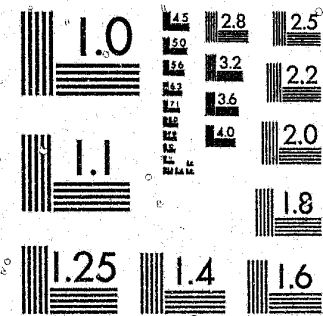


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5/4/82

1981

THE UNITED STATES COURTS ★ a pictorial summary

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ACQUISITIONS

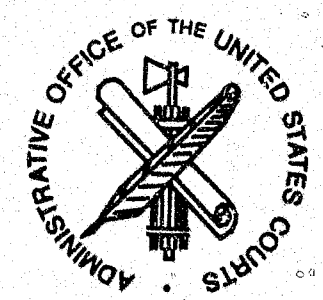
# THE UNITED STATES COURTS

*a  
pictorial  
summary* | **1981**

FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH  
PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30

*Published by the  
Administrative Office of  
the United States Courts*

WILLIAM E. FOLEY, DIRECTOR



U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS  
WORKLOAD FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1981**

September 1981

TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES, CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES:

It is my pleasure to present this pictorial summary of the activity of the Federal judiciary for the twelve month period ended June 30, 1981.

### INTRODUCTION

The Director of the Administrative Office provides this pictorial summary at each fall meeting of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Because the annual report is lengthy and detailed, this summary of the workload during the twelve month period ended June 30, 1981, is also provided.

### U.S. COURTS OF APPEALS

The number of appeals filed in 1981 increased 13.6 percent over the 23,200 appeals filed last year and 58.3 percent over appeals filed in 1975. Compared to 1980, a total of 4,179 additional terminations were reported this year. Despite increased terminations, there was a 6.4 percent rise in appeals pending on June 30, 1981.

A summary of the appellate court workload follows:

U.S. Courts of Appeals	1975	1980	1981	Percent Change 1981 over	
				1975	1980
Cases Filed .....	16,658	23,200	26,362	58.3	13.6
Cases Terminated.....	16,000	20,887	25,066	56.7	20.0
Cases Pending June 30 .....	12,128	20,252	21,548	77.7	6.4

### U.S. DISTRICT COURTS

#### Civil Litigation

During 1981, civil filings in U.S. district courts rose 7.0 percent over last year and 53.9 percent over filings in 1975. Increases in diversity of citizenship and Federal question cases partially account for this rise. Cases involving prisoners' civil rights and employment civil rights increased substantially over last year as did student loans and veterans' benefits involving recovery of overpayments and enforcement of judgments. Land condemnation filings, however, dropped from 4,674 in 1980 to 2,179 in 1981, primarily because cases related to the Big Cypress Project in Southern Florida are no longer being filed.

Although civil case terminations rose 10.9 percent over last year to 177,975, terminations were outdistanced by filings, resulting in a modest 1.4 percent increase in cases pending on June 30. A summary of the civil workload in the district courts follows:

U.S. District Courts Civil Litigation	1975	1980	1981	Percent Change 1981 over	
				1975	1980
Cases Filed .....	117,320	168,789	180,576	53.9	7.0
Cases Terminated .....	104,783	160,481	177,975	69.9	10.9
Cases Pending June 30 .....	119,767	186,113	188,714	57.6	1.4

### Criminal Prosecutions

For the first time since 1977, criminal filings increased. During the twelve month period ended June 30, 1981, a total of 2,366 additional cases were reported over the 28,921 cases filed in 1980. The 8.2 percent increase was due, in part, to a rising number of prosecutions involving weapons and firearms, embezzlements, drug related offenses and robberies.

Criminal case dispositions rose by a modest 3.2 percent, 924 more than 1980's case dispositions. The 15,850 cases pending on June 30, 1981, were the highest reported since 1977.

U.S. District Courts Criminal Prosecutions	1975	1980	1981	Percent Change 1981 over	
				1975	1980
Cases Filed .....	43,282	28,921	31,287	-27.7	8.2
Cases Terminated .....	43,515	29,297	30,221	-30.6	3.2
Cases Pending June 30 .....	22,411	14,759	15,850	-29.3	7.4
Defendants Filed .....	58,520	39,115	42,437	-27.5	8.5
Defendants Terminated .....	58,911	39,382	41,017	-30.4	4.2
Defendants Pending June 30 .....	31,874	21,150	22,570	-29.2	6.7

### Grand Jury

Grand juror activity continued to increase in 1981. There were 738 grand juries in existence at some point during the year, 5.6 percent more than in 1980 and 29.5 percent more than in 1975. A total of 10,997 grand jury sessions were convened, 659 more sessions than reported last year and 3,151 more than those reported in 1975, the first year grand jury data was collected. The number of jurors in session and hours in session also increased by 6.4 percent and 7.6 percent, respectively.

U.S. District Courts Grand Jurors and Juries	1975	1980	1981	Percent Change 1981 over	
				1975	1980
Total number of:					
Grand Juries .....	570	699	738	29.5	5.6
Sessions Convened .....	7,846	10,338	10,997	40.2	6.4
Jurors in Session .....	156,167	206,627	219,860	40.8	6.4
Hours in Session .....	41,421	54,163	58,278	40.7	7.6

### Petit Jury

For the second consecutive year, there was an increase in the number of prospective jurors called for service. The total number of available jurors rose from 605,547 in 1980 to 648,929 in 1981. Of those jurors, 396,746 (61.1 percent) were selected for or serving on a jury trial. This percentage is the highest recorded in the 11 years that juror statistics have been collected. Jurors challenged by court or counsel remained at approximately 15 percent, no significant change from 1980. The percentage of jurors not selected, serving, or challenged dropped slightly to 23.4 percent this year.

In 1981, civil jury trial days climbed 19.1 percent over 1980 and criminal jury trial days rose 1.8 percent.

The Juror Usage Index (J.U.I.) is one way of measuring efficient petit juror usage. It is calculated by dividing the total number of available jurors by the total number of jury trial days. The result represents the average number of jurors on hand for each jury trial day. The 1981 J.U.I. of 18.23 is the lowest figure ever recorded and indicates that approximately 18 jurors were called for every jury trial day.

The petit juror statistics are summarized in the following table:

U.S. District Courts Petit Jurors	1975	1979	1980	1981
Juror Usage Index .....	19.32	19.60	18.83	18.23
Total Available Jurors .....	546,627	565,617	605,547	648,929
Percent Selected or Serving .....	60.1	59.2	60.9	61.1
Percent Challenged .....	16.1	16.2	15.2	15.4
Percent Not Selected, Serving or Challenged .....	23.8	24.6	23.9	23.4

### U.S. Magistrates

The number of matters handled by magistrates increased for the first time since 1978, as magistrates provided more and more assistance to district courts. Magistrates handled 312,944 matters this year, compared to 283,217 in 1980. Time consuming "additional duties" under Title 28 U.S.C., Sections 636(b) and (c) were a major cause of the 10.5 percent increase in total matters handled by magistrates. Criminal duties increased 20.2 percent over 1980, while civil duties increased 17.0 percent. The magistrate activity summary follows:

U.S. Magistrate Activity	1975	1980	1981	Percent Change 1981 over	
				1975	1980
Total Matters Handled .....	255,061	283,217	312,944	22.7	10.5
Trial Jurisdiction Cases .....	84,505	90,402	95,152	12.6	5.3
Preliminary Proceedings in Criminal Cases .....	103,326	65,597	67,624	-34.6	3.1
Additional Duties					
Criminal .....	30,464	40,135	48,249	58.4	20.2
Civil .....	36,766	87,083	101,919	177.2	17.0

## Federal Probation System

During the twelve month period ended June 30, 1981, a total of 36,723 persons were received for supervision by the Federal probation system, a 5.9 percent decline from the 39,040 persons received during 1980 and an 18.9 percent drop from 1975. Persons removed from supervision increased 3.8 percent to 43,550 (including transfers). The combination of persons received and removed resulted in an 8.4 percent reduction in the number of persons under supervision on June 30, 1981, the third consecutive decline. Only U.S. magistrate probation supervision cases and military parole supervision cases increased during 1981.

A total of 115,079 investigative reports were prepared by probation offices during 1981. The 24,957 presentence investigations represented 21.7 percent of all investigative reports during 1981, a 4.2 percent increase over last year. The 23,066 parole supervision reports account for 20.0 percent of all investigative reports, and collateral investigations for another district account for 16.1 percent of all reports. Bail investigations rose to 1,639, a 78.0 percent increase over last year. Collateral bail investigations climbed 37.3 percent over last year, and collateral investigations for another district rose 9.9 percent.

A summary of the probation workload follows:

Federal Probation System	1975	1980	1981	Percent Change 1981 over	
				1975	1980
Persons Received* . . . . .	45,291	39,040	36,723	-18.9	-5.9
Persons Removed . . . . .	40,645	41,964	43,550	7.1	3.8
Persons Under Supervision on June 30 . . . . .	64,261	64,450	59,016	-8.2	-8.4
Investigative Reports . . . . .	91,863	111,678	115,079	25.3	3.0

\* Includes transfers.

## Criminal Justice Act

The Criminal Justice Act of 1964 provides court-appointed counsel for people who are financially unable to obtain legal representation in the Federal courts. The charts on the Act are based partly on vouchers supplied by private panel attorneys. Since some vouchers are still outstanding the totals for 1980 and 1981 are estimates.

During 1981, the average payment to a private panel attorney in the U.S. courts of appeals was approximately \$1,160, a slight increase of 3.6 percent over the \$1,120 average in 1980. Payments for district court case representations rose to an estimated \$470 per representation.

In 1981, approximately 2,524 persons were represented under the Criminal Justice Act in the courts of appeals. Of that total, 824 (32.6 percent) were represented by Federal public and community defenders. In the district courts, of the estimated 41,340 persons represented, 22,633 (54.7 percent) were represented by Federal public and community defenders.

## U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURTS

Since the Bankruptcy Reform Act (P.L. 95-598) was implemented on October 1, 1979, 1981 is the first full statistical year under the revised bankruptcy code.

The record number of bankruptcies filed during 1981 partially reflects current economic conditions nationwide. Bankruptcy courts reported a total of 519,063 estates filed, including 911 reopened estates.

The 321,749 bankruptcy terminations this year is also a record high. This total includes 66,149 bankruptcies filed under the Bankruptcy Act and 255,600 estates filed under the new bankruptcy code. The substantial number of terminations, however, did not offset the high level of filings, resulting in a pending caseload of 617,896 estates in 1981.

The proportion of business bankruptcies filed to total estates filed during 1981 has not changed significantly over the past several years. Only 12.7 percent of the total filings were business bankruptcies. The actual number of business bankruptcies, however, has risen along with the total number of bankruptcy filings.

## THE JUDICIAL DOLLAR

A total of \$633,790,000 was budgeted for fiscal year 1981. As in prior years, the largest proportion of each judicial dollar was spent on salaries for supporting personnel (25 percent), followed by space and facilities (17 percent).

## PERSONNEL IN THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY

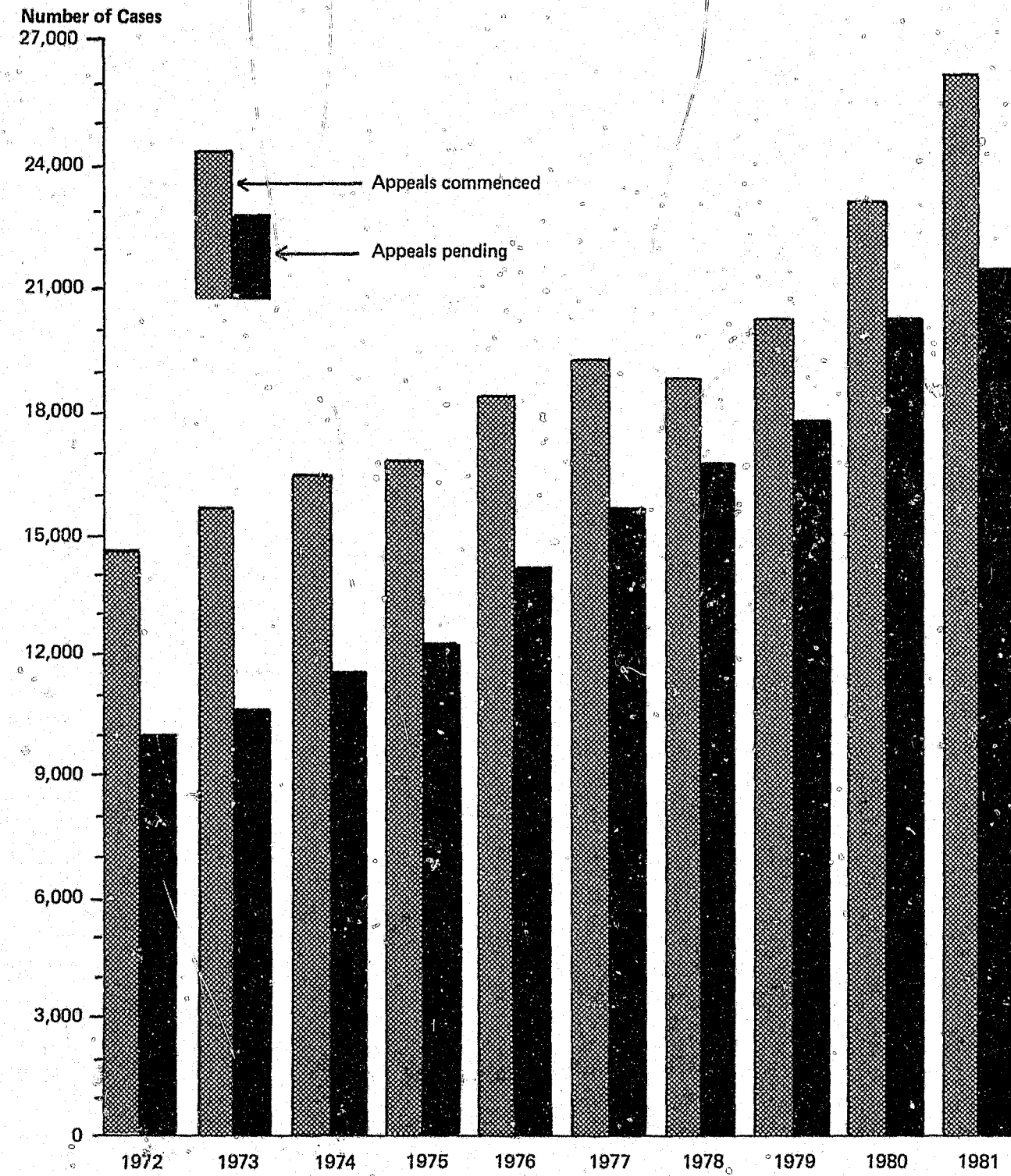
Despite substantial increases in the overall workload of the courts of appeals and district courts, the total number of personnel in the Federal judiciary increased by only 1.8 percent during 1981. The 14,011 employees in 1980 rose to 14,261 employees in 1981.

Respectfully submitted,

*William E. Foley*  
William E. Foley  
Director

# APPEALS COMMENCED AND PENDING

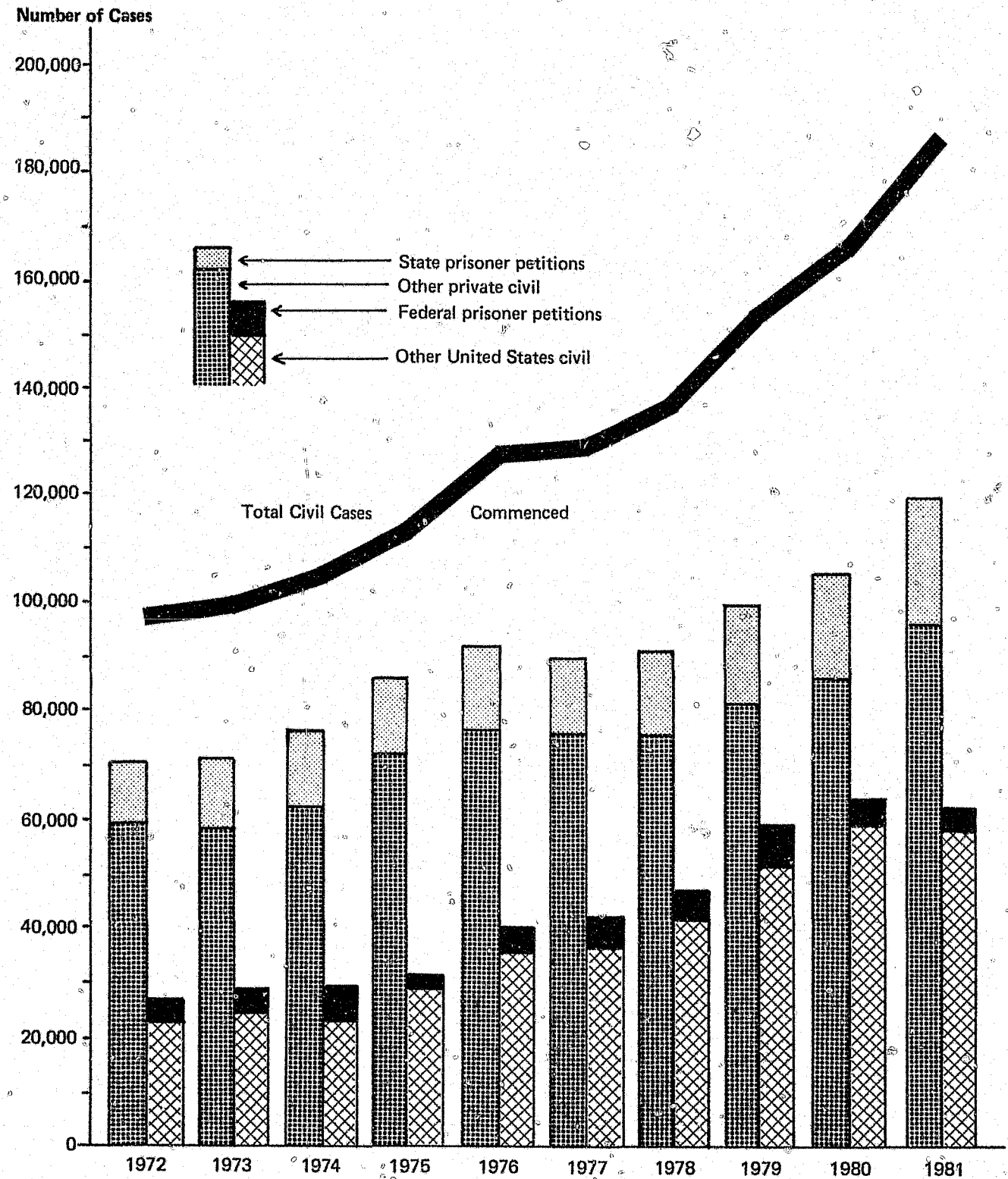
12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1972-1981





CIVIL CASES COMMENCED

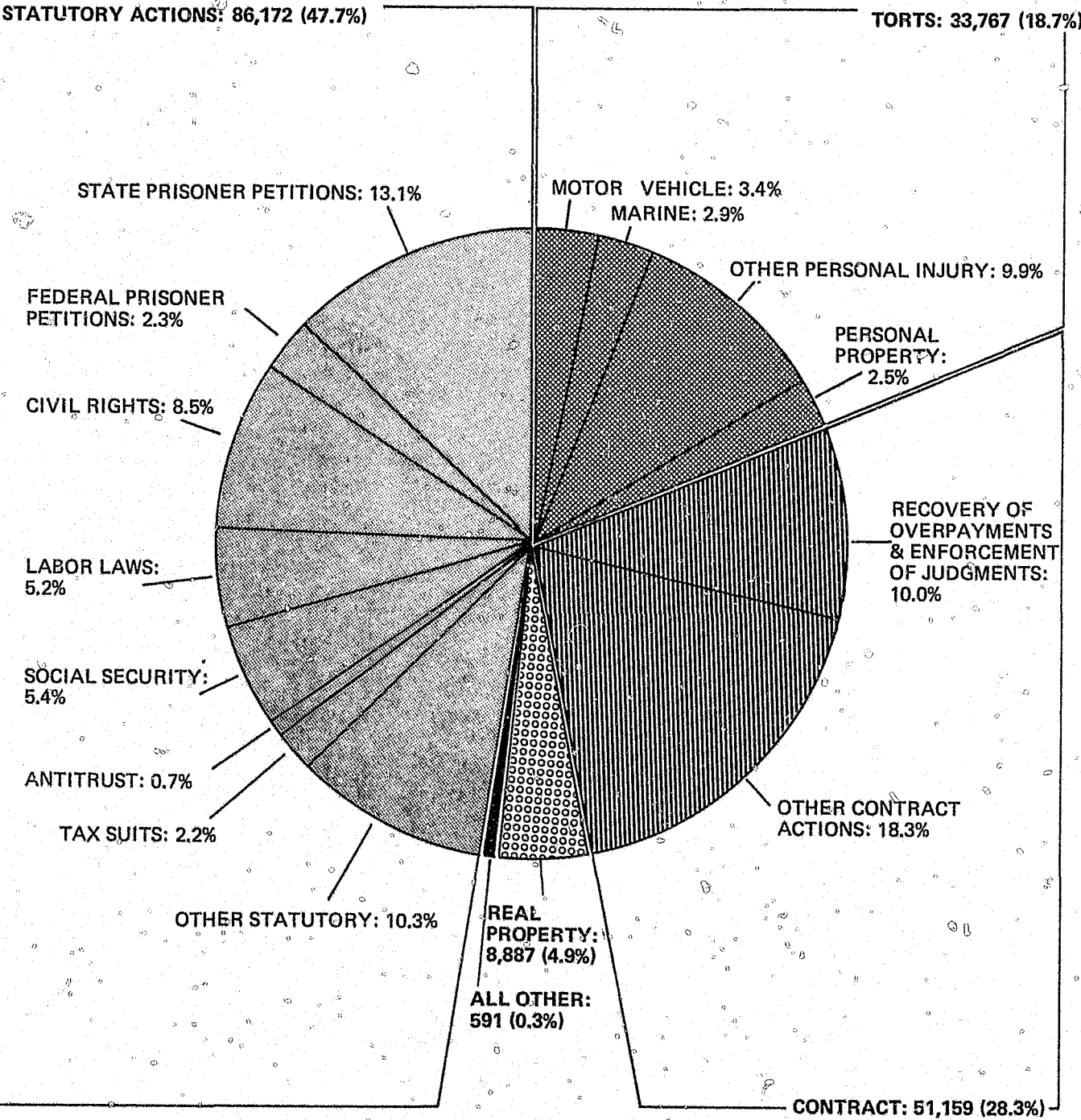
12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1972-1981



TYPE OF CIVIL CASES COMMENCED

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981

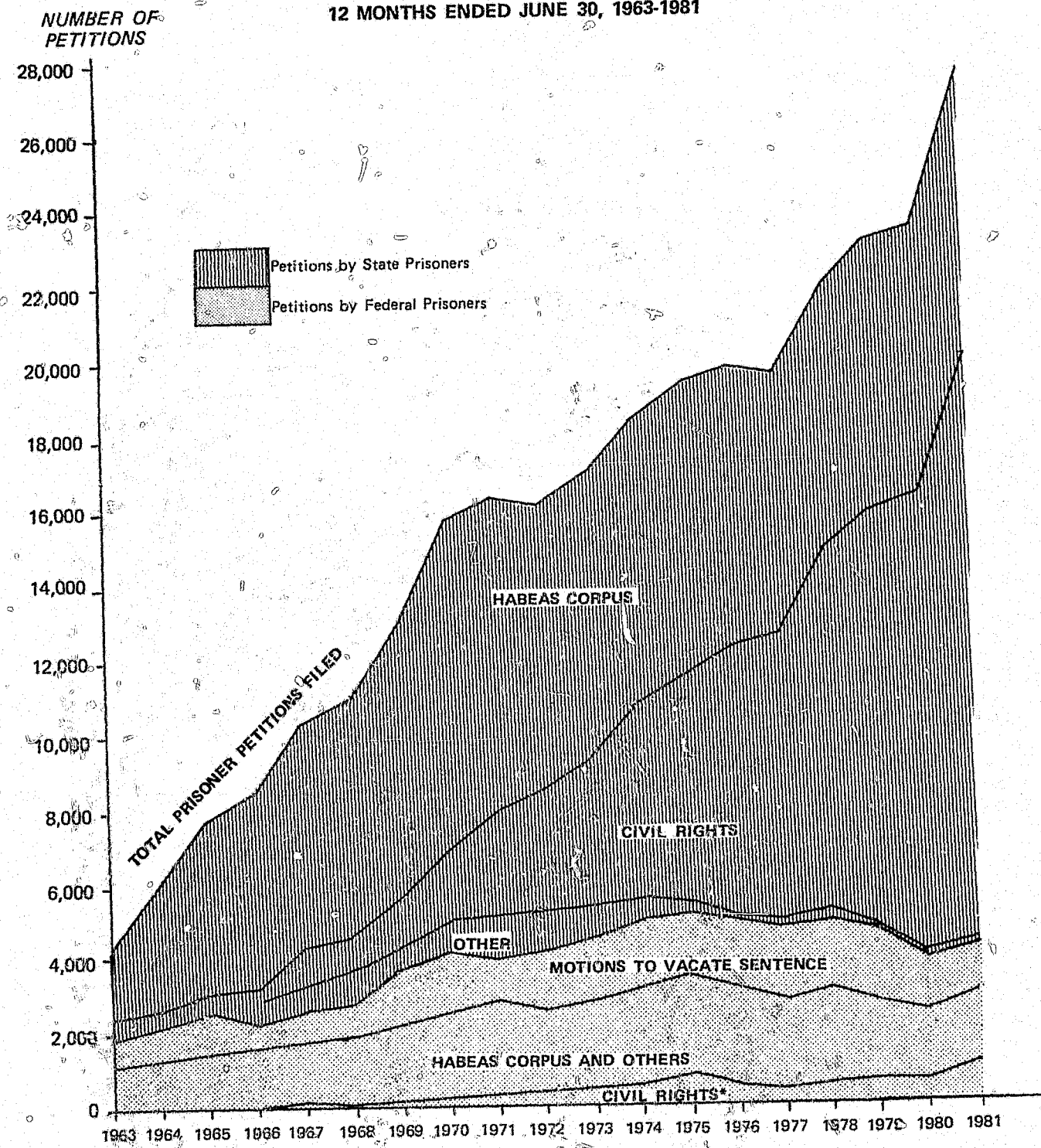
TOTAL CIVIL CASES: 180,576



Does not add to 100.0% because of rounding.

# PETITIONS FILED BY STATE AND FEDERAL PRISONERS

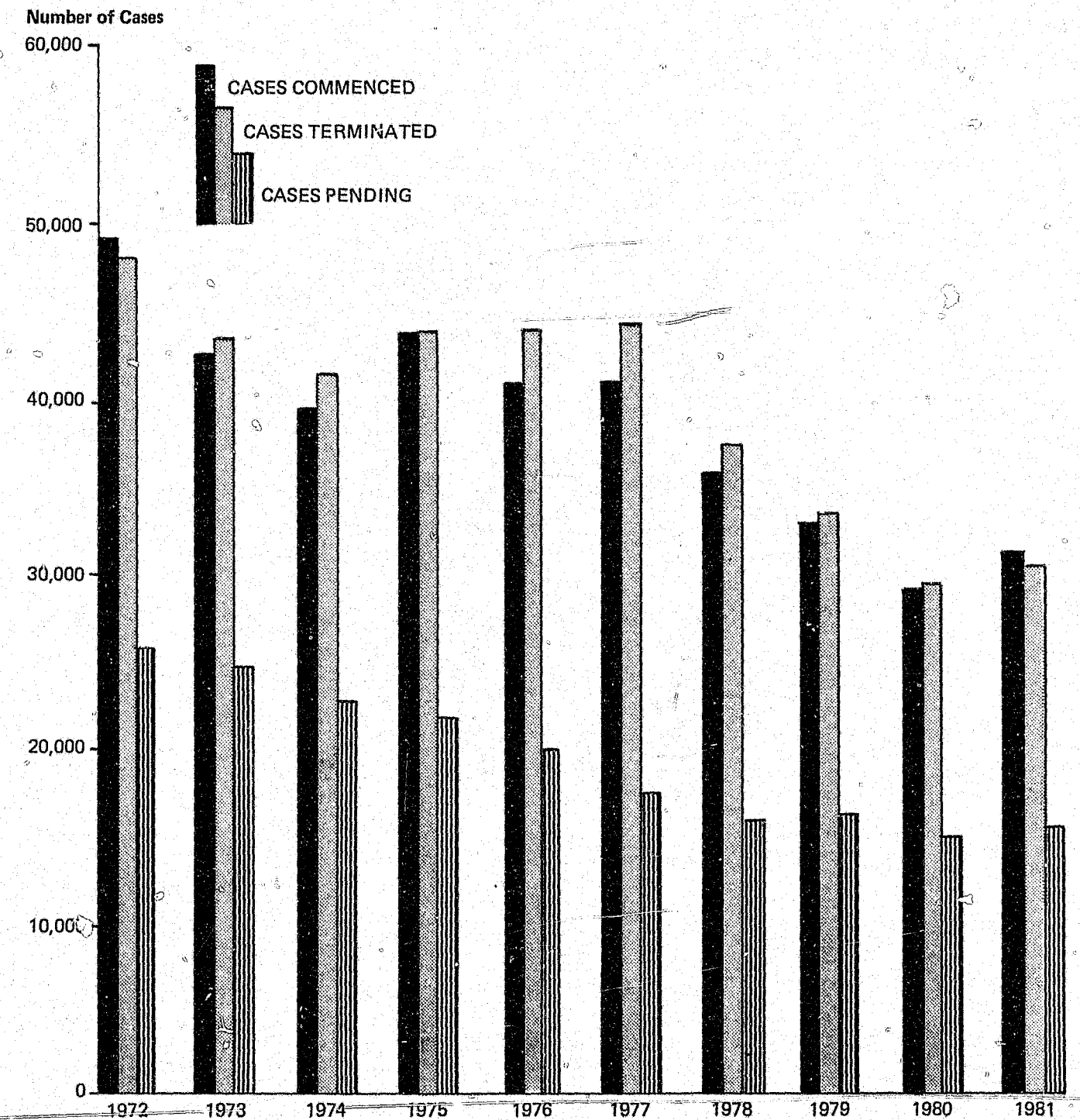
12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1963-1981



\* "Civil Rights" prior to 1966 are included in "Other Prisoner Petitions".

# ALL CRIMINAL CASES COMMENCED, TERMINATED AND PENDING\*

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1972-1981



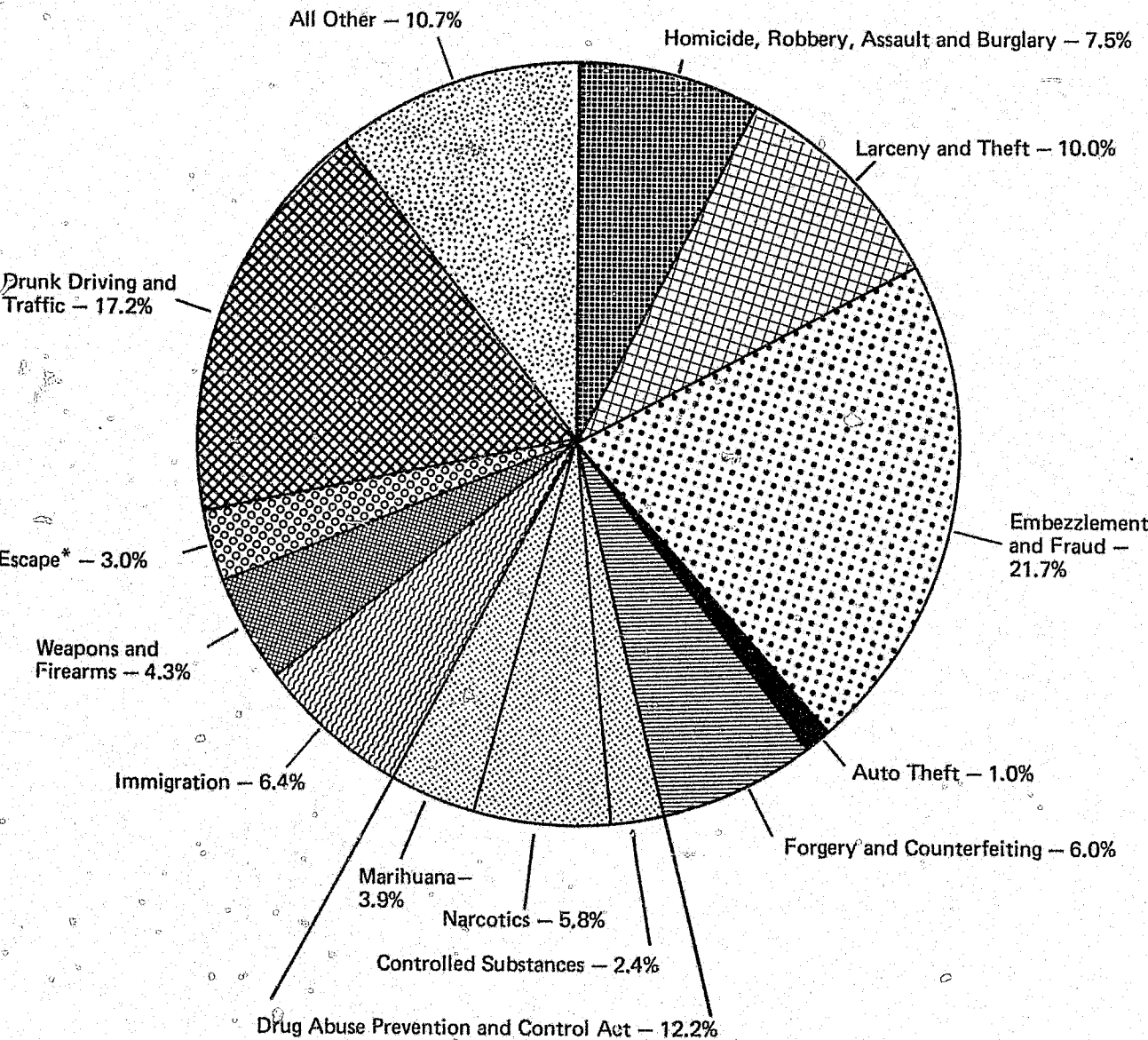
\*Includes transfers.



# ALL CRIMINAL CASES COMMENCED BY OFFENSE

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981

TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES: 30,355

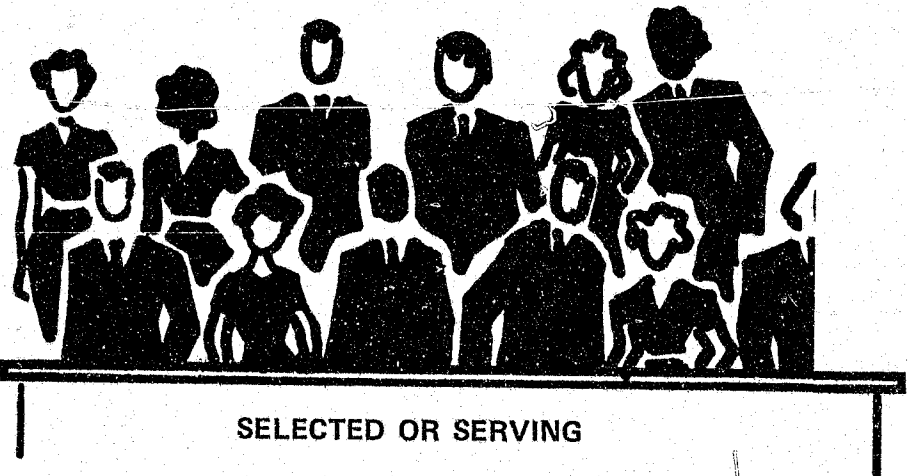


\*Escape from custody, aiding or abetting an escape, failure to appear in court and bail jumping.  
All figures exclude transfers.  
Note: Does not add to 100% due to rounding.

# PETIT JUROR USAGE

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981

NOTE: Eighteen people are pictured because the Juror Usage Index\* in 1981 was 18.23.



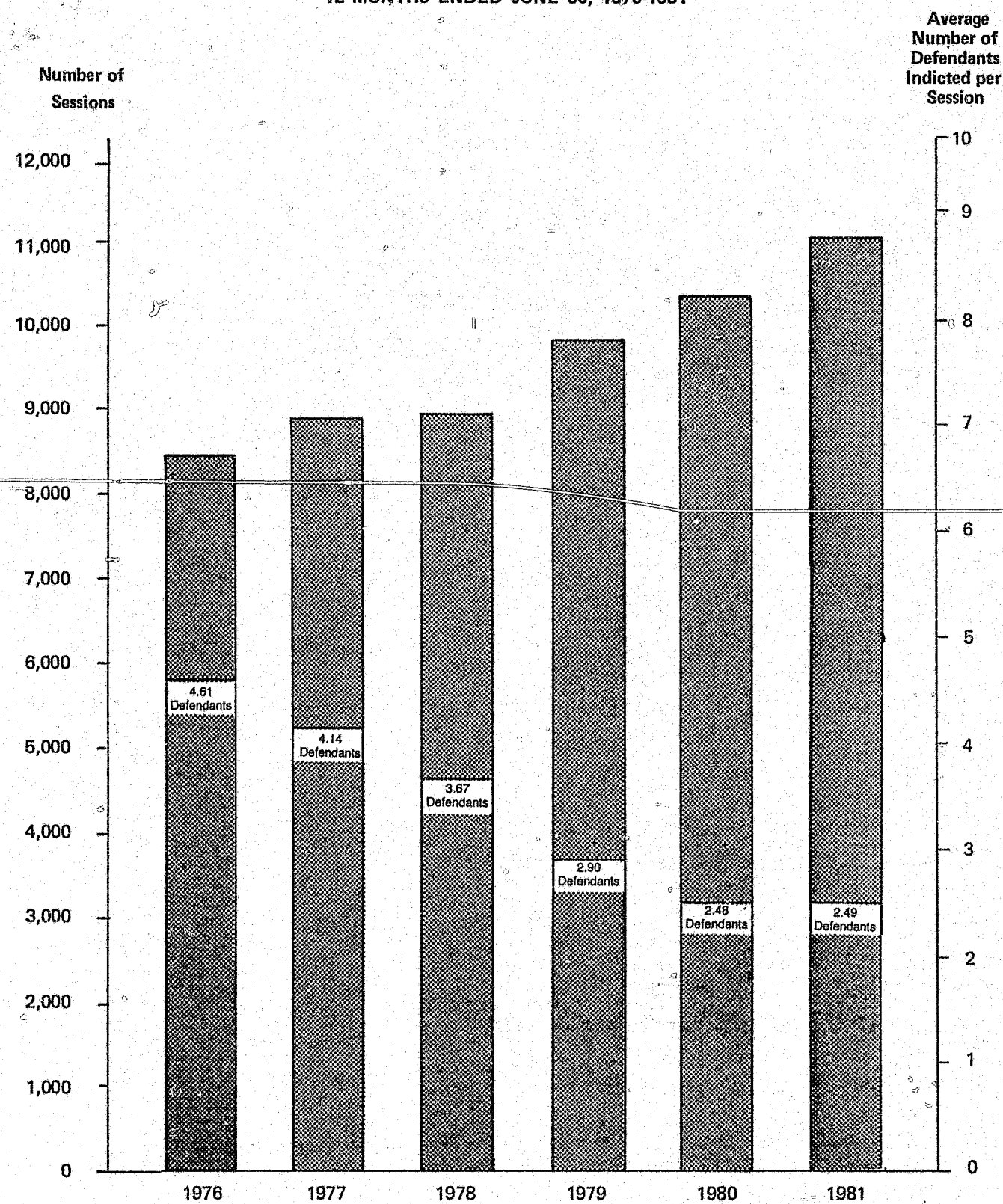
\*The Juror Usage Index is the average number of jurors on hand for each jury trial day and is calculated by dividing the total number of available jurors by the total number of jury trial days.

\*\*Includes those jurors reported in travel status.

Does not add to 100.0% because of rounding.

# GRAND JURY SESSIONS CONVENED AND DEFENDANTS INDICTED

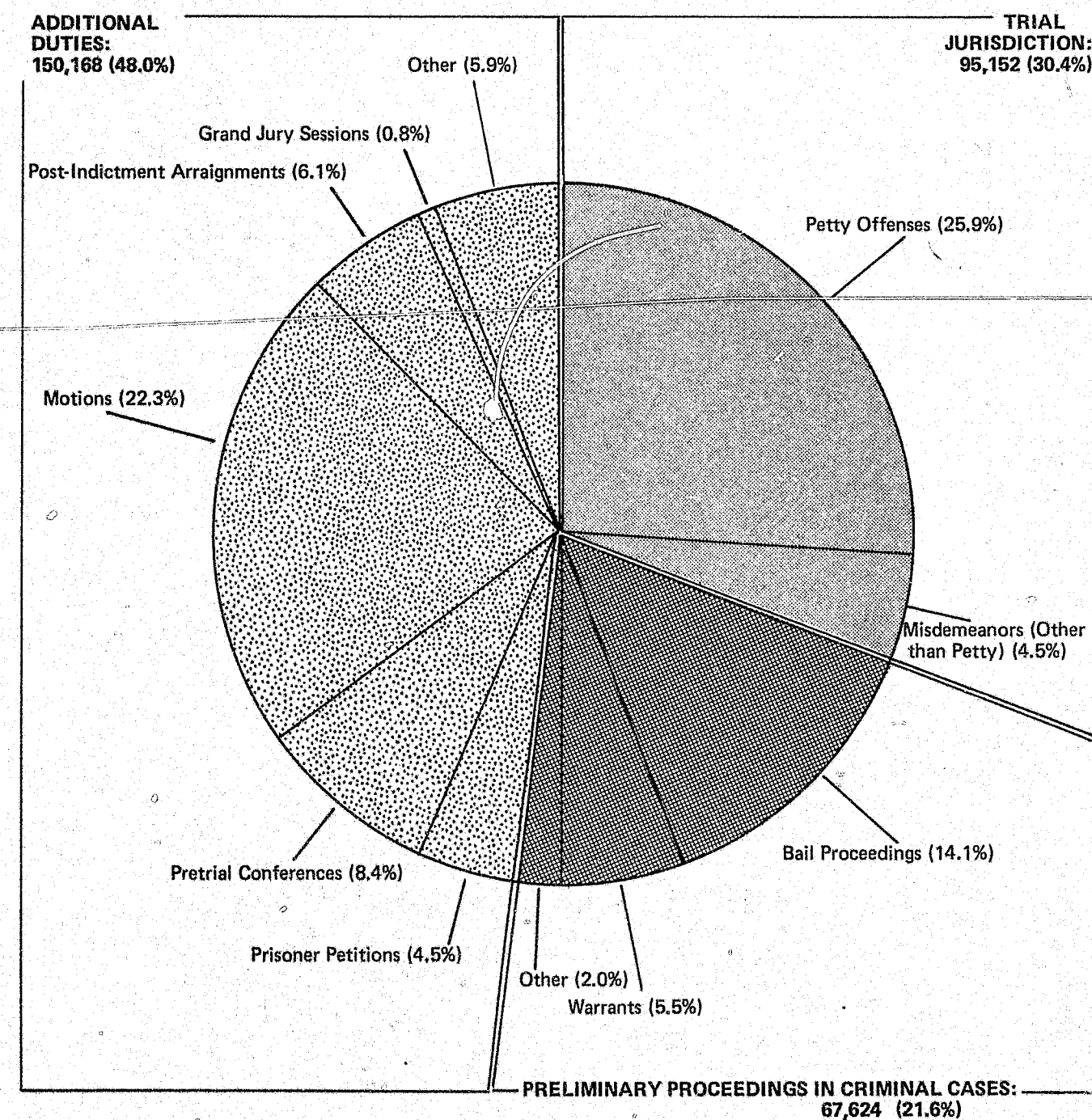
12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1976-1981



# DUTIES PERFORMED BY UNITED STATES MAGISTRATES

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981

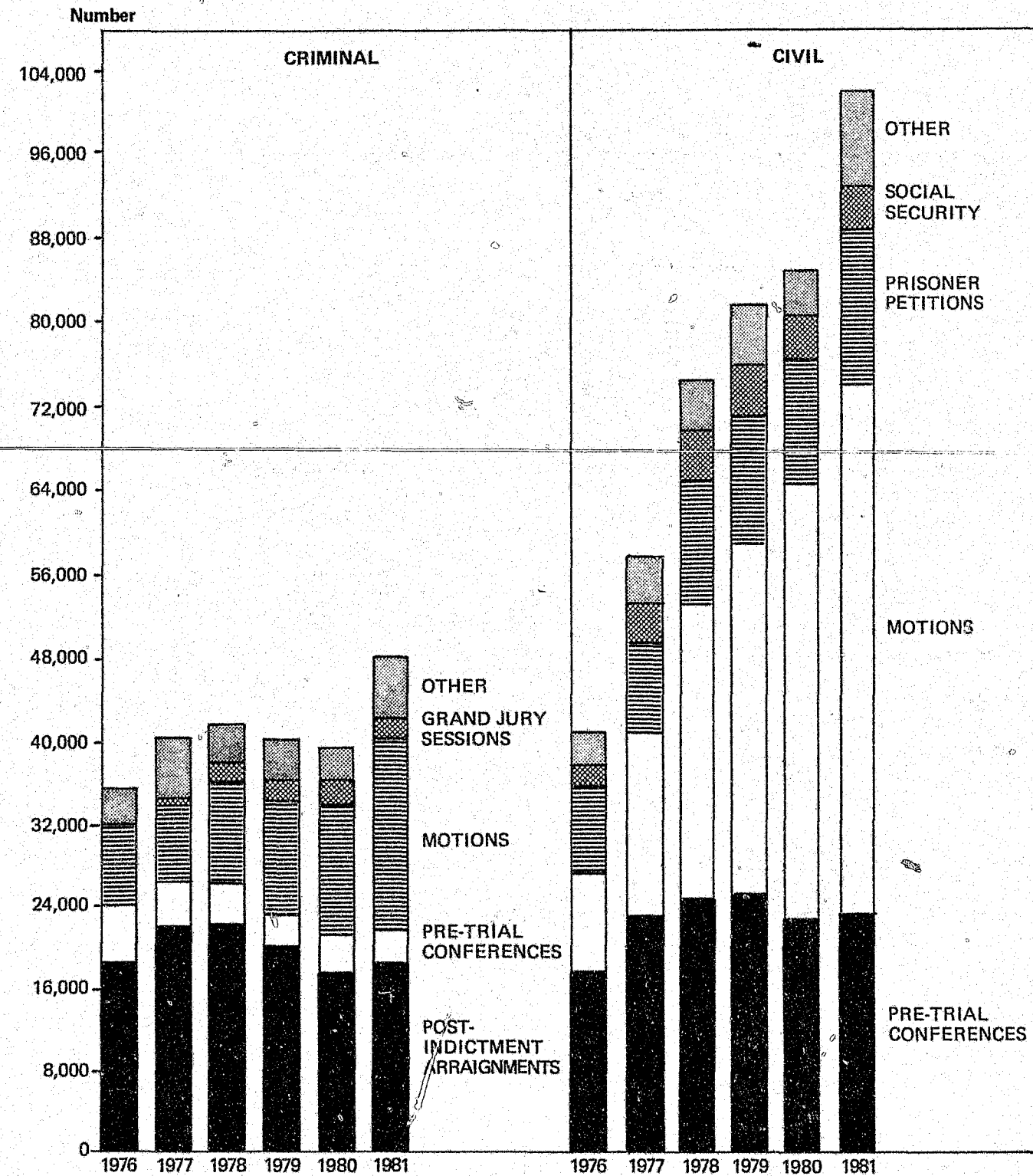
Total (all matters) = 312,944



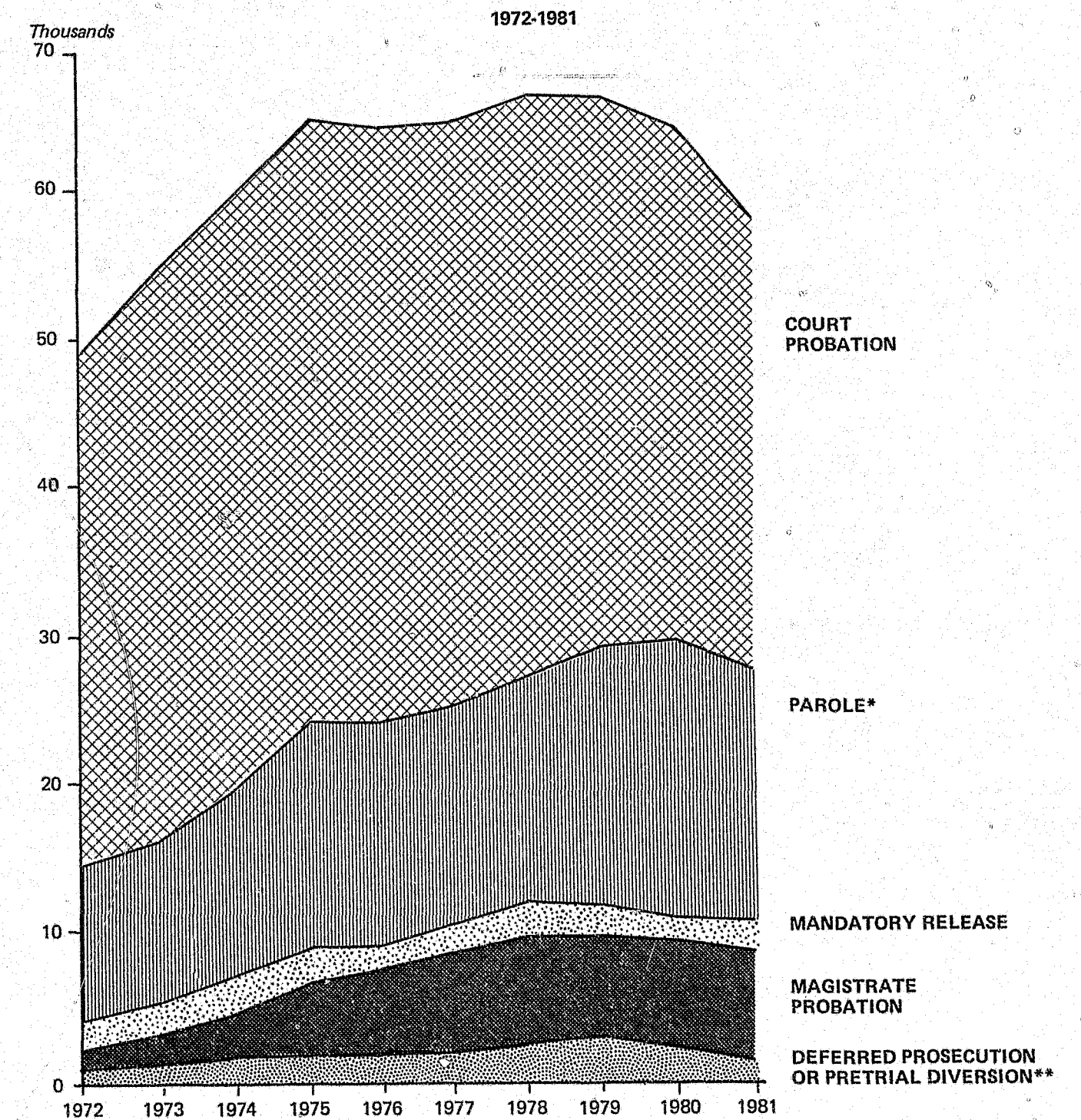


# **"ADDITIONAL DUTIES" PERFORMED BY U.S. MAGISTRATES UNDER 28 U.S.C. 636(b)**

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1976-1981



# **PERSONS UNDER SUPERVISION OF THE FEDERAL PROBATION SYSTEM ON JUNE 30 BY TYPE OF SUPERVISION**



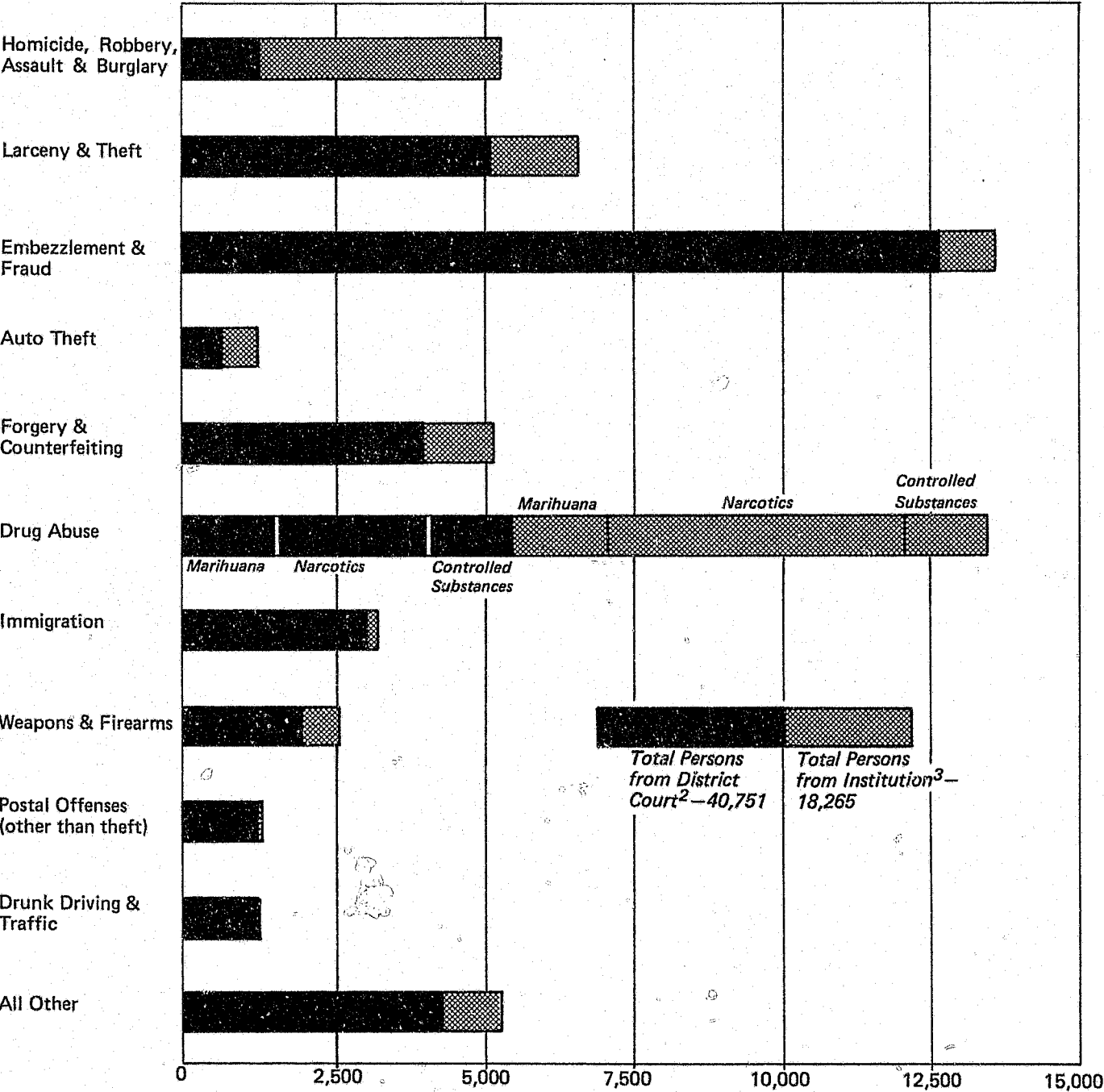
\*Includes Military Parole and Special Parole.

\*\*Beginning July 1, 1976 Pretrial Diversion replaced Deferred Prosecution.



PERSONS UNDER SUPERVISION  
OF THE FEDERAL PROBATION SYSTEM  
BY OFFENSE<sup>1</sup>

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981



<sup>1</sup> Classified by most serious offense.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons serving probation terms imposed by a U.S. district court judge or a U.S. magistrate and persons serving under conditions of pretrial diversion.

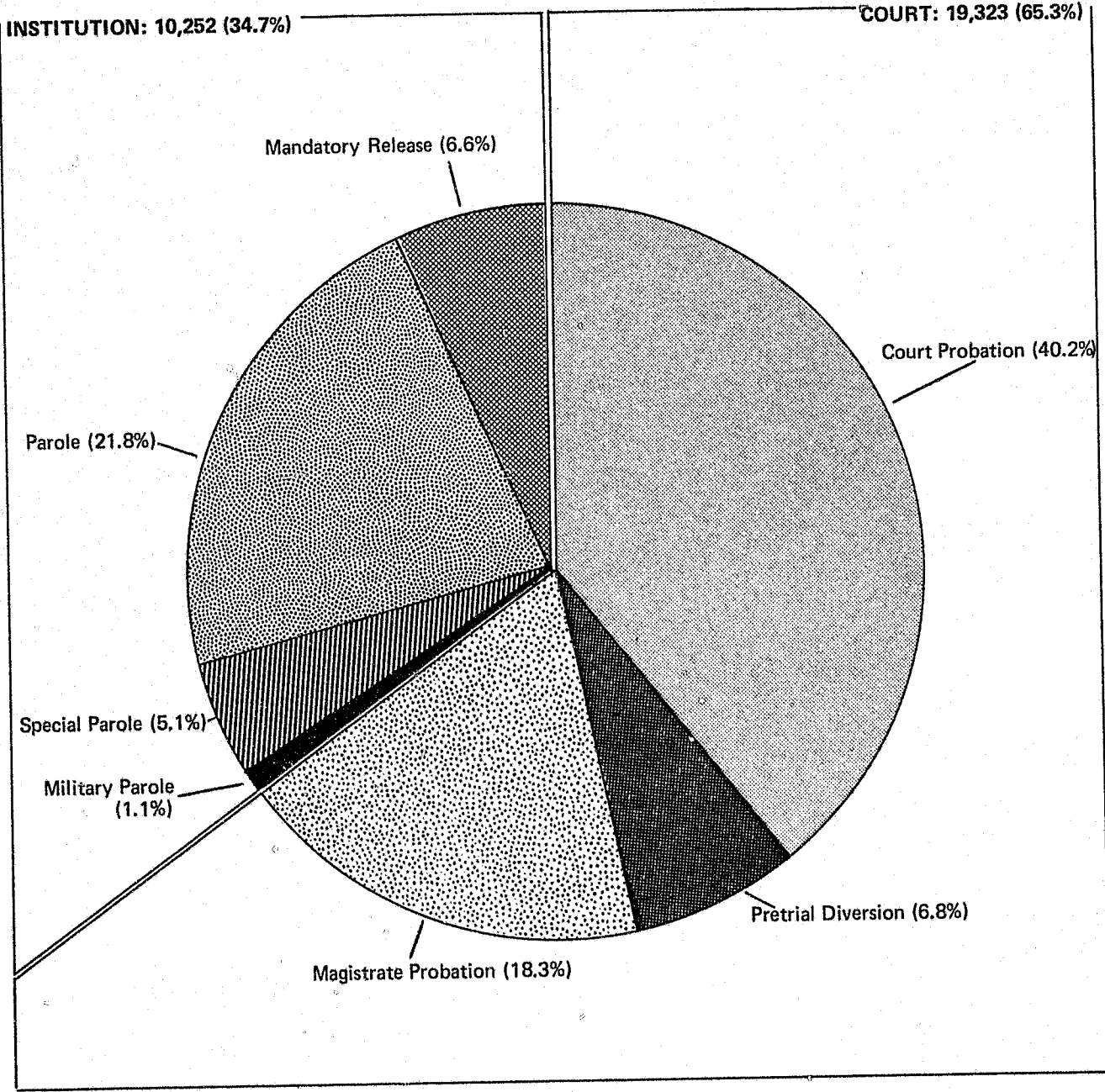
<sup>3</sup> Includes persons serving on parole, military parole, mandatory release and special parole.

TYPE OF SUPERVISION FOR PERSONS RECEIVED  
BY THE FEDERAL PROBATION SYSTEM

(EXCLUSIVE OF TRANSFERS)

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981

TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS RECEIVED: 29,575

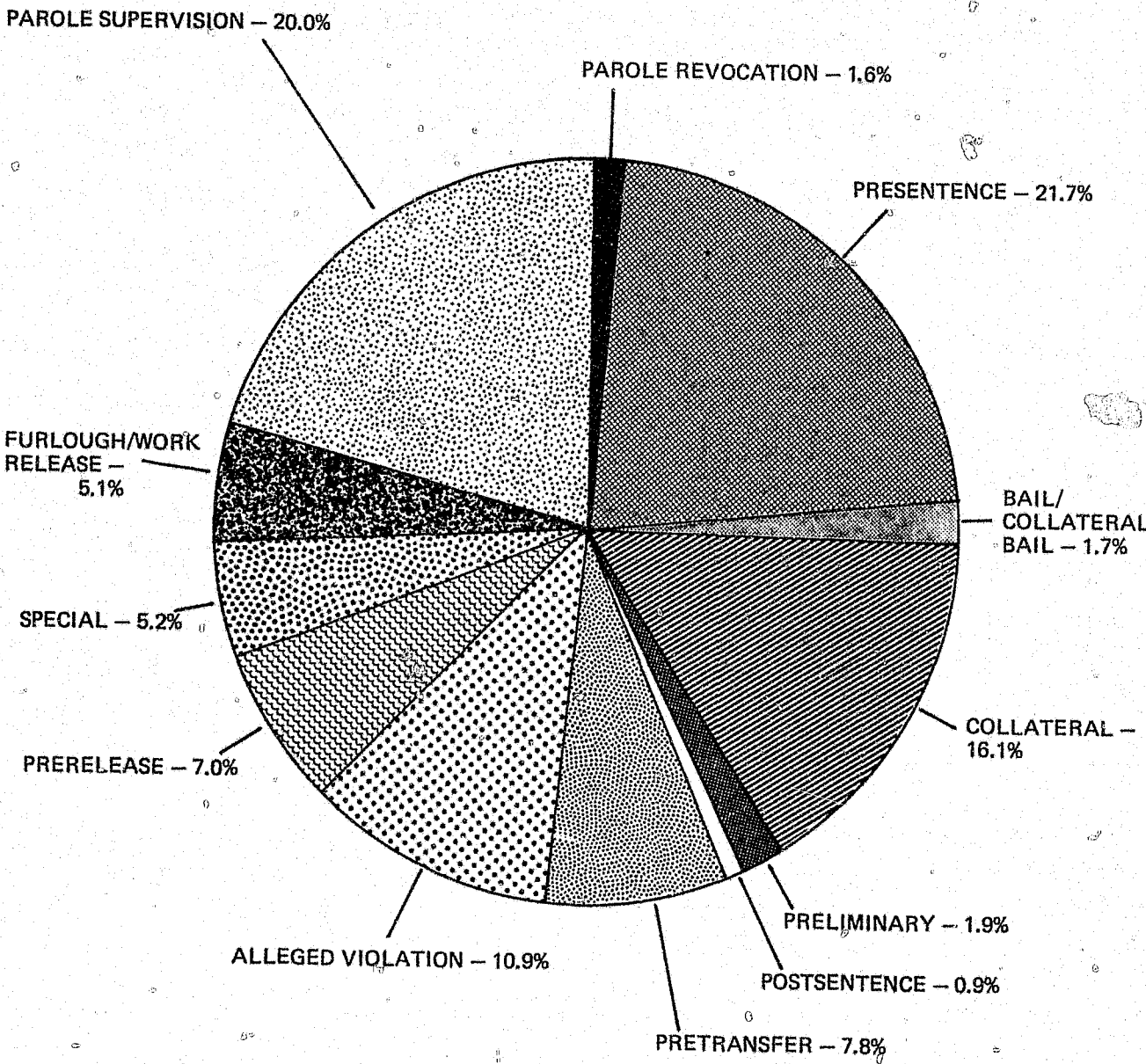


Note: Does not add to 100% due to rounding.

# INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS BY PROBATION OFFICERS

12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1981

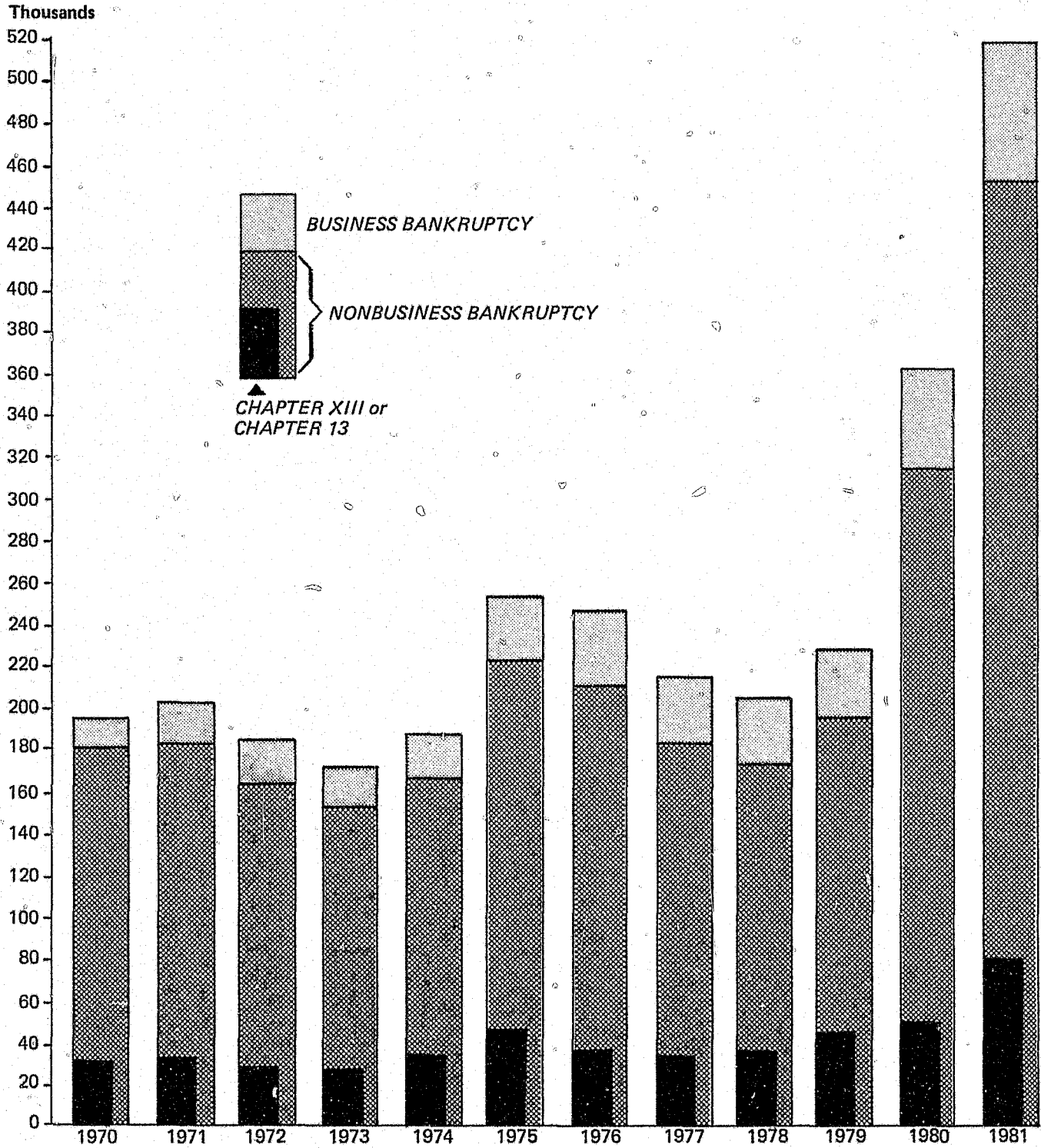
TOTAL NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS: 115,079



Note: Does not add to 100.0% because of rounding.

# BANKRUPTCY ESTATES COMMENCED

BUSINESS AND NONBUSINESS (INCL. CHAPTER 13\*\*)  
YEARS 1970-1981

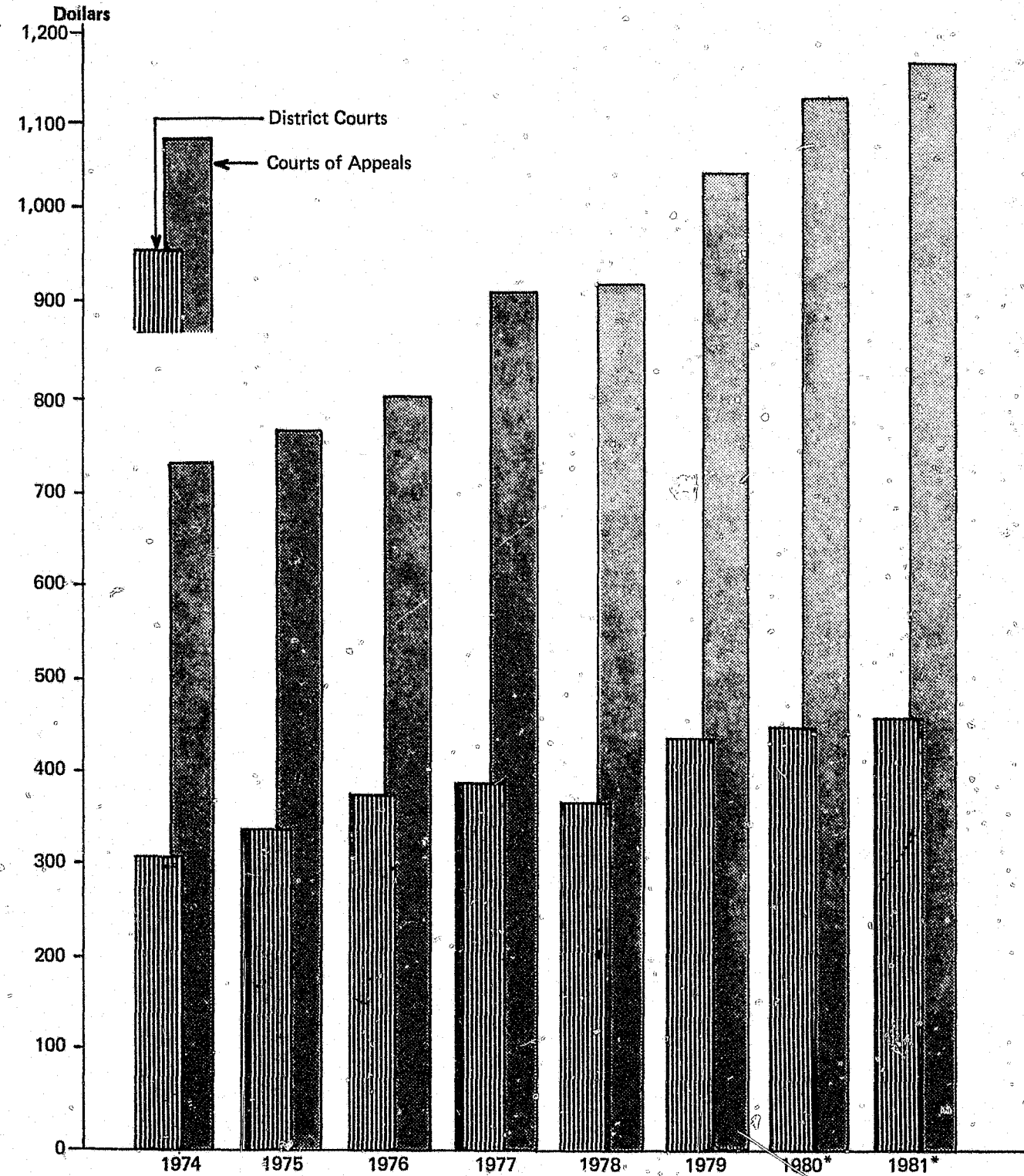


\*\*Chapter 13 shows nonbusiness only in 1980 and 1981. Prior to 1980, Chapter XIII filings are shown.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT

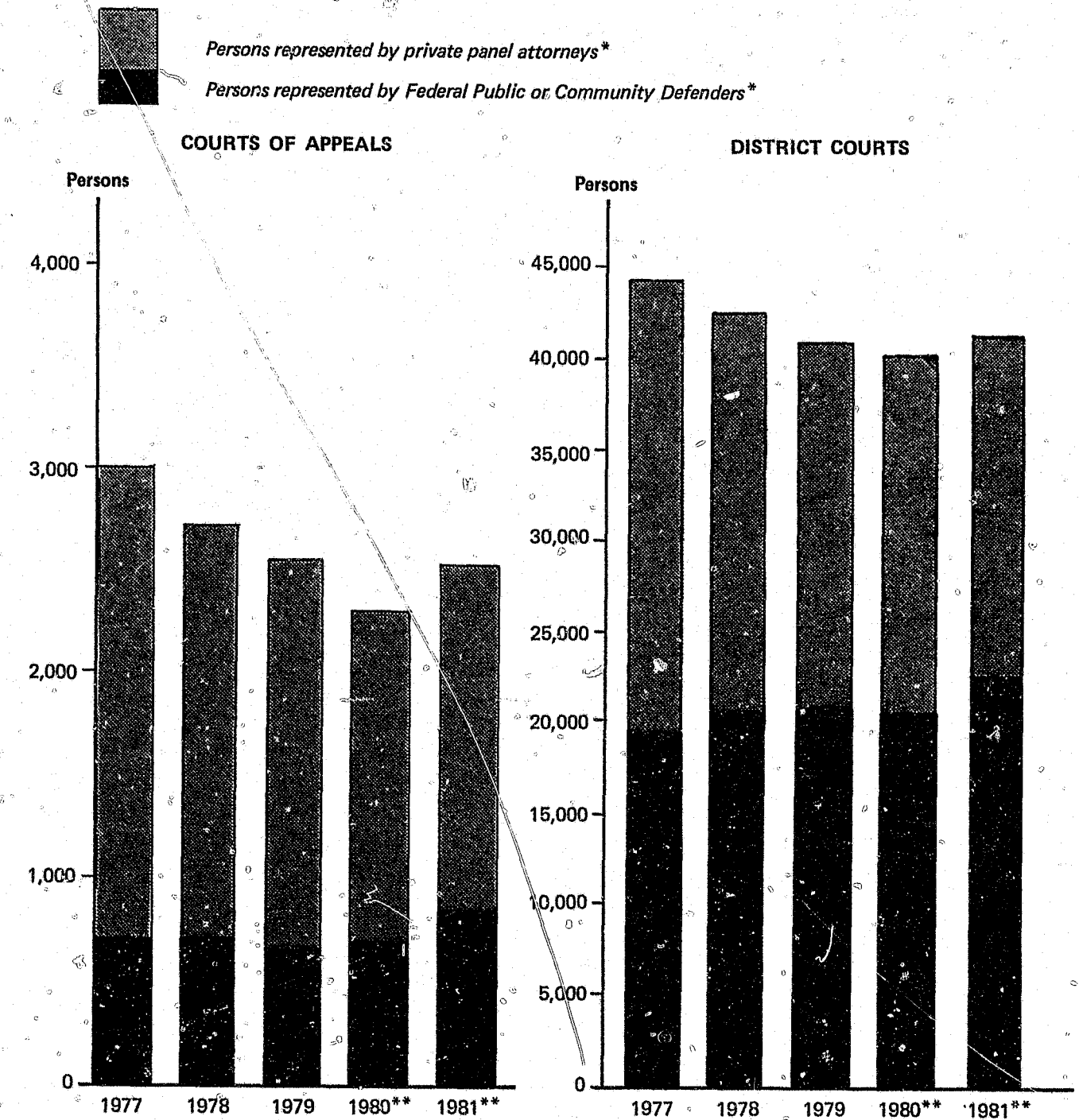
12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1974-1981

AVERAGE PAYMENT TO PRIVATE PANEL COUNSEL. (Excluding D.C. Court of Appeals and the Superior Court for the District of Columbia)



\*Estimated

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT

NUMBER OF PERSONS REPRESENTED DURING  
TWELVE MONTH PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 1977 THROUGH 1981

\*Community Defender organization at San Diego, California, which had operated on a fee basis is included with private panel attorneys through 1976 and with community defenders starting in 1977.

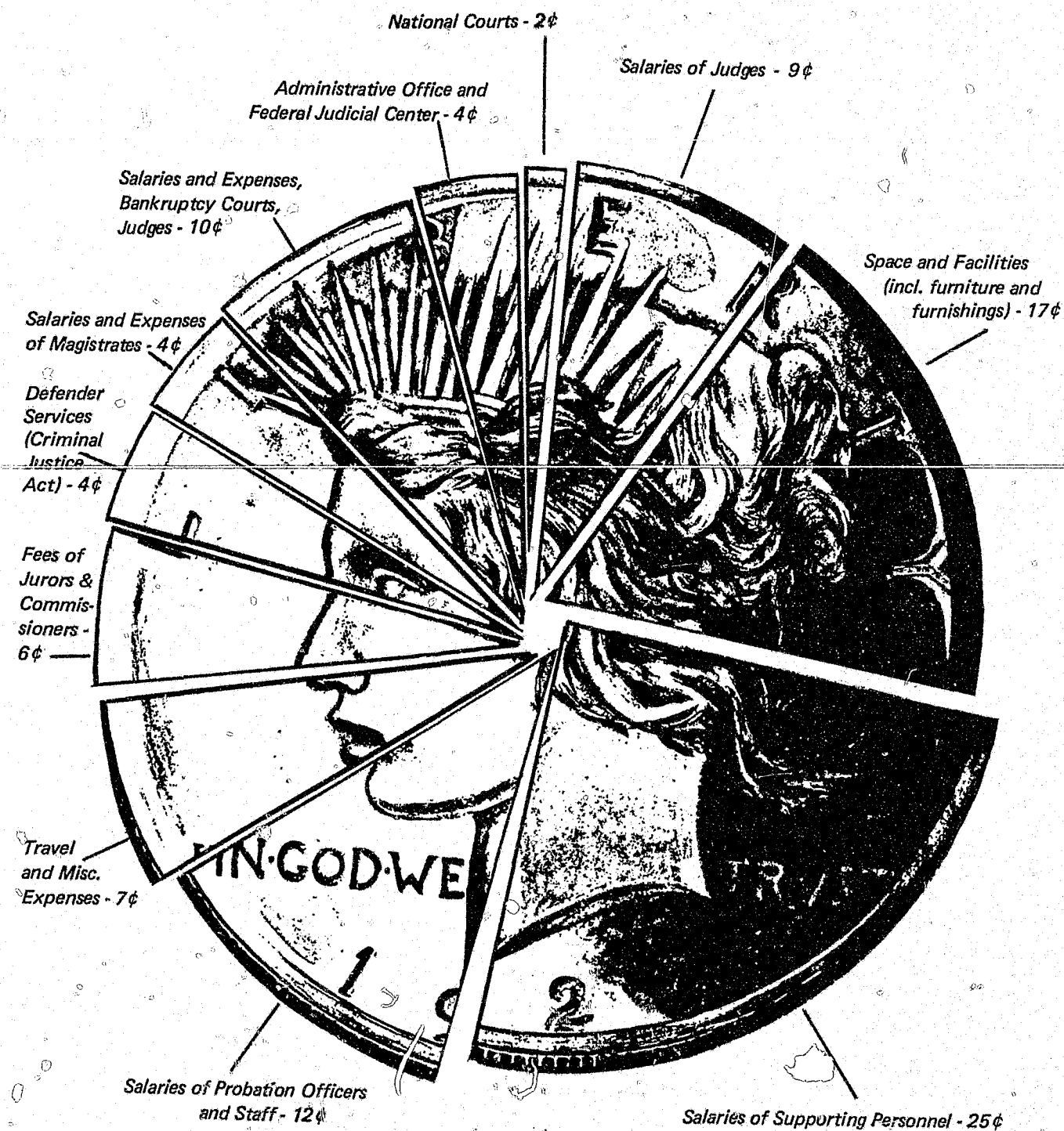
\*\*Estimated.



## THE JUDICIAL DOLLAR

FISCAL YEAR: 1981

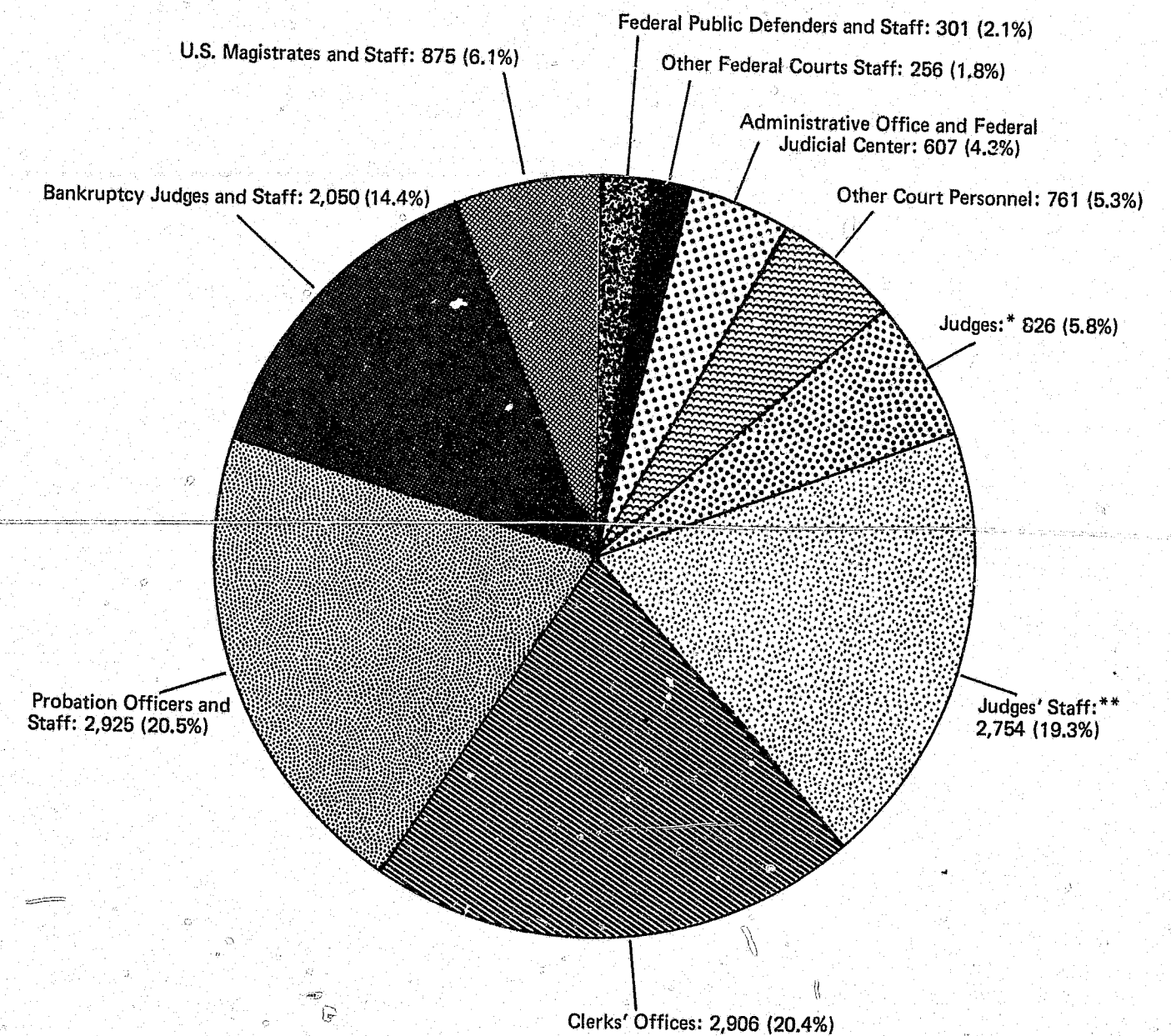
TOTAL BUDGET: \$633,790,000



## PERSONNEL IN THE U.S. JUDICIARY

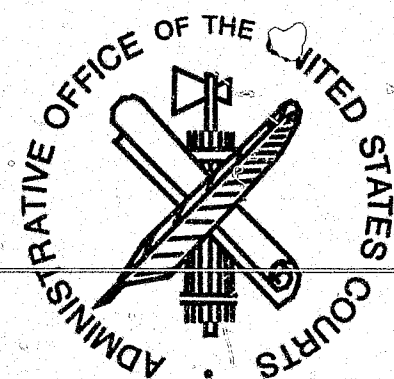
JUNE 30, 1981

TOTAL PERSONNEL: 14,261



\*Circuit, District and Other Federal Court Judges.

\*\*Secretaries, Law Clerks, and Criers for Circuit and District Judges.



**END**