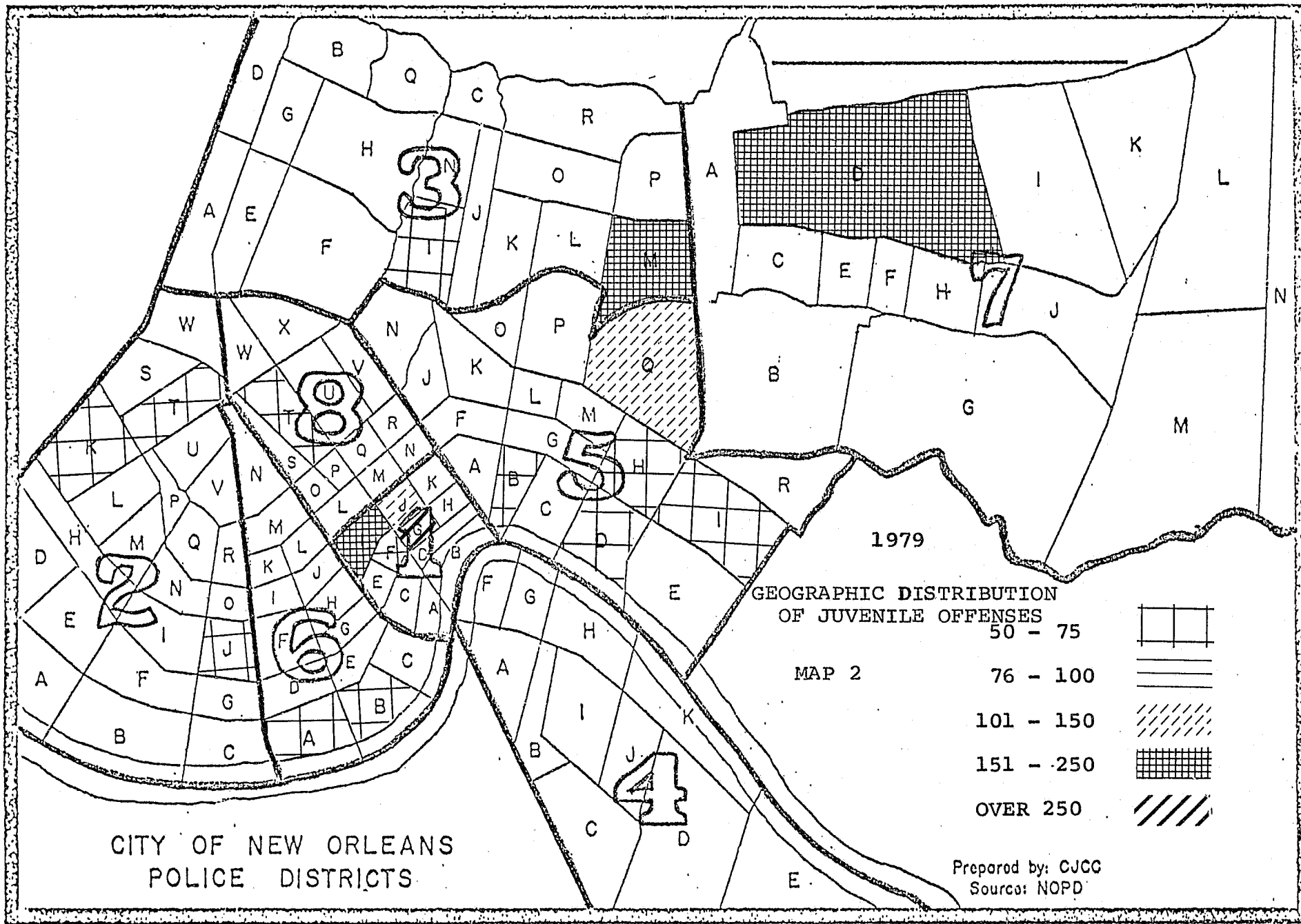
OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST OF JUVENILES BY POLICE DISTRICT:1969-1979

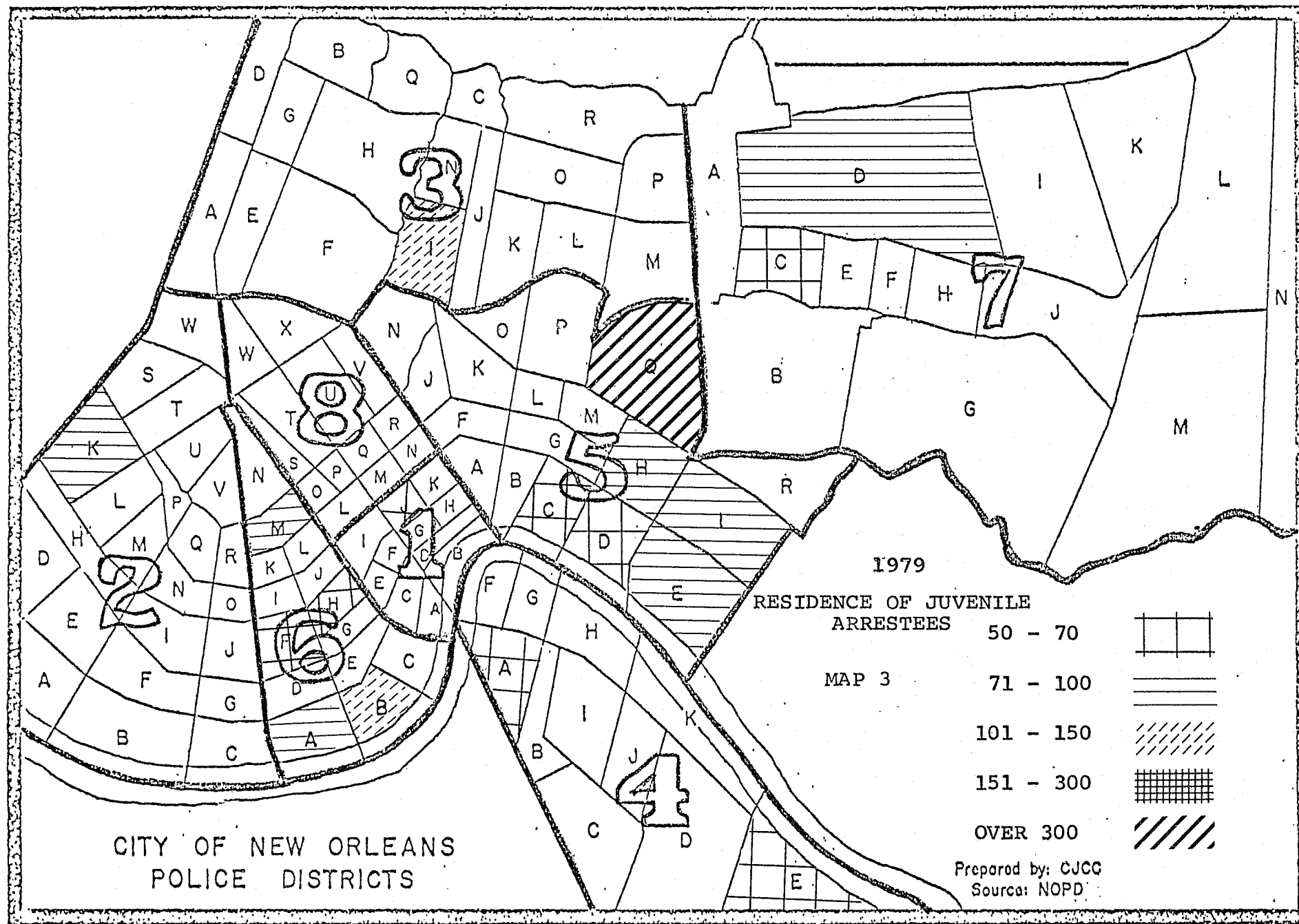
SOURCE: JUVENILE DIVISION, ANNUAL REPORT.

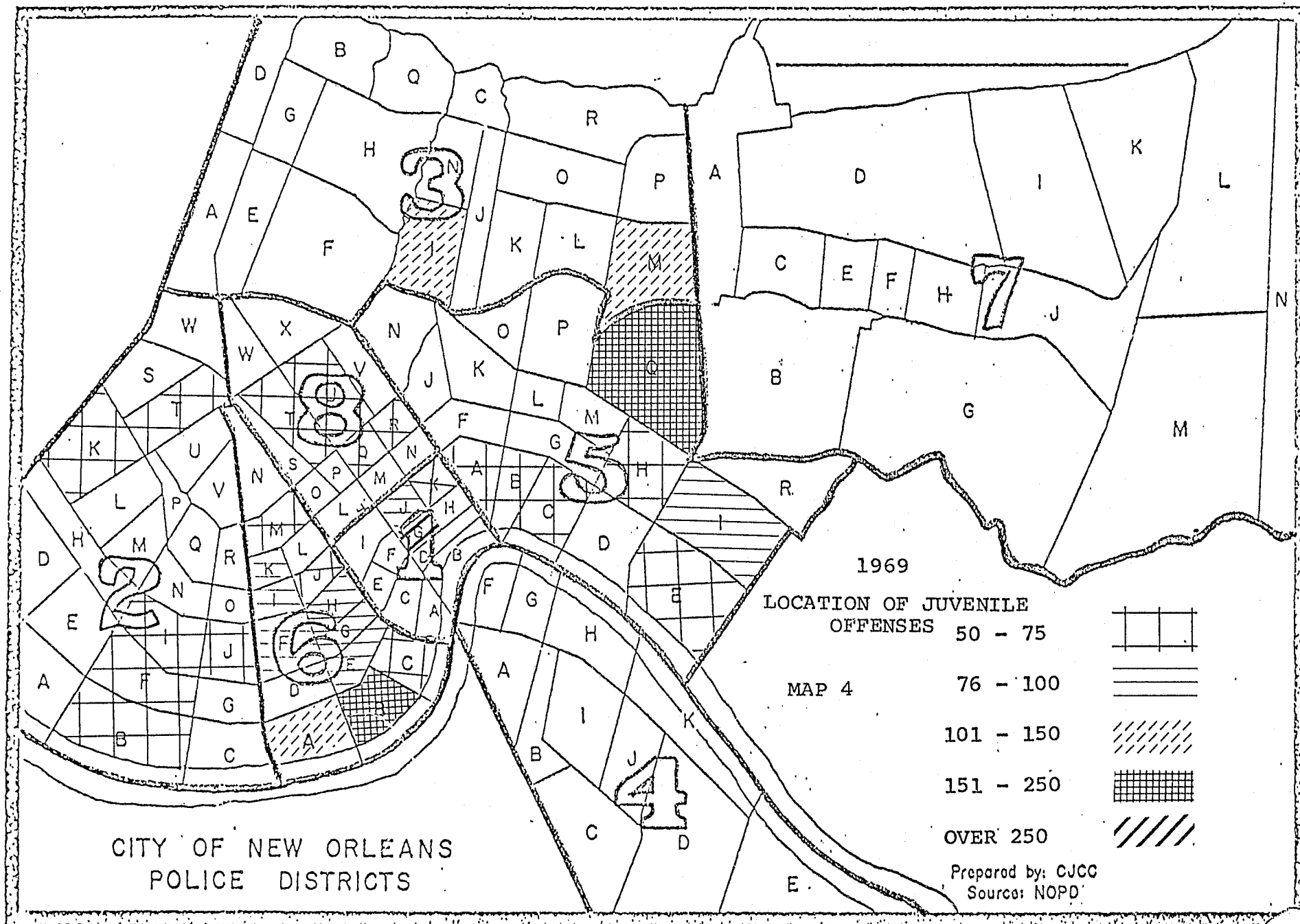
historically been one of the areas of the City with the highest incidence of youth crime, since 1973 it has become number one with over 26% of offenses known to have been committed by juveniles. A review of Map 2 which breaks police districts into their component zones, shows that Zone I of District I has likely led to this increase. Also a continued growth in offenses in Zone G has contributed to this strong, upward trend.

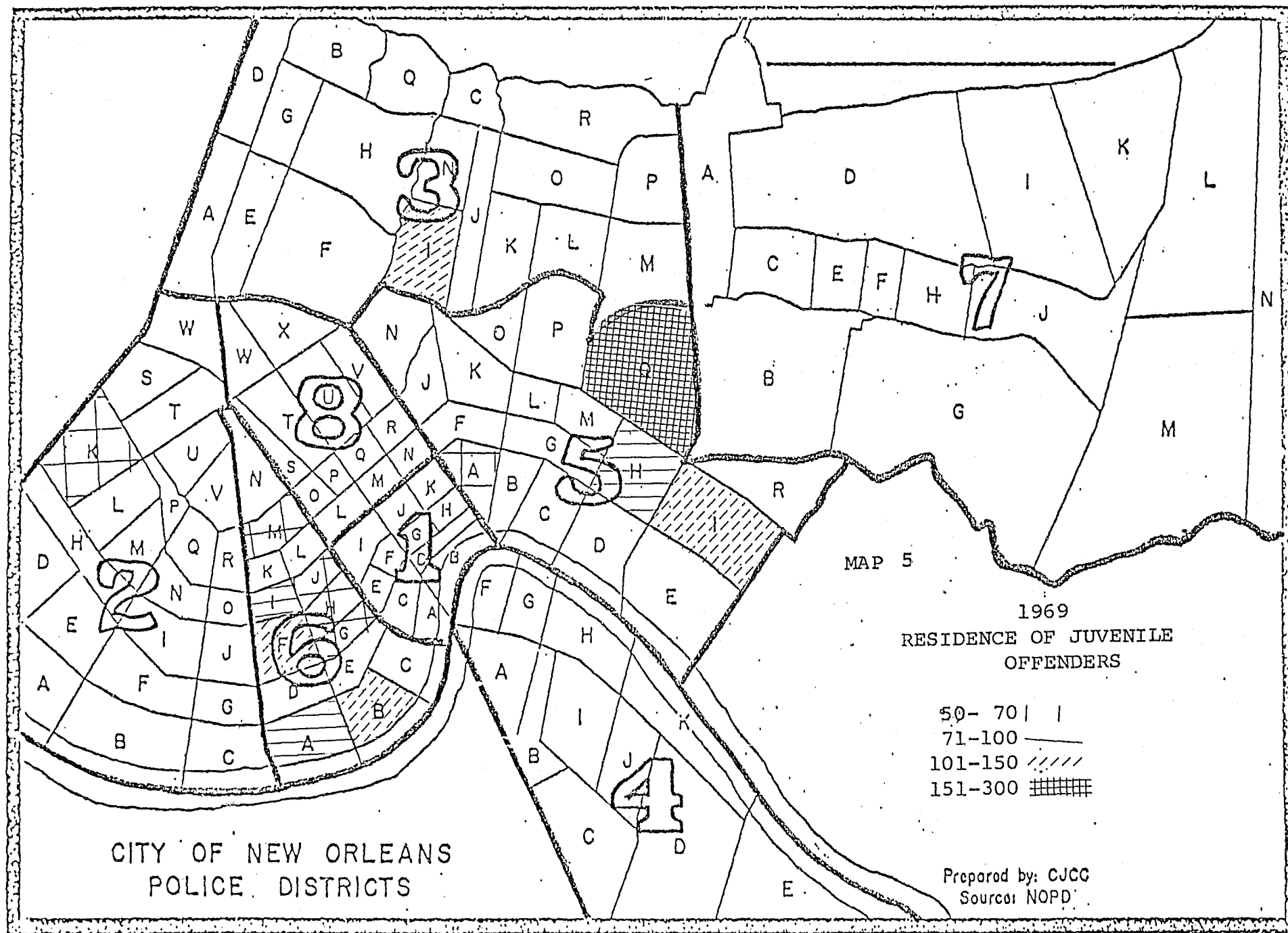
The Fourth District, or Algiers, has long been one of the lowest crime areas (including juvenile crime) in New Orleans. In 1979 the 4th District ranked 8th out of eight districts in the number of offenses known to have been committed by juveniles. However, the occurrence of juvenile crime in this area has been growing steadily, especially over the past six years. The Fourth District had 3.8% of juvenile offenses committed in New Orleans in 1969, but this percentage almost doubled to over 6% in 1979. Zones A, B and D account for the great majority of crime in this area. Zones A and B include a portion of the Fischer Housing Project which has a high concentration of youth. Zone D is for the most part a middle to high income residential area and provides a prime target for the offender.

Easily the most dramatic movement in the location of juvenile offenses has been toward the 7th District or eastern New Orleans and, as noted previously, adult crime has likewise shown a strong upsurge here. The extensive development of middle-income apartment complexes and major shopping centers is a factor









in the rapid growth of crime in New Orleans East. And as shown on Map 3 with the rapid population growth has come an increase in the number of juvenile arrestees residing in the area: from 140 in 1969 to 330 in 1979, or a 235% increase. As to be expected, the great preponderance of crimes in the area are property offenses, namely burglary and theft. A variable which may tend to inflate arrest and offense figures is the discovery, because of increased police presence, of pre-existing criminal activity. Zone D of the 7th District has experienced the most intense commercial and residential development and likewise accounts for most of the juvenile offenses in this district.

Perhaps most surprising is the steady decline in offenses CBA of juveniles occurring in the 5th and 6th Districts. While the 5th District, which contains the Desire-Florida housing projects, peaked in 1971 and has since shown a steady downward trend, the 6th District, which contains 5 major public housing projects, has shown a decrease in offenses 9 out of the last 10 years. As a comparison of Maps 2 and 4 reveal, Zone 6B, which contains the St. Thomas Housing Project and historically has shown the highest concentration of juvenile crime in the 6th, dropped significantly in youth crime. Adjacent zones have shown similar decreases

Zone 5Q dropped from 161 juvenile offenses in 1969 to 125 in 1979, or by 22%. It seems that much of the juvenile crime in 5Q has shifted or been displaced to the adjacent zone 3M.

It is possible that the presence of the N.O.P.D.'s Urban Squad in and around the Desire Housing Project was the cause of the displacement.

It still remains difficult to account for the apparent drop in juvenile offenses in the 5th and 6th Districts. Though it is possible that the incidence of real juvenile crime has decreased in these areas, it is likely that variables such as public apathy, low reporting and the limitations of the data result in these lower figures. This seems even more apparent when exhibiting Map 3 which shows the 5th District with the highest concentration (307) of juvenile arrestees in New Orleans. Overall, 31% of all individual juveniles arrested by the N.O.P.D. in 1979 resided in the 5th District. Ten percent of all juveniles arrested in New Orleans in 1979 resided in Zone 5Q alone. It seems clear that many juveniles residing in the 5th District especially 5Q, commit offenses in other areas.

The 2nd District, which contains much of the Uptown and the University area and is mainly residential in nature, has not shown a significant change in juvenile crime levels over the past ten years. Though Figure 3 does show considerable up and down movement in the 2nd District, the number of offenses has constantly remained at the 7 and 8 hundred level over the years dropping to under 600 arrests in 1979. Maps 3 and 5 seem to indicate that juvenile offenses in the Second District have become more concentrated in Zones 2K, 2T and 2J.

Zone 2K is a low to middle income residential area and 2T contains a major shopping area and commercial strip. It is not unlikely that many juveniles residing in 2K, which Map 3 shows contained 78 juvenile arrestees in 1979, commit offenses in 2T which had only 22 arrestees in 1979.

With the exception of Zone 3M as discussed earlier, the trend line for the 3rd District has remained relatively flat over the previous ten year period.

CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILE ARRESTEES IN NEW ORLEANS

The following data, obtained primarily from the Juvenile Division Annual Report, is a sociodemographic description of juveniles arrested in New Orleans for commission of delinquent acts. Variables include age, sex, race and family status. When possible, comparisons are made between 1969 and 1979 data in an effort to identify any significant changes in the juvenile arrestee population.

There has been only a small change in the average age of juvenile arrestees over the past eleven years. This change from an average age of 13 years to 14 years, though not significant, is probably due to the decline in arrest of status offenders, a group normally younger than most arrestees.

Table 6 indicates a significant increase in the percentage of juvenile arrestees in New Orleans who are from broken homes. In 1969, 59% of the city's juvenile arrestees were from broken homes compared to 71% in 1979.

Figure 4 shows that the number of black youths arrested for delinquent acts has been steadily increasing over the past several years while the number of white youth, particularly white males, has shown a steady decline. The decrease in arrests of black youth between 1978 and 1979 is probably reflective of the city's overall decline in juvenile arrests for that period.

In 1969, 26.8% of juvenile arrestees were white with the balance (74.2%) black. By 1979, whites and blacks accounted for 16% and 83.9% of arrestees respectively. This does not necessarily represent increased criminal behavior of black youth or a decrease in criminal activity among white youths. More likely, the trend can be accounted for by changing birth rates and migration patterns. For example, the number of births of white children in New Orleans decreased by 13.5% from 1963 through 1966. During that same period births of black children decreased by 8.3%. As a result in 1978 the number of white youths between the ages of 13 and 16 dropped 5% relative to black youths (excluding the effects of migration) because of decreased birth rates. Changes in the racial composition of arrestees can also be explained by the general movement of whites to suburban parishes thereby increasing the representation of blacks in the total population.

TABLE 6

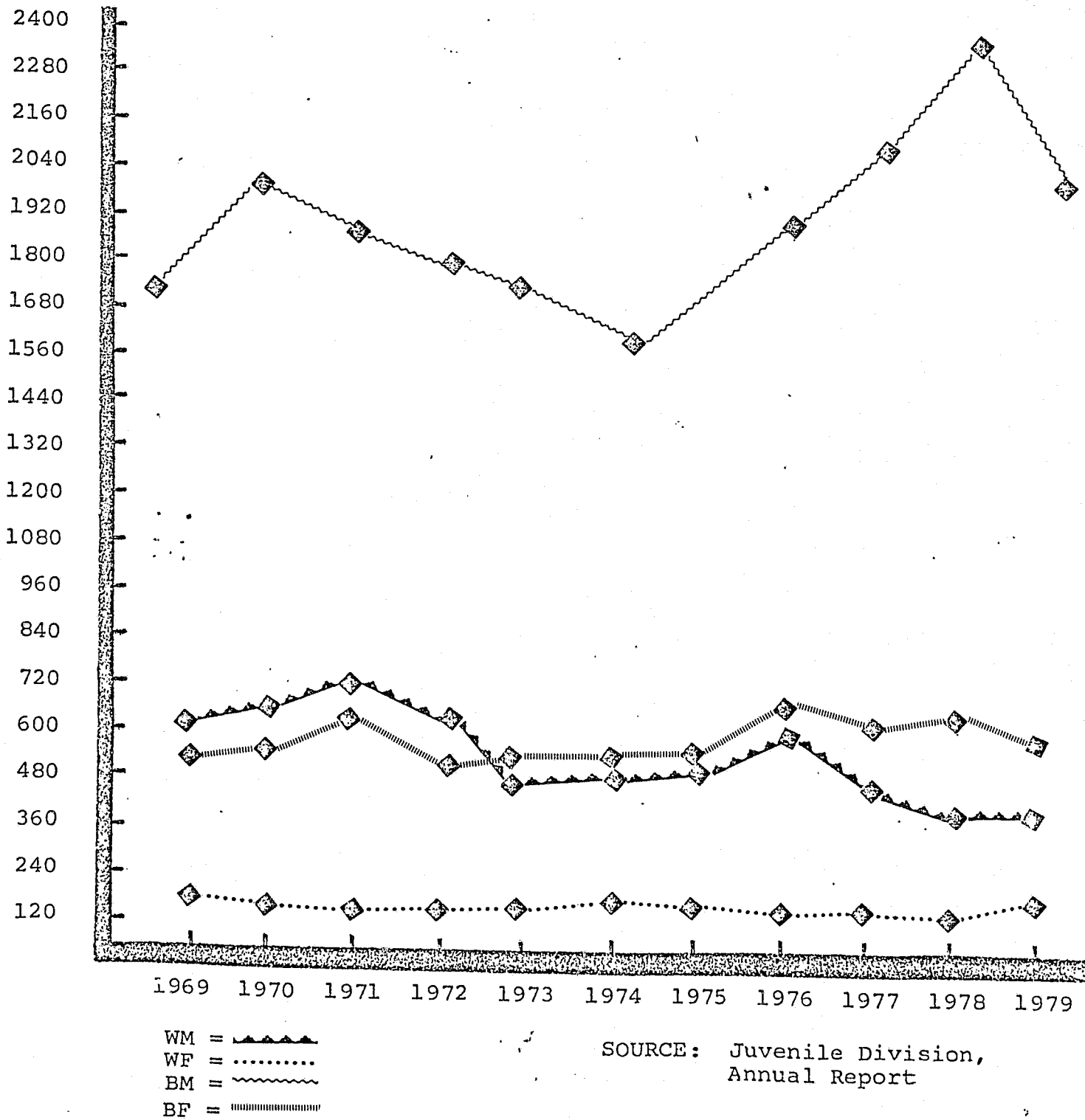
AVERAGE AGE OF LOCAL JUVENILE ARRESTEES 1969 - 1979

1969	13.89
1970	13.87
1971	13.93
1972	13.99
1973	13.95
1974	13.99
1975	13.97
1976	14.26
1977	14.05
1978	14.02
1979	14.20

PERCENT JUVENILE ARRESTEES FROM BROKEN HOMES 1969 -- 1979

1969	59%
1970	56%
1971	59%
1972	61%
1973	62%
1974	64%
1975	66%
1976	68%
1977	70%
1978	69%
1979	71%

FIGURE 4
 RACE AND SEX OF TOTAL
 INDIVIDUAL JUVENILES ARRESTED:
 1969 - 1979



SUMMARY

The focus of this document dealt with major index crime and juvenile crime. Major index crimes were viewed in terms of State vs. City, reported major index crimes in New Orleans and high crime areas: Reported index offenses by Police District and selected zones, while juvenile crime was viewed in terms of a geographic analysis of juvenile crime and characteristics of juvenile arrestees in New Orleans. The highlights of each section are summarized below:

Major Index Crimes Highlights

- * New Orleans comprised 25% of the state's total crime in 1979.

- * 36% of the criminal homicides and 60% of the robberies reported in the state occurred in New Orleans.

- * Between 1975 and 1979, New Orleans experienced increases in violent and property crimes of 52% and 27% respectively.

- * The greatest incidence of major index crime occurs in New Orleans in the First District, followed by the Fifth District, the Second District, the Sixth District, the Seventh District, the Eighth District, the Third District and the Fourth District.

Juvenile Crime Data Highlights

- * Juvenile Criminal activity can best be measured by the number of offenses cleared annually by juvenile arrest.

- * Non serious offenses (uncontrollable and ungovernable, and runaways) show a significant decline beginning in 1971.

* Violent offenses (aggravated assault and robbery) have shown a tendency to increase over the past ten years.

* Property crimes (burglary and theft) have also shown a steady up upward trend from 1969 through 1978.

* Most juvenile crime is committed in the First District with the most dramatic movement in the location of juvenile offenses toward the Seventh District.

* Characteristics of the juvenile population in New Orleans indicate:

-Average age of juvenile arrestees has risen from 13 years to 14 years over the past 11 years.

-In 1969, 59% of the city's juvenile arrestees came from broken homes, compared to 71% in 1979.

-The number of black youths arrested for delinquent acts has been steadily increasing over the past several years, while the number of white youth has shown a steady decline.

It must be kept in mind that the intent of this document is to provide a basic reference source on crime in New Orleans in 1979 for both the professional and the interested citizen. It is not intended to be a definitive statement on crime in New Orleans.

END