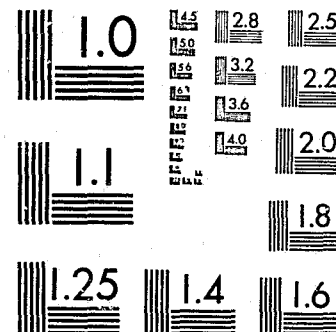


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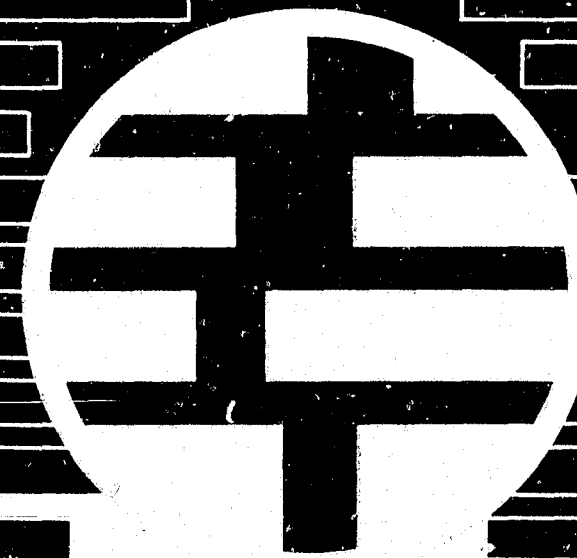
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ASSAULTED OR KILLED: 1972-1982

February 1984

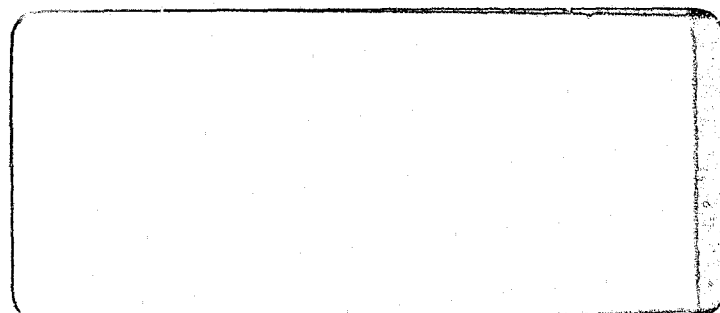


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ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
ASSAULTED OR KILLED: 1972-1982

February 1984

by Larry Dykstra  
Information Resource Center

ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report examines the characteristics of 1) every known assault or battery on law enforcement officers in Illinois from 1972 through 1982, and 2) the death of every officer killed in the line of duty during the 11-year period. Using Illinois Uniform Crime Reports (I-UCR) data, supplemented by other FBI and Illinois Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) information, the report analyzes: the rates at which these assaults and killings of Illinois police officers occurred; where the offenses happened; what activities the officers were engaged in when they were victimized; the times the incidents generally occurred; the weapons used; and other factors surrounding these acts of violence. The report also examines the success police departments in Illinois have had in clearing or solving the cases in which these public servants have been victimized. (Note that the term *assault* is defined broadly here to include both assault and battery incidents; see footnote 1 on page 1 for more details.)

The major findings of the report include:

- From 1972 through 1982, nearly 23,000 Illinois law enforcement officers were assaulted or battered and 50 officers were killed during the conduct of official duties. Of the 50 officers killed, 44 died as a result of felonious, as opposed to accidental, means.

- Both assaults and killings of police officers in the State have declined in recent years from high levels reached during the late 1960's and early 1970's. Assaults against officers decreased by more than 26 percent from 1972 (2,408 incidents) to 1982 (1,761), while assaults against the public increased 80 percent during the same period. Still, police officers in Illinois have an assault rate more than 10 times higher than the comparable rate for Illinois citizens.

- Chicago police officers were assaulted more than 13,500 times during the 11 years, representing nearly 60 percent of the total assaults against officers Statewide. Law enforcement officers in Cook County as a whole accounted for approximately 75 percent (17,068) of the reported assaults on officers throughout the State.

- On the average, one Chicago police officer was assaulted each year for every 10.6 full-time officers in the department. Statewide, the ratio was one assault per year for every 12.3 officers.

- The ratio of officers killed to the number of full-time officers was almost the same in Chicago as in the rest of the State. Chicago police officers accounted for half the total number of officers feloniously killed during the period studied (22 of 44).

• Nearly half (21 of 44) the officers killed in the line of duty from 1972 through 1982 were investigating some type of felony activity, such as a robbery or burglary, at the time of their deaths. Among the other 23, eight officers (18 percent) were killed during traffic stops; seven (16 percent) were killed while answering disturbance calls; five (11 percent) were victims of ambush; two (5 percent) were killed while handling prisoners; and one died while engaged in undercover activities.

• Almost one-third of the officers assaulted during the 11 years were attacked while responding to disturbance calls, while another third were assaulted during a felony investigation. Besides a small number (less than 1 percent) of officers assaulted during ambushes, the remaining assaults occurred almost equally among traffic stops, handling prisoners, and other activities.

• The overwhelming majority (83 percent) of officers assaulted were attacked with personal weapons, such as hands, fists, or feet. Among officers killed, however, more than 90 percent (a total of 40) were slain with firearms (31 of these cases involved handguns). Two officers were killed from knife attacks, and one officer was killed with a club and one with personal weapons.

• More than one offender was involved in 23 of the 42 killings (55 percent) in which the number of offenders could be determined.

• The vast majority of assaults against police officers occurred during the evening, night, and early morning hours. More than 44 percent of the assaults occurred between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m., and almost two-thirds were committed between 6 p.m. and 4 a.m. The fewest assaults occurred during the morning (6 a.m. to noon).

• Nearly 80 percent of the officers assaulted were assisted by fellow officers at the time of the attacks. The remaining 20 percent of the incidents were against officers who were alone.

• Police have been highly successful in clearing cases where officers have been killed or assaulted, with the identity of a suspect determined in more than nine of every 10 cases studied. The clearance rate for police killings during the 11 years was nearly 93 percent (38 of 41 cases, including 10 instances where offenders were killed through police use of deadly force); the clearance rate for assaults against officers was more than 92 percent, with 20,932 of 22,704 cases solved. Comparable clearance rates for killings and assaults of civilians during the same period were 77 percent and 68 percent, respectively.

## INTRODUCTION

During the 11-year period from 1972 through 1982, nearly 23,000 Illinois police officers were assaulted or battered, and an additional 50 were killed during the conduct of official law enforcement duties. These incidents differ in regard to the weapons involved, the type of activity in which the victimized officer was engaged, and the time of day they occurred, among other factors. This report takes a detailed look at the circumstances surrounding these acts of violence against police officers in Illinois.

This publication is divided into two sections. The first section examines nonfatal assaults<sup>1</sup> against Illinois law enforcement officers. The second section presents a similar analysis of nonaccidental police officer deaths. While both sections are based on Illinois Uniform Crime Reports (I-UCR) *Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted/Battered* data,<sup>2</sup> the latter section is supplemented by descriptions of these events in the annual publications, *Law Enforcement Officers Killed* and *Crime in Illinois*.<sup>3</sup>

It is hoped that this examination of the circumstances relating to assaults and killings of Illinois police officers will help minimize their occurrence in the future by alerting officers to potentially dangerous situations.

<sup>1</sup>Unless stated otherwise, the term assault is used to refer to both assault and battery incidents, and is defined broadly to include simple assault and simple battery, in addition to the more serious assault and battery offenses. Illinois law defines assault as engaging in conduct which places another person in reasonable apprehension of receiving a battery. Battery is defined as intentionally causing bodily harm to an individual or making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature.

<sup>2</sup>Police departments submit these data to the Illinois Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) during months when any police officer from their agency is victimized. A copy of the Illinois reporting form and reporting instructions are located in the Appendix. Due to periodic adjustments to these data, however, numbers presented in this report may not match exactly the figures published annually in DLE's *Crime in Illinois*. It is felt that any such differences do not have a significant impact on the findings reported below.

<sup>3</sup>See Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Law Enforcement Officers Killed*, and DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1972-1982 editions.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSAULTED

### Assault Trends

Although 22,704 assaults against law enforcement officers were reported in Illinois from 1972 through 1982, the annual number of these incidents has been much lower in recent years than during the period from 1972 through 1975. As Figure A illustrates, the total number of officers assaulted declined from between 2,200 and 2,600 in 1972 through 1975, to less than 2,000 during the last seven years in the series. The largest number of assaults against police officers in any one year was 2,587 reported during 1975. Interestingly, while assaults against police officers declined by more than 26 percent during the 11 years, from 2,408 incidents in 1972 to 1,761 in 1982, total Statewide assaults against the public increased by 80 percent, from 74,431 offenses in 1972 to 134,274 in 1982.<sup>4</sup>

The number of assaults against police also varied considerably across the 132 months represented in the 11-year period. Although the average number of monthly assaults for the entire series was about 172, the lowest reported number for any month was 93 in January 1978, and the highest number reported was 258 in July 1979.

In general, more assaults against law enforcement officers were reported during the summer months. The percentage breakdown by month for all assaults appears in Table 1 below.

**Table 1**

Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted,  
Percent of Total By Month: 1972-1982

January ..... 7.3%	July ..... 9.8%
February .... 7.5	August ..... 9.3
March ..... 8.0	September ... 8.4
April ..... 8.5	October ..... 8.5
May ..... 9.0	November .... 7.3
June ..... 8.9	December .... 7.5

The greatest percentage of assaults occurred in July (9.8 percent) than during any other month, although assault totals for May

<sup>4</sup>Source of Statewide assault offense figures is DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1972-1982 editions.



Figure A

# POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED: 1972 - 1982

Source: Illinois Uniform Crime Reports

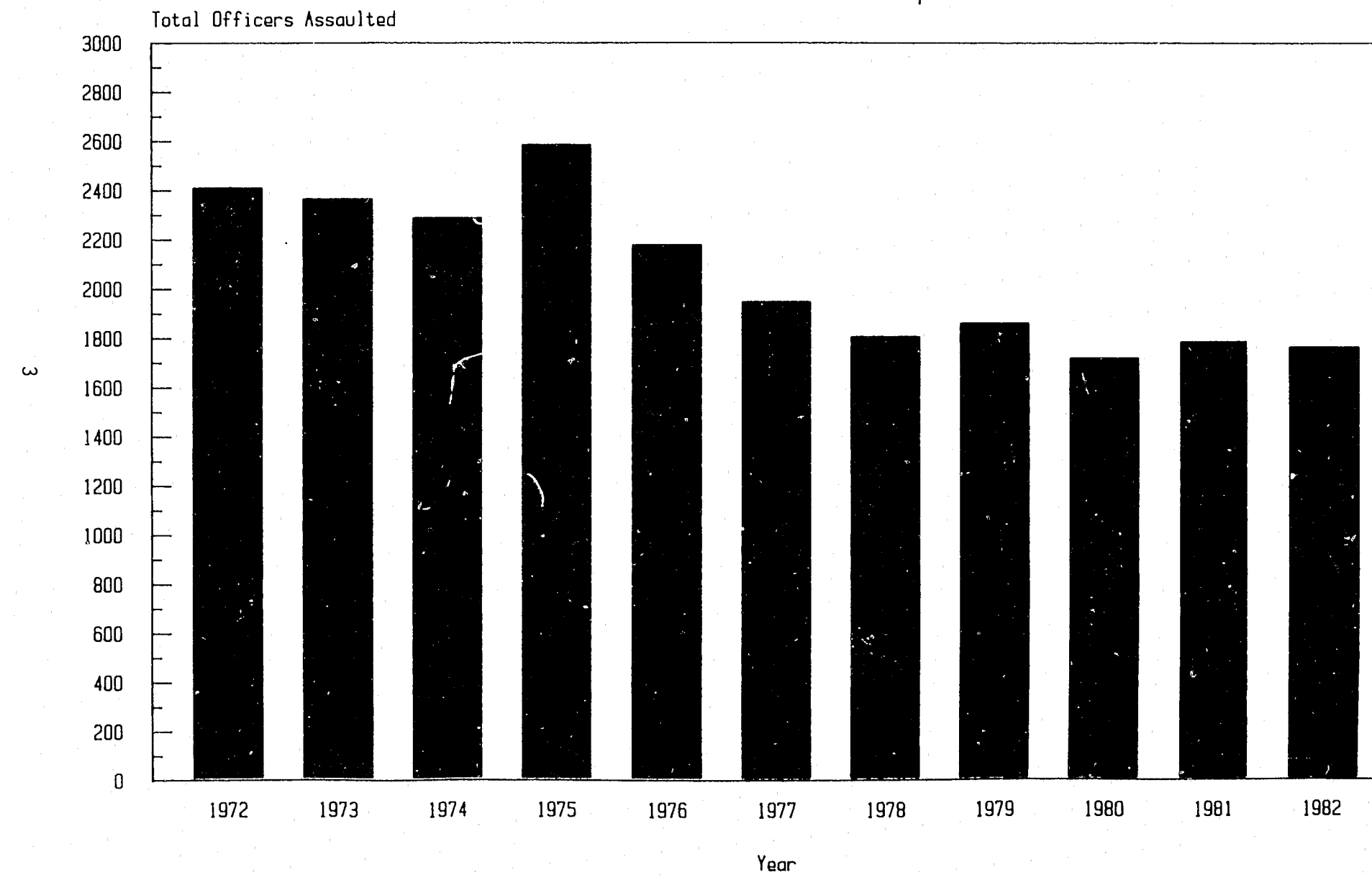
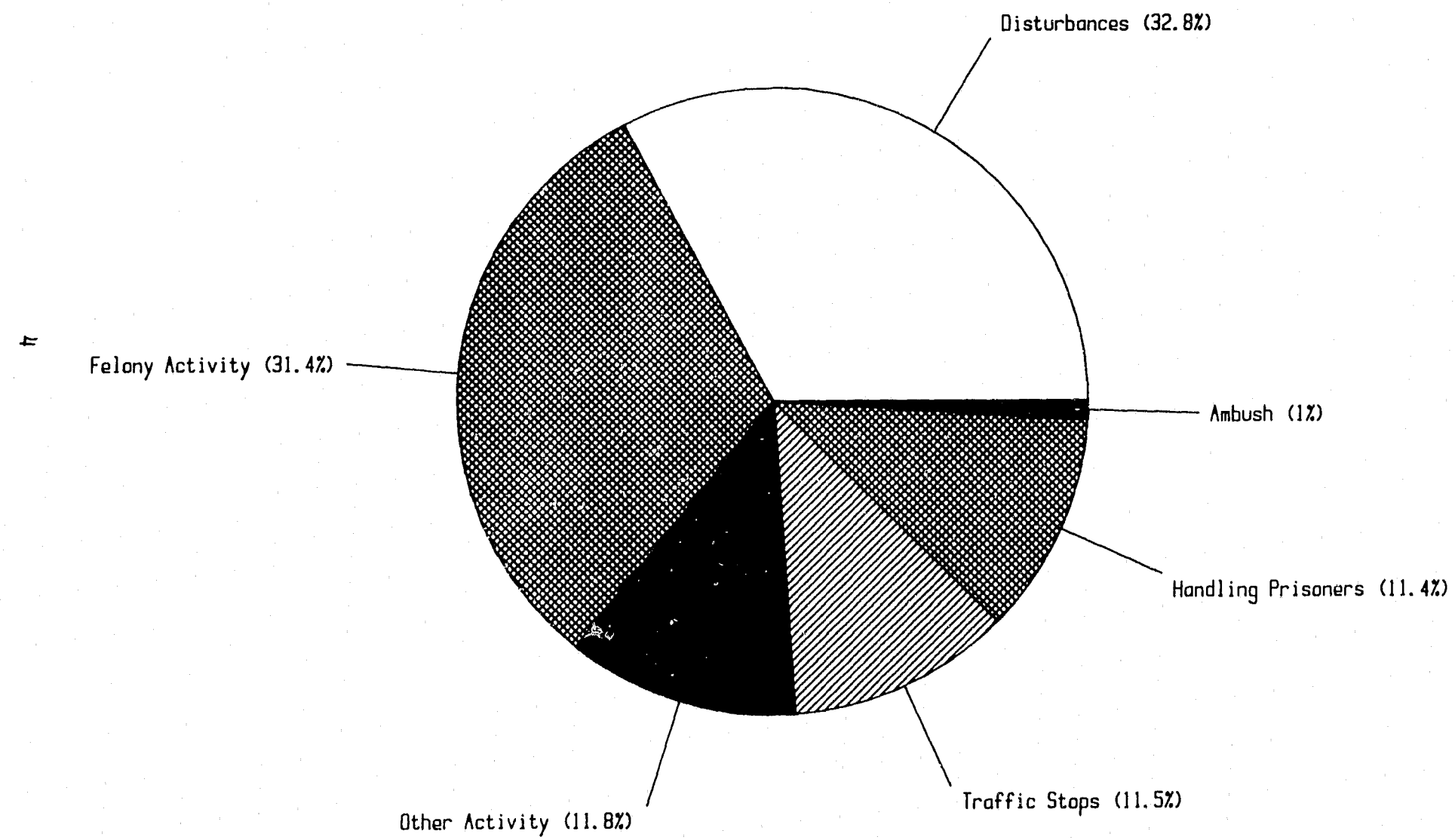


Figure B

# POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED: BY ACTIVITY

Source: Illinois UCR Data 1972 - 1982





through August also were generally high.<sup>5</sup> On the average, about 150 assaults per month occurred from November to February, compared to almost 200 per month during June, July, and August.

#### Type of Police Activity

The majority of assaults against law enforcement officers took place while the officers responded to disturbance calls (for example, family quarrels, man with gun, etc.) or reports of felony activity.<sup>6</sup> Nearly one-third (32.8 percent) of the assaults arose from police response to disturbances, with an almost equal share (31.4 percent) occurring during investigations of reported felony activity or during arrests. Nearly 12 percent took place during traffic stops, while another 11 percent occurred during the handling or transporting of prisoners. A breakdown of assaults on police officers according to the types of activity they were performing at the time of the attacks is presented in Figure B.

The percentage distribution among these activity categories remained fairly consistent throughout the 11 years studied. Two exceptions, however, occurred in the categories of *Disturbances* and *Ambush*. Although assaults resulting from responses to disturbances accounted for less than 27 percent of all assaults in 1972, this figure increased to 33 percent in 1982. Conversely, ambush assaults were more widespread in 1972, comprising 2.7 percent of the total in that year compared to less than 1 percent (0.85 percent) in 1982.

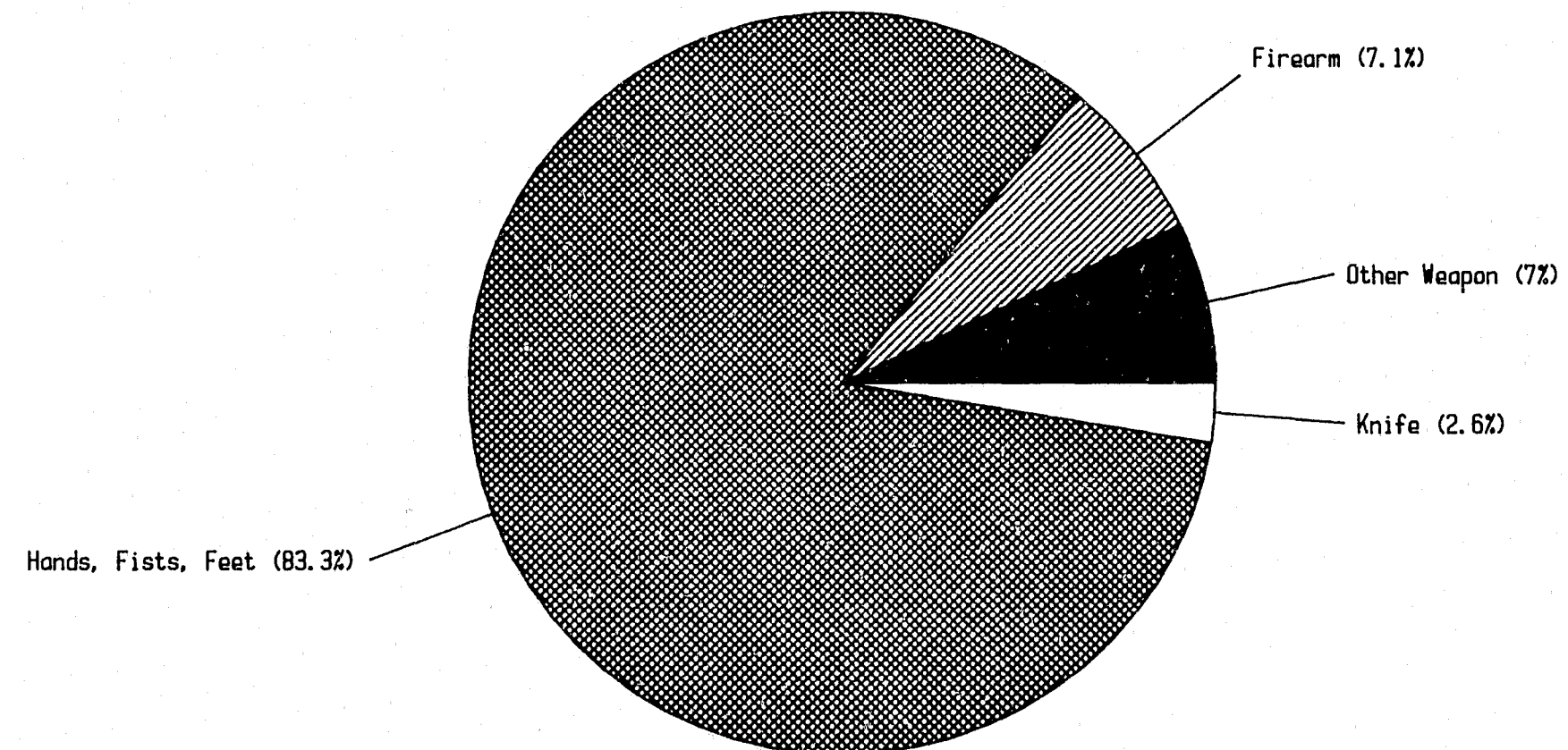
<sup>5</sup>Because these monthly variations appeared to indicate the presence of seasonality, statistical analyses were performed on this time series data set. These analyses indicated that seasonality was not present in the monthly time series. However, this is a relatively short series, and the amount of seasonality may reach statistically significant levels with additional months of data. See Authority publication *How to Handle Seasonality: Introduction to the Detection and Analysis of Seasonal Fluctuation in Criminal Justice Time Series*.

<sup>6</sup>The I-UCR form used to report law enforcement officer assault information contains 11 categories for coding *Type of Activity* (see Appendix). For purposes of analysis, these categories were merged into six categories by: 1) combining *Responding to "disturbance" calls* (30.7 percent) and *Civil disorders* (2.1 percent) into a category labelled *Disturbance*; 2) including *Burglaries in progress* (1.8 percent), *Robberies in progress* (2.2 percent), *Attempting other arrests* (19.9 percent), and *Investigating suspicious persons or circumstances* (7.5 percent) into a new category called *Felony activity*; and 3) combining *Mentally deranged* (1.2 percent) and *Other* (10.6 percent) into a residual *Other* category. The original categories of *Handling or transporting prisoners*, *Ambush*, and *Traffic stops* were maintained.

**Figure C**

# POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED: BY WEAPON

Source: Illinois UCR Data 1972-1982



#### Weapons Used

In more than 83 percent of the assaults against police officers from 1972 through 1982, the offender wielded personal weapons such as hands, fists, or feet. Firearms were used in slightly more than 7 percent of the reported assaults, while knives or other cutting instruments were employed in less than 3 percent of the incidents. Other dangerous weapons accounted for 7 percent of the assaults. The distribution of type of weapon used to assault police officers is displayed in Figure C.

A comparison of 1972 assaults with those in 1982 indicates that the percentage of assaults with firearms has declined. Specifically, more than 11 percent of total assaults were with a firearm in 1972, compared with only 8 percent in 1982. This decline is compensated by the increase in assaults involving personal weapons, from 78 percent of the total in 1972 to almost 84 percent during 1982. Percentages for the other two categories have remained stable.

#### Personal Injury to Police Officers

Almost 60 percent of the police officers assaulted reported suffering some personal injury as a result of their attack (see Table 2). Unfortunately, information indicating the extent or nature of these injuries is not available.

Table 2

Comparison of Police Officer Injuries  
By Weapon Used in the Assault: 1972-1982

Outcome	Total Incidents	Firearm	Knife	Other Weapon	Personal Weapon
Injury	13,113 (59.4%)	488 (31.0%)	325 (56.7%)	938 (62.2%)	11,362 (61.7%)
No Injury	8,974 (40.6%)	1,087 (69.0%)	248 (43.3%)	571 (37.8%)	7,068 (38.4%)

As the figures presented in Table 2 indicate, the probability of injury varied by the type of weapon used by the offender. While less than one-third of the police officers assaulted with firearms reported personal injuries, the percent injured from assaults involving the other three weapons categories were high: 57 percent for

knife assaults and 62 percent for both assaults with other dangerous weapons and assaults involving hands, fists, or feet.<sup>7</sup> This finding contrasts with our analysis of police killings, which indicates that the vast majority of nonaccidental police officer deaths result from wounds inflicted by firearms.

#### Type of Patrol

During the 11-year period, nearly 80 percent of the reported assaults were against officers who were assisted at the time of the attack. The remaining 20 percent were against officers who were alone. More than three-fourths (76 percent) of the assaulted officers were assigned to patrol vehicles at the time of the assault. These breakdowns by type of patrol are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3**

Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted, Number and Percent of Total By Type of Patrol: 1972-1982

Type of Assignment	Total Incidents	Percent of Total
ASSISTED:		
• Two Man Car	10,465	46.1%
• One Man Car	3,941	17.4
• Detective or Special	2,367	10.4
• Other Assignment	1,324	5.8
TOTAL ASSISTED	18,097	79.7%
ALONE:		
• One Man Car	2,824	12.4%
• Detective or Special	413	1.8
• Other Assignment	1,381	6.1
TOTAL ALONE	4,618	20.3%

<sup>7</sup>This analysis includes only 22,087 assaults from 1972 through 1982 for which data on police officer injuries and the type of weapon were available.

#### Time of Occurrence

Assaults against police officers were more common during the evening, night, and early morning hours than during other times of the day.<sup>8</sup> Figure D displays the breakdown of the time assaults against police officers occurred, according to two-hour time periods. Nearly 41 percent of the assaults against police officers took place between 6 p.m. and midnight; 31 percent happened between midnight and 6 a.m.; 9 percent occurred from 6 a.m. to noon; and the remaining 19 percent took place from noon to 6 p.m. The highest volume of police assaults took place between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m., when more than 44 percent were reported. About two-thirds of the assaults occurred between 6 p.m. and 4 a.m.

#### Clearance Rates for Assaults Against Police Officers

Of the 22,704 assaults against law enforcement officers from 1972 through 1982, police were able to *clear* or solve 20,932 offenses, for a *clearance rate* of 92.2 percent. In other words, authorities were able to determine the identity of the individual responsible for the offense in more than nine of every 10 assaults against police officers. This clearance rate fluctuated little during the 11-year period, with a low rate of 89.8 percent in 1974 and a high of 94 percent in 1973.

For comparison, the total clearance rate for the crimes of assault, battery, and attempted murder against all Illinois citizens also was computed.<sup>9</sup> For these offenses, an average of 67.7 percent were cleared by police from 1972 through 1982, with a low of 53 percent cleared in 1981 and a high of about 74 percent cleared in 1972.

#### Geographic Location

Eleven of the 102 counties in Illinois reported more than 200 police officers assaulted during the entire 11-year period. Together, these counties accounted for 21,696, or 95.6 percent, of total reported assaults against police in the State from 1972 through 1982. Figures on the number of assaults reported in these 11 counties are listed in Table 4.

<sup>8</sup>See DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1973-1982 editions. Note that this analysis of the time assaults occurred includes only 10 years of data from 1973 through 1982.

<sup>9</sup>Source of Illinois Statewide clearance figures is the I-UCR *Offense and Clearance* data.

Figure D

Police Officers Assaulted, Percent of Total  
By Two-Hour Time Periods: 1973-1982

12:01- 2:00 a.m.	----- (14.7%)
2:01- 4:00 a.m.	----- (11.2%)
4:01- 6:00 a.m.	----- (5.5%)
6:01- 8:00 a.m.	---- (1.9%)
8:01-10:00 a.m.	----- (2.8%)
10:01- Noon	----- (4.6%)
12:01- 2:00 p.m.	----- (4.8%)
2:01- 4:00 p.m.	----- (6.2%)
4:01- 6:00 p.m.	----- (8.4%)
6:01- 8:00 p.m.	----- (10.3%)
8:01-10:00 p.m.	----- (13.2%)
10:01- Midnight	----- (16.5%)

\*\*\*\*\* SCALE \*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\*        "-" = 0.5%        \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Note: The percentages represented in this table are calculated from data on 19,865 assaults against police officers from 1973 through 1982. Each hyphen in this figure represents approximately one half of 1 percent.

Source: DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1973-1982 editions.

Table 4

Assaults Against Law Enforcement Officers  
For Selected Illinois Counties: 1972-1982

Cook County .....	17,068	St. Clair County ....	280
Peoria County .....	1,208	Tazewell County .....	263
Kane County .....	799	Champaign County ....	242
Du Page County .....	698	Winnebago County ....	227
Lake County .....	408	Rock Island County ..	202
Madison County .....	301	Other Counties ....	1,008

TOTAL: 22,704

The Chicago Police Department accounted for 13,526 of the reported assaults against officers from Cook County. In other words, assaults against Chicago police officers represented 59.6 percent of the Statewide total. County sheriffs were victimized in 871 of the reported assaults, or 3.8 percent of the total. Local police departments other than Chicago reported the remaining 8,307 (or 36.6 percent) police officer assaults.

#### Assault Rates

To gain some sense of the relative frequency of these assaults against law enforcement officers, the ratio of assaults to full-time police officers was calculated. Separate ratios for the Chicago Police Department, county sheriffs, and other local police departments were calculated. These calculations appear in Table 5.<sup>10</sup>

Table 5

Ratio of Number of Police Officer Assaults  
To Average Number of Full-Time Officers: 1972-1982

Agency Type	Average # Full-Time Police Officers	Average # Officers Assaulted	Ratio of Assaults To Officers
Chicago P.D.	13,074	1,229.6	1:10.6
County Sheriff	2,700	79.2	1:34.1
Other P.D.'s	9,608	755.2	1:12.7
TOTAL:	25,382	2,064.0	1:12.3

<sup>10</sup>The source for the number of full-time police officers shown in Table 5 and discussed below is DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1972-1981 editions.

On the average, as these data indicate, there was one police officer assaulted each year for every 12 to 13 full-time sworn police officers in the State. This ratio varied by type of agency, with one assault for every 10 or 11 Chicago policemen, one assault for every 34 county sheriffs' deputies, and one assault for every 13 officers from other local police departments.

For comparison, the ratio of assaults to the total Illinois population was calculated for the same time period. Given an annual average of 95,335 assaults known to police and an average State population of more than 12,362,596 during these 11 years, there was one assault each year for about every 130 citizens. Based on these figures, the Statewide assault rate among police officers has been approximately 11 times greater than the corresponding figure for assaults against the general public.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup>Source: DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1972-1982 editions.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED

### Trends in Officers Killed

The assault or battery of an individual, taken to an extreme, can often result in the death of the victim. During the period from 1972 through 1982, when nearly 23,000 law enforcement officers in Illinois were victims of assaults, 50 officers were killed in the line of duty. Extending the series another nine years, we find that 98 Illinois police officers were killed between 1963 and 1982.<sup>12</sup> The totals per year are presented in Table 6 below:

**TABLE 6**

Law Enforcement Officers Killed,  
Number By Year: 1963-1982

1963 .....	0	1973 .....	4
1964 .....	1	1974 .....	11
1965 .....	1	1975 .....	5
1966 .....	3	1976 .....	7
1967 .....	9	1977 .....	3
1968 .....	5	1978 .....	1
1969 .....	11	1979 .....	6
1970 .....	12	1980 .....	2
1971 .....	6	1981 .....	1
1972 .....	3	1982 .....	7

TOTAL: 98

Table 6 indicates that the number of law enforcement officers killed in recent years has been lower than during the late 1960's and early 1970's. Of the 50 officers killed from 1972 through 1982, 44 were killed as a result of felonious, as opposed to accidental, means.<sup>13</sup> The circumstances surrounding these 44 killings are examined in the remainder of this report.

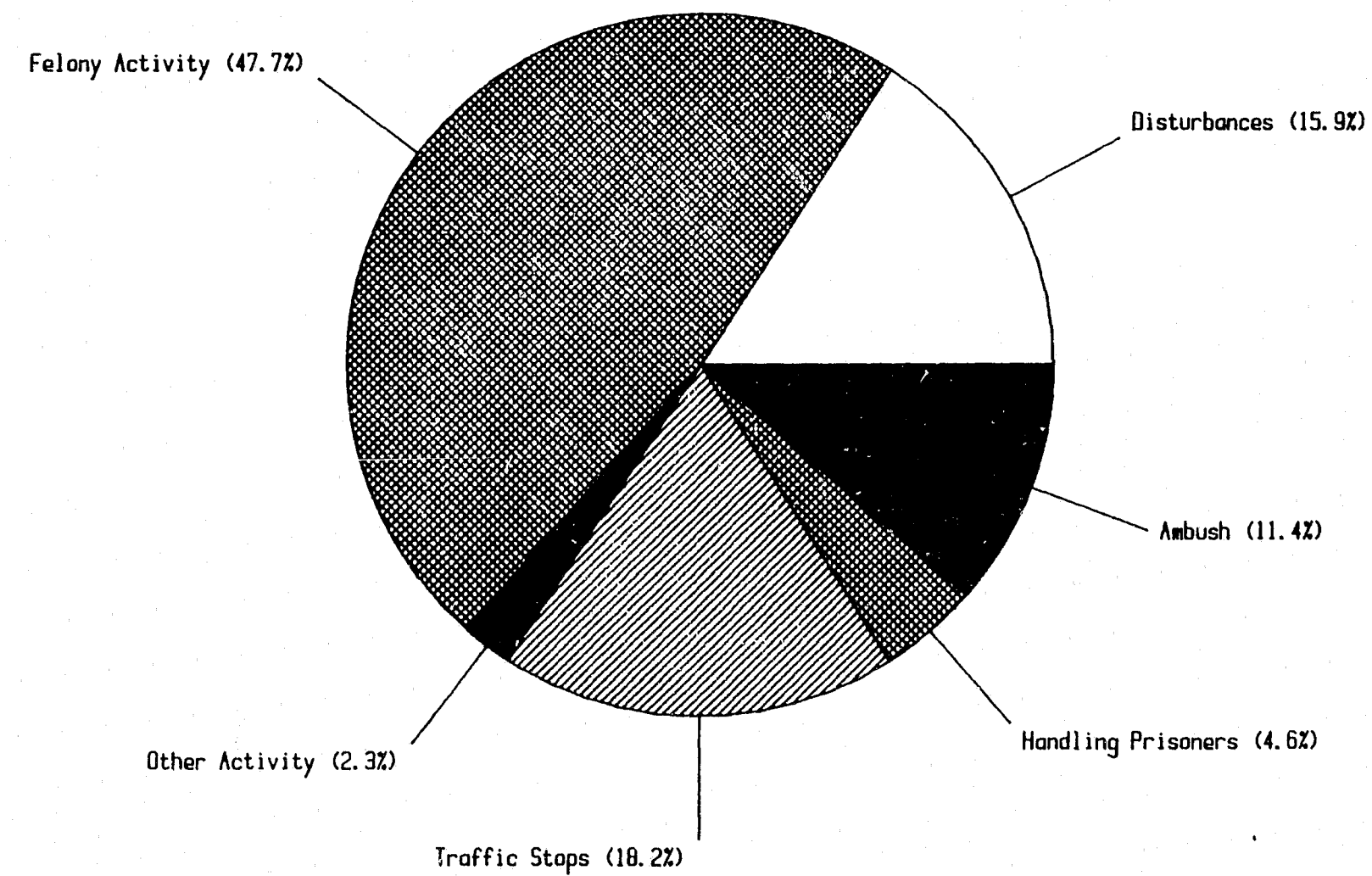
<sup>12</sup>The source of these figures is DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1972-1982 editions. The 1972 edition of this annual publication was the source of the number of officers killed from 1963 through 1971. Unfortunately, this publication did not indicate the number of police killed (if any) as a result of accidents during the 1963 through 1971 period.

<sup>13</sup>There were two accidental police officer deaths in 1976, one in 1978, two during 1979, and one in 1982.

Figure E

# POLICE OFFICERS KILLED: BY ACTIVITY

Source: Illinois UCR Data 1972-1982





#### Type of Police Activity

Twenty-one (47.7 percent) of these 44 officers killed in the line of duty from 1972 through 1982 were investigating some type of felony activity at the time of their deaths. Of the remaining 23, eight (18.2 percent) were killed during traffic stops; seven officers (15.9 percent) were killed while answering disturbance calls; five (11.4 percent) were victims of ambush or attacks with no warning; two (4.6 percent) policemen were killed while handling prisoners; and another officer (2.3 percent) died while engaged in undercover activities. These percentages are displayed in Figure E.

This distribution by type of patrol activity differs significantly from that found for assaulted officers (see Figure B). Specifically, while about half the officers killed were investigating felony activities at the time of their deaths, only about one-third of all assaulted officers were involved in such activities at the time of their attacks. In addition, about 11 percent of the killed officers were ambushed, while only 1 percent of the assaults took place under such circumstances. On the other hand, a smaller proportion of officers killed were responding to disturbance calls (15.9 percent) or handling prisoners (4.6 percent) when compared with the percentage of officers assaulted under similar circumstances (32.8 percent and 11.4 percent, respectively).

#### Weapons Used

While firearms rarely were involved in assaults against police officers (see Figure C), some type of firearm was used in the majority of the officer killings. Of the 44 officers who died from nonaccidental means, 31 were killed with handguns, seven with a rifle, one with a shotgun, and one with an unspecified type of firearm, for a total of 40 (90.9 percent). Knives or other cutting instruments were used to kill two police officers (4.6 percent); a club or other blunt instrument was the weapon in one incident (2.3 percent); and personal weapons (hands, fists, or feet) were involved in one other (also 2.3 percent). The distribution of weapons used to kill police officers in Illinois is presented in Figure F.

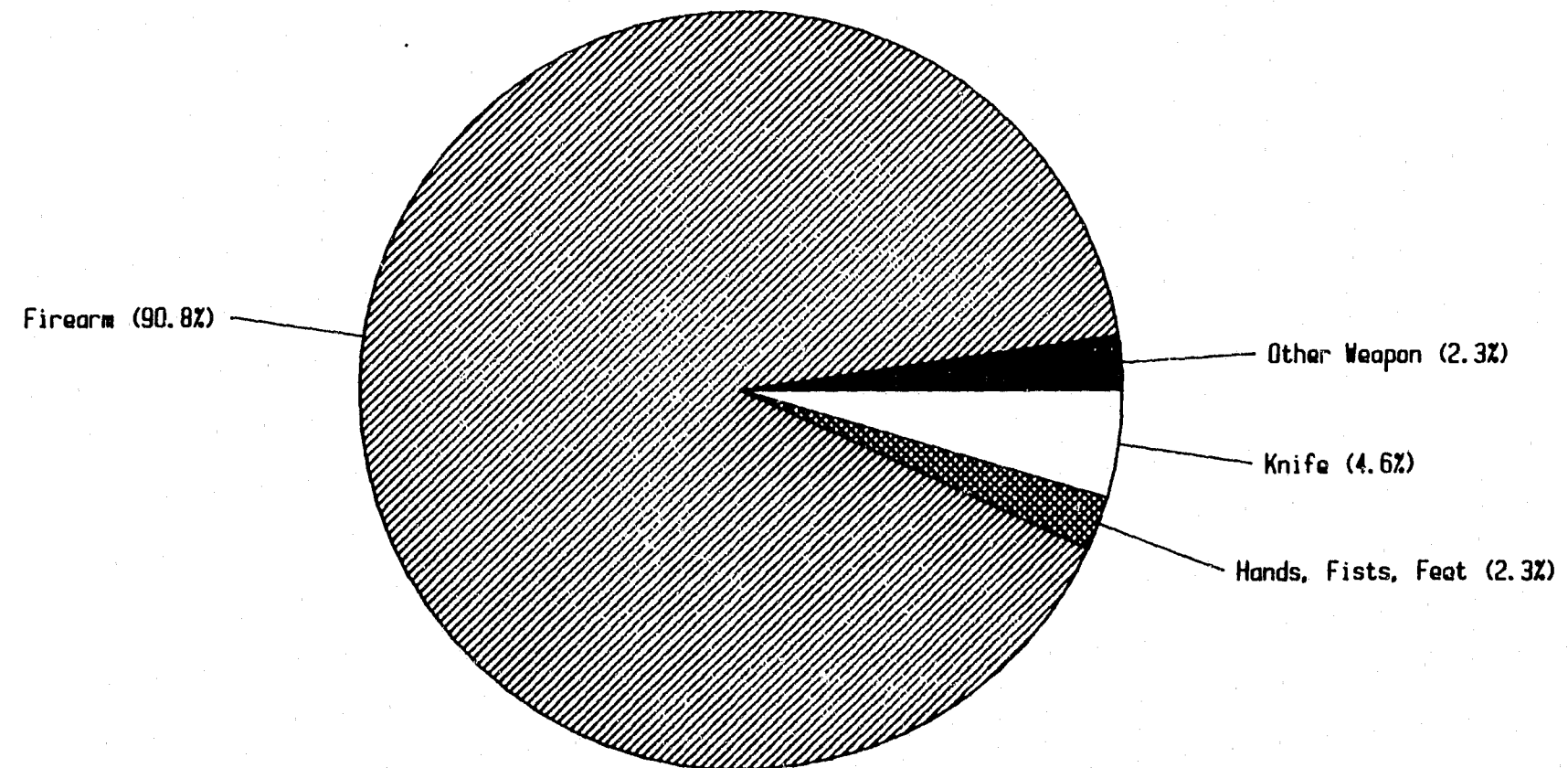
#### Victim Information

In each of the 38 cases where it was possible to determine the sex of the victim from published summaries, the slain officer was male. Similarly, the race of the victim was ascertained for 31 of the 44 nonaccidental police officer deaths. In 25 (80.7 percent) of them, the victim was white, while in the remaining six cases (19.4 percent) he was black.

**Figure F**

**POLICE OFFICERS KILLED: BY WEAPON**

Source: Illinois UCR Data 1972-1982



#### Offender Information

For 42 of the cases, it was possible to determine whether single or multiple offenders were involved in the events leading up to the officer's death. More than one offender was involved in 23 (54.8 percent) of these cases. In 40 of the cases, the exact number of offenders was indicated. The total number of offenders involved in these 40 incidents was 65. Of these 65 offenders, only one was identified as being female.<sup>14</sup>

The race of the offender was determined in 31 of the killings. In nine of them (29 percent), the offender was white; in the remaining 22 (71 percent), the offender was black.

#### Clearance Rates for Killings of Police Officers

For 41 of the 44 killings, it was possible to determine whether suspects had been apprehended. At least one suspect was captured in each of 38 (92.7 percent) of these cases. This *apprehension* total includes 10 cases where offenders were killed through police use of deadly force. In comparison, the clearance rate for civilian homicides in Illinois from 1972 through 1982 was slightly more than 77 percent.<sup>15</sup>

#### Rates of Officers Killed

As with assaults of police officers, the ratio of police officers killed to full-time officers was calculated for 1972 through 1982. Separate ratios for the Chicago Police Department, county sheriffs, Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) officers (Illinois State Police and Division of Criminal Investigation officials), and other local police departments appear in Table 7.

These figures indicate that, on the average, there was one police officer killed Statewide each year for every 7,137 full-time officers.<sup>16</sup> Unlike the assault ratios, however, the ratios for officers killed varied little among types of law enforcement agency. On the average, there was one death each year for every 6,537 full-time Chicago police officers, and one death for every 8,142 officers in local police departments outside Chicago. Ratios for county sheriffs and DLE officers fell between these two values.

<sup>14</sup>Excluded from these totals was one incident where a shot was fired from a crowd during a gang-related disturbance.

<sup>15</sup>In Illinois from 1972 through 1982, there were 9,707 homicides offenses cleared out of the total 12,549 reported to police (77.4 percent). See DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1972-1982 editions, *Offense Summary* tables.

<sup>16</sup>Because figures on the number of full-time officers in auxiliary police departments were not available, the deaths of two officers from these type of agencies were excluded. Thus, this Statewide rate is based on 42 law enforcement officers killed during the 11 years.

**Table 7**

Ratio of Number of Police Officers Killed  
To Average Number of Full-Time Officers: 1972-1982

Agency Type	Average # Full-Time Police Officers	Average # Officers Killed	Ratio of Killings To Officers
Chicago P.D.	13,074	2.00	1:6,537
County Sheriff	2,700	0.36	1:7,500
ISP/DCI*	1,883	0.27	1:6,974
Other P.D.'s	9,608	1.18	1:8,142
TOTAL:	27,265	3.82	1:7,137

\* Note: The Average # Full-Time Police Officers for ISP/DCI (Illinois State Police/Division of Criminal Investigation) is derived from nine years of data from 1973 through 1981. Illinois Bureau of Investigation (IBI) figures are used for years prior to the establishment of DCI.

Source: DLE, *Crime in Illinois*, 1973-1982 editions.

The ratio of murders to the total State population from 1972 through 1982 was computed to provide a comparison. This average ratio was only slightly different than that for police officers killed Statewide, although variances in comparable ratios in different parts of the State did exist. There was an average of 1,264 murders each year in Illinois from 1972 through 1982; the average State population during this time was 12.3 million. These figures translate into an average ratio of one murder each year for every 9,783 citizens. Data on the Chicago, Downstate, and total Illinois civilian murder ratios are presented in Table 8.

**Table 8**

Ratio of Number of Citizens Murdered in Illinois  
To Average State Population: 1972-1982

Area	Average Population	Average # Killed	Ratio of Citizens Killings To Population
Chicago	3,163,550	822.9	1:3,844
Downstate (exc. Chicago)	9,199,046	440.4	1:20,888
TOTAL:	12,362,596	1,263.6	1:9,783

Table 8 contains separate ratios for Chicago and for the remainder of the State. As these data indicate, there was an average of one murder per year for every 3,844 Chicago residents--an incidence level almost twice as great as the ratio of police officers killed in Chicago. In contrast, there was one murder per year for every 20,888 residents in Illinois excluding Chicago, which is a much lower incidence level than that for police officer deaths Downstate.

## CONCLUSION

The number of Illinois law enforcement officers assaulted or killed has declined in recent years from the high levels experienced during the late 1960's and early 1970's. Nevertheless, police officers as a group are still victims of assaults at a much greater rate than the general public in both Chicago and Downstate Illinois, while murder rates for officers throughout the State are approximately the same as comparable civilian rates. On the average, almost one in every 10 full-time Chicago police officers was assaulted each year from 1972 through 1982. Among officers in other police departments in Illinois, the ratio was one assault per year for about every 13 full-time officers. For Illinois citizens, on the other hand, the average assault rate was approximately one attack for every 130 people during each of the 11 years.

This report has described detailed characteristics of the nearly 23,000 assaults and 44 nonaccidental killings of Illinois law enforcement officers that occurred from 1972 through 1982. The purpose of the study has been not only to describe the past occurrence of these events but also to provide police departments throughout the State with information that may help them prevent such acts of violence in the future. We hope these police departments use the information in this report to help them determine, among other things:

- The extent to which attacks on police officers can be expected.
- The circumstances under which police officers are most often subject to attack.
- What time of day assaults on police officers are most likely to occur.
- What weapons those who attack officers are likely to use.

Perhaps the most encouraging finding from this study has been that attacks on law enforcement officers in Illinois have actually declined during the late 1970's and early 1980's. Another encouraging finding is that police in Illinois have been highly successful in solving assaults or killings of fellow officers. More than nine of every 10 of these violent acts against officers in the last 11 years have been cleared. Still, the continued monitoring of attacks on these public servants in Illinois is needed to determine what trends will emerge in the future and how previous patterns will change.

## APPENDIX

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED OR ASSAULTED/BATTERED

FORM DLE6-216 JURISDICTION CITY/TOWN COUNTY ☐ P.D. ☐ S.O.

MONTH OF REPORT 19

NCIC ID NO: 11

ILLINOIS UNIFORM CRIME REPORT  
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM  
FORWARD BY THE 10TH DAY AFTER CLOSE OF REPORTING PERIOD  
To: BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION  
200 N. Armory Building, Springfield, Illinois 62708  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT - DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES

CRIME STUDIES USE: LOGGED ☐ CHECKED ☐

1. OFFICERS KILLED -  
Number of your law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty this month.  
By felonious act a  
By accident or negligence b

OFFICERS ASSAULTED/BATTERED - DO NOT INCLUDE OFFICERS KILLED, SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE.

NOTE: The sum of columns B+C+D+E must equal the figure in column A. - ALSO - The sum of columns F+G+H+I+J+K+L must equal the figure in column A.

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	TOTAL ASSAULTS/BATTERIES BY WEAPON A	TYPE OF WEAPON				TWO MAN CAR F	TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT						POLICE ASSAULTS/BATTERIES CLEARED M
		FIREARM B	KNIFE OR OTHER CUTTING INSTRUMENT C	OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON D	HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC. E		ONE MAN CAR		DETECTIVE OR SPECIAL ASSIGN		OTHER		
							ALONE G	AS-SISTED H	ALONE I	AS-SISTED J	ALONE K	AS-SISTED L	
2. RESPONDING TO "DISTURBANCE" CALLS (FAMILY QUARRELS, MAN WITH GUN, ETC.)	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
3. BURGLARIES IN PROGRESS OR PURSUING BURGLARY SUSPECTS	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
4. ROBBERIES IN PROGRESS OR PURSUING ROBBERY SUSPECTS	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
5. ATTEMPTING OTHER ARRESTS.	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
6. CIVIL DISORDER (RIOT, MASS DISOBEDIENCE).	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
7. HANDLING, TRANSPORTING, CUSTODY OF PRISONERS	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
8. INVESTIGATING SUSPICIOUS PERSONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES.	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
9. AMBUSH - NO WARNING	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
10. MENTALLY DERANGED.	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
11. TRAFFIC STOPS.	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
12. ALL OTHER	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
13. TOTAL (2-12)	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
14. WITH PERSONAL INJURY	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
15. WITHOUT PERSONAL INJURY	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
16. TIME OF ASSAULTS	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m

NOTE: The numbers in the Row 14 and 15 blocks must TOTAL to the figures shown in the Row 13 blocks. The numbers in the Time blocks on Row 16 must total to the figure shown in the Row 13 - Column A block.

12:01 A.M. 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 P.M. 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00 MIDNIGHT

DATE PREPARED BY APPROVED CHIEF/SHERIFF DLE6-216-REV. 10/81

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED OR ASSAULTED/BATTERED

This report must be submitted only for those months during which one of your officers was killed, assaulted, or battered.

The purpose of this form is to collect data concerning the number of police officers killed or assaulted/battered in the line of duty. The count of police officers killed must include accidental deaths which occurred in the line of duty, such as automobile, motorcycle, airplane accidents, falls, etc.

When an officer is killed in the line of duty, an entry must be made in Line 1 only.

When an officer is assaulted/battered in the line of duty, an entry must be made on the appropriate line for TYPE OF ACTIVITY (Lines 2-12), under TYPE OF WEAPON (Columns B-E), and under TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT (Columns F-L). An entry must also be made in either Line 14 (Injury) or Line 15 (No Injury).

When any of these assaults/batteries are cleared, an entry must be made under Column M for appropriate activity.

At the end of the month, add all lines under Column B through E and enter in Column A. The total of Columns F through L should equal the total of Columns B through E, as entered in Column A. Also add all columns down and enter in Line 13.

Columns B-E:  
If more than one type of weapon is used to commit a single assault/battery, the column encountered moving from left to right (B to E) which shows one of the weapons used should be selected for the entry. Do not enter any other different types of weapons which were used.

TOTAL ASSAULTS/BATTERIES BY WEAPON A	TYPE OF WEAPON				TWO MAN CAR F	TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT						POLICE ASSAULTS/BATTERIES CLEARED M
	FIREARM B	KNIFE OR OTHER CUTTING INSTRUMENT C	OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON D	HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC. E		ONE MAN CAR		DETECTIVE OR SPECIAL ASSIGN		OTHER		
						ALONE G	AS-SISTED H	ALONE I	AS-SISTED J	ALONE K	AS-SISTED L	
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m

Columns F-L:  
Column F (Two-Man Car) and Columns G and H (One-Man Car) pertain to uniformed officers; Columns I and J (Detective or Special Assignment) to non-uniformed officers; Columns K and L (Other) to officers assaulted while in a capacity not represented by Columns F-J, such as foot patrol, off duty, etc.

TYPE OF WEAPON				TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT						POLICE ASSAULTS BATTERIES CLEARED M	
FIREARM B	KNIFE OR OTHER CUTTING INSTRUMENT C	OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON D	HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC. E	<del>TWO</del> MAN CAR F	ONE MAN CAR		DETECTIVE OR SPECIAL ASSIGN		OTHER		
					ALONE G	AS- SISTED H	ALONE I	AS- SISTED J	ALONE K		AS- SISTED L

# Column M:

In Column M (Police Assaults/Batteries Cleared), count the number of assaults and batteries inflicted against police officers that were cleared by an arrest. Clear each offense only once. The number of persons arrested should not be taken into consideration.

TYPE OF WEAPON				TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT							POLICE ASSAULT BATTERIES CLEARED M
FIREARM B	KNIFE OR OTHER CUTTING INSTRUMENT C	OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON D	HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC. E	TWO MAN CAR F	ONE MAN CAR		DETECTIVE OR SPECIAL ASSIGN		OTHER		
					ALONE G	AS- SISTED H	ALONE I	AS- SISTED J	ALONE K	AS- SISTED L	
1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	m
											m

# Lines 2-12:

Indicate the type of police activity the officer was engaged in at the time he was assaulted/battered.

# Line 13:

Enter the total of Lines 2-12.

# Line 14:

Enter the number of assaults/batteries from Line 13 which resulted in personal injury to the officer.

# Line 15:

Enter the number of assaults/batteries from Line 13 in which there was no injury to the officer.

# Line 16:

Enter the time of the assault/battery on the police officer within two-hour intervals.

Columns B through E and Columns F through L must equal Column A.

The numbers in Lines 14 and 15 should total the figures shown in Line 13.

The numbers in the Time blocks on Line 16 must total the figures shown in Column A, Line 13.

ALL OFFENSES OF ASSAULTS/BATTERIES ON OFFICERS ARE TO BE INCLUDED ON THE MONTHLY OFFENSE SUMMARY OR OFFENSE AND CLEARANCE REPORT. IF THE OFFICER DIES AS A RESULT OF A HOMICIDE, THE SUPPLEMENTARY HOMICIDE REPORT MUST ALSO BE COMPLETED. COMPLETE THE ARREST SUMMARY OR THE ARREST AND POLICE DISPOSITION REPORT IF AN ARREST IS MADE.



**END**