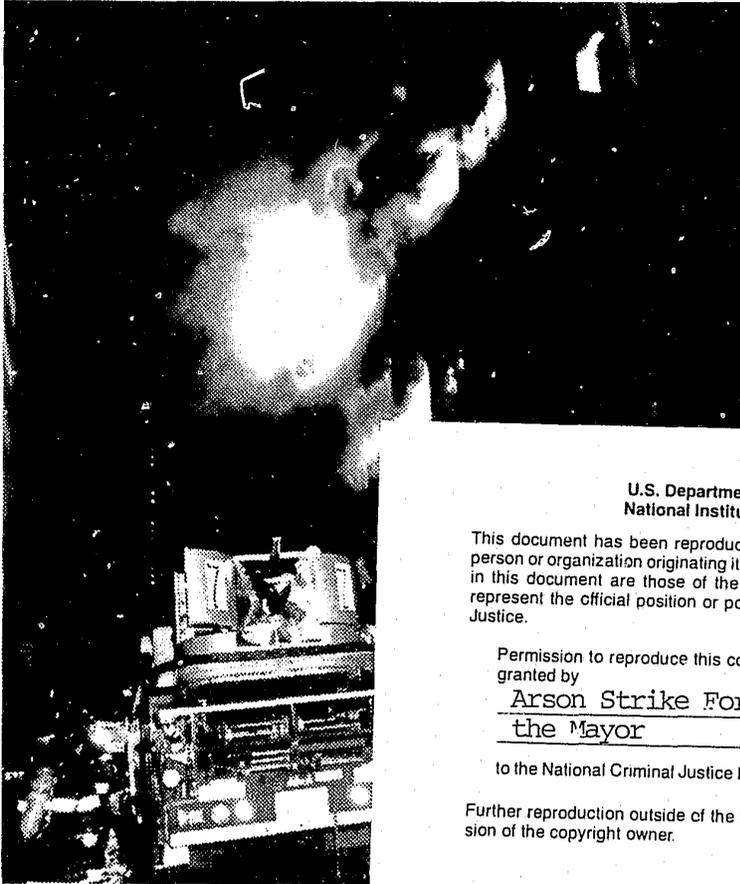


B2135

CR sent
9-23-85

ARSON IN NEW YORK: 1983



U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

98276

This document has been reproduced exactly as received from the person or organization originating it. Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Justice.

Permission to reproduce this copyrighted material has been granted by

Arson Strike Force/Office of
the Mayor

to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS).

Further reproduction outside of the NCJRS system requires permission of the copyright owner.

CITY OF NEW YORK

Edward I. Koch, Mayor



Prepared by
The Arson Strike Force
Angelo Pisani, Jr.
Coordinator

May 1985

98276



ANGELO L. PISANI, JR
COORDINATOR
ARSON STRIKE FORCE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 31, 1985

Please note that this report on 1983 arson incidence in New York City is being released now as a companion study to our 1984 Annual Report, which will be published in September. We hope you will find it to be a useful reference tool, particularly Section II, which marshals 15 years of arson data in one publication for the first time.

Angelo L. Pisani
Angelo L. Pisani

98276



CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
51 Chambers Street
New York, New York 10007

(212) 566-1332

ARSON STRIKE FORCE

KENNETH CONBOY
Criminal Justice Coordinator

PAUL A. CROTTY
Commissioner
Department of Finance

ANTHONY B. GLIEDMAN
Commissioner
Department of Housing Preservation
and Development

MORGE GROSS
Administrator/Commissioner
Human Resources Administration

FRANK LOICICERO
Special Advisor to the Mayor

SEPH E. SPINNATO
Commissioner
Police Department

BERNARD WARD
Commissioner
Police Department

ANGELO L. PISANI, JR.
Coordinator

JOSEPH G. ENRIGHT
Deputy Coordinator

ARSON IN NEW YORK CITY: 1983

City of New York
Edward I. Koch, Mayor

The Arson Strike Force
Angelo L. Pisani, Jr.
Coordinator

Project Director
Joseph Enright

May 1985

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

Acknowledgments p. i
Foreword p. ii

NCJRS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY p. 1-5

JUN 17 1985

II. CITY-WIDE ARSON TREND, 1968 to 1983

ACQUISITIONS

-Structural Arson Fires, 1958 to 1983 p. 6
-Structural Arson Fires, 1968 to 1983 p. 9
-N.Y.C. Crime Trends,, 1979 to 1983 p. 11
-Structural Fires, 1970 to 1983 p. 13
-Structural Arsons per Structural
Fires, 1970 to 1983 p. 14
-Percentage of Structural Fires
(Occupied/Vacant) Classified as
Incendiary, 1970 to 1983 p. 16
-Arson in N.Y.C., 1968 to 1983 p. 18
-Building Damage Caused by All Fires
and by Arson Fires, 1978 vs. 1983 p. 19

III. CITY-WIDE ARSON, 1983

-Arson by Type of Property, 1983
(City vs. State vs. Nation) p. 20
-Structural Arsons per Structural Fires p. 21
-Arson Categories (Structural/Non-
Structural) p. 22
-Arson Categories (Occupied/Vacant/Auto/
Other) p. 23
-Structural Arson by Property p. 24
-Structural Arson by Building Type p. 25
-Table of Buildings Having Multiple
Arson Fires p. 26
-Ranking of Types of Buildings by
Number of Arsons Sustained p. 27

-Arson Incidents by Quarter	p. 29
-Arson by Month	p. 30
-Arson by Type of Building and Month of Year	p. 31
-Arson by Type of Building and Day of Week	p. 32
-Structural Arson Incidents by Time of Day	p. 33
-Arson Activity by Traditional Law Enforcement Shifts	p. 34
-Structural Arson Incidents by Place of Origin of Fire	p. 35
-Extent of Fire Damage to Buildings Caused by Structural Arson	p. 37
-Extent of Damage to Contents of Buildings Caused by Arson Fires	p. 39
-Ranking of Types of Buildings Which Experienced Heavy Damage to Structure and/or Contents Due to Arson	p. 43

IV. CITY-WIDE ARSON INJURIES & FATALITIES, 1983

-Arson Injuries by Month	p. 45
-Arson Injuries by Time of Day	p. 48
-Arson Injuries by Place of Origin of Fire	p. 49
-Arson Fatalities by Month	p. 50
-Arson Fatalities by Time of Day	p. 51
-Arson Fatalities by Origin of Fires and by Type of Building	p. 52
-Arson Fatalities by Age, and Place of Origin of Fire	p. 53

V. CITY-WIDE ARSON ARRESTS

-Arson Definitions Under Article 150 of the N.Y. State Penal Law	p. 54
---	-------

-Arson Arrests	p. 55
-Arson Arrests by Sex and Age	p. 57
-Arson Charge by Age	p. 58
-Arson Arrests by Race and by Birthplace	p. 59
-Marital and Occupational Status of Arrested Arsonists	p. 60
-Arson Charge by Premises Classification	p. 61
-Premises Classification by Age of Arson Arrestee	p. 62
-Arson Charge by Number of Associates	p. 63
-Most Frequent Companion Felony Charge for Arrested Arsonists	p. 64

VI. ARSON BY BOROUGH, 1983

-Number and Percent Change of Structural Arsons by Borough, 1979 vs. 1983	p. 65
-Number and Percent Change of Structural Arsons by Borough, 1982 vs. 1983	p. 66
-Number and Percent Change of Arson in Motor Vehicles, by Borough, 1982 vs. 1983	p. 67
-Structural Arsons per Structural Fires 1983	p. 68
-Combined Accidental and Arson Fire Insurance Claims	p. 69
-Buildings with Multiple Arson Fires by Borough	p. 70
-Arson Incidents by Quarter	p. 71
-Arson Incidents by Month	p. 72
-Arson in Connection with Building Lots	p. 73
-Arson per Occupied Residential Units by Borough	p. 74
-Arson per Vacant Building Ratio	p. 75
-Arson Rate per 100,000 Population	p. 76

-Arson in Brooklyn	p. 77
-Arson in the Bronx	p. 78
-Arson in Manhattan	p. 79
-Arson in Queens	p. 80
-Arson in Staten Island	p. 81
VII. ARSON INJURIES AND FATALITIES BY BOROUGH, 1983	
-Civilian and Uniformed Injuries as the Result of Arson	p. 82
-Arson Fatalities	p. 84
VIII. ARSON ARRESTS BY BOROUGH, 1983	
-Arson Arrests in Brooklyn	p. 86
Bronx	p. 87
Manhattan	p. 88
Queens & Staten Island	p. 89
IX. ARSON BY COMMUNITY DISTRICT, 1983	
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Number of Arsons	p. 90
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Structural Arson and Structural Fires	p. 92
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Percentage of Structural Fires Caused by Arson	p. 94
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Rate of Arsons per 10,000 Population	p. 96
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Arson per Vacant Building Ratio	p. 98
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Arson per Occupied Residential Units	p.100
-Ranking of the 59 Districts by Number of Arsons Causing Heavy Structural Damage	p.102
-Percent Distribution of Structural Arson by Types of Buildings Within Each C.D.	p.104
-Red Cap Deployment in 1983	p.109

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was prepared over the course of six months, during which time arson complaint, arrest and demographic data supplied by the Fire, Police and City Planning Departments respectively, were compiled, inputted or loaded into computer files, edited and finally analyzed.

The following Arson Strike Force personnel were principally responsible for inputting and programming the data: L. Dean Todd, Tyrone Stiles and Mary Haney. Initial research for the project was conducted by ASF Senior Researcher Seth Benjamin. Graphics were provided by ASF Research Analyst Mike Rosenberg. Writing and editing of all copy was performed by Deputy Coordinator Joseph Enright. Manuscript preparation and typing was done by ASF staff member Avril Miller. The cover photo was contributed by Lt. Anthony Guerriera of the N.Y.C. Fire Department's Photo Forensic Unit. Other photos courtesy of Ralph Feldman, retired NYC Fire Marshal.

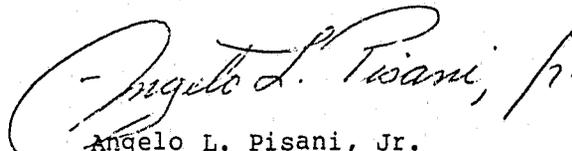
Finally, Fire Commissioner Joseph E. Spinnato, First Deputy Fire Commissioner Joseph F. Bruno, Robert Amsterdam, Director of the Department of City Planning's Population Division, Bruce Feld, Director of the Community Assistance Unit, Lieutenant Robert Melia and Sergeant Luda Shapiro of the N.Y.P.D.'s Crime Analysis Section, Chief Fire Marshal John B. Regan, Deputy Chief Fire Marshal Michael DiMarco and Fire Marshals Gene Moriarity, George Rucinski and William McKinney all provided critically important assistance.

FOREWORD

In compiling this report, the staff of the Arson Strike Force was asked to accomplish two goals. First, to assemble the mountain of arson data which was collected by the Strike Force for the calendar year of 1983 in a format that would provide the clearest picture of what we know about arson incidence in New York City. And secondly, to present an overview of the arson trend during the past 15 years. The task was not an easy one: the data had to be computerized, checked for accuracy and matched with other pre-existing computer tapes before it could be analyzed.

The result, Arson in New York City: 1983, is one of the most comprehensive annual statistical reports on arson incidence ever compiled. It will serve as a comparative reference for our 1984 Annual Report, to be released in September, and the database constructed in the process of assembling this study will enable the Strike Force to track arson trends in a more timely fashion.

To the extent that the information contained in these pages proves useful to government administrators, investigators, researchers, community groups, private concerns and the general public, credit should be given to the New York City Fire Department and the New York City Police Department for supplying most of the data we present here.



Angelo L. Pisani, Jr.
Coordinator
Arson Strike Force

Arson in N.Y.C.: 1983

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details 1983 arson incidence on city, borough and community district levels. The data contained here will be compared with recently compiled 1984 arson statistics for release in our annual report to the Mayor and City Council, which will be published in September. (See below for highlights of 1984 arson data.)

Long Term Arson Trends

From 1958 to 1967 the incidence of arson increased 100% and then doubled again in the next seven years. In 1976 this crime reached its peak, with 13,752 arson cases recorded by the Fire Department's Bureau of Fire Investigation during that year. Since 1976, arson has been reduced by 57.2% overall, and structural arson has been reduced by 62.9%.

1983: City-wide Arson

Arson declined for the third consecutive year during 1983, as did all fire incidence.

There were 6,094 recorded arsons for the year, of which 5,557 (91.2%) occurred in buildings, 490 (8.0%) occurred in motor vehicles and 47 (0.76%) in other property. Two out of every three structural arsons originated in occupied buildings (3,668), with the remaining one third originating in vacant buildings (1,871).

Most structural arson was concentrated in multiple dwellings (68.4%), followed by commercial property (17.1%), private homes (8.4%) and public buildings (5.9%).

There were 555 buildings (or 11.8% of the total number of 4,696 buildings which experienced an arson offense) that suffered more than one incendiary fire in 1983, with 156 buildings in this group experiencing between three and thirty-two separate arsons over the course of the year.

Arson reached its highest 1983 levels in May and September and declined appreciably during February and December. Structural arson peaks in the three hours before midnight and then gradually recedes, dropping dramatically after 6:00 A.M.

One out of every four structural arson fires originates in a vacant building or a vacant apartment, while public hallways and bedrooms are the most frequent points of origin for arson fires in occupied buildings.

Damage caused by these crimes has decreased since 1978, but approximately 18% of structural arson still results in moderate or heavy damage to the affected building.

There were 1,719 injuries to uniformed personnel, 243 injuries to civilians and 27 fatalities (all civilian) incurred as the result of structural arson fires in 1983 (two civilian deaths were also recorded as the result of injuries sustained in arson fires that occurred prior to 1/1/83). The most frequent point of origin for an arson fire that causes personal injury is a vacant room or building, while fires set in public hallways cause the most arson fatalities.

1983: Borough-wide Trends

Structural arson has declined dramatically in all five boroughs since 1979, ranging from a 33.1% drop in Queens to a 20.0% decrease in Manhattan.

When compared to 1982 totals, structural arson decreased a significant 18.4% in 1983, with large declines in vacant building arsons in all five boroughs accounting for a large portion (75%) of the fall off in building arsons.

This downward trend did not hold true for motor vehicle arsons, which rose for the third consecutive year in four of the five boroughs.

The boroughs exhibit significant variations in the relative proportions of property types affected by arson. In the Bronx, 86% of all structural arson occurred in residential premises, compared to only 57% for Queens. Similarly, the Bronx (10.9%) and Manhattan (11.7%) exhibited low commercial arson rates, while Queens (34.5%) and Staten Island (27.4%) had relatively high proportions of arsons in commercial structures.

There is similar fluctuation in the seasonal occurrence of arson throughout the city. Thus, while arson decreased markedly in two boroughs in the Fall (Bronx, -28.6%, Staten Island, -13.9%), it rose appreciably in Manhattan (+20.3%) during the same time period.

Although it accounted for the least number of arson offenses in the City (252 or 4.14%), Staten Island ranked disproportionately high in the percentage of structural fires determined to be arson (20.2%); in the average fire claim loss submitted (\$18,837); and in the percentage of its vacant buildings that suffered arson fires (11.1%).

Arson injuries and fatalities, as well as arrests, were closely correlated to the relative incidence of arson in each of the boroughs. Thus, Brooklyn ranked first in these categories and Staten Island ranked last.

There were 630 individuals arrested and charged with arson or attempted arson in 1983, 33% of whom were under the age of 21. Of all those arrested, 62.9% were charged with setting fires in residential buildings. More than half of those arrested (55.2%) were charged with the most serious type of arson (arson in the First or Second Degree, Class A-1 and B felonies, respectively). The most frequent companion felony charges for arrested arsonists were reckless endangerment, burglary and criminal mischief.

Community District Level

More than one third of all arson offenses in the City were concentrated in eight of its 59 community districts. More than half of all the City's arson was located in 14 districts. Conversely, the City's 14 least arson prone neighborhoods accounted for only 7% of the arson total. Districts in northern Brooklyn, the South Bronx and northern Manhattan, where older multiple dwellings predominate, are at the top of the C.D. rankings, while communities in Queens, where private homes are the norm, cluster at the bottom. The North Shore area of Staten Island is an interesting exception to this rule. While the proportion of arson which occurred in private homes in the North Shore is high compared to the city-wide frequency (33% in CD#1 vs. 8.4% in the city as a whole), it is noted that 64% of these private homes were vacant, a figure significantly higher than the city-wide vacant building arson rate of 54% for private dwellings. Moreover, although only 2% of its building lots consist of multiple dwellings, almost one-third of its arson (32%) was concentrated in such buildings.

In five districts, arsons in vacant buildings outnumbered arsons in occupied structures and four of these districts were located in a contiguous area in the Bronx which extends from the East and Bronx Rivers on the south and east, to Bronx Park on the north and southwest along Webster and Park Avenues to the Harlem River. This sector of the borough is marked by its inordinately high percentage of vacant lots and buildings.

Other neighborhoods which show noteworthy deviations from the borough or city-wide mean include:

-Jamaica/St. Albans, where 44% of all structural arson occurred in commercial and industrial buildings (despite a commercial/industrial land use percentage in the district of only 6%).

-Lower Manhattan, where 82% of all structural arson occurred in the commercial/industrial/public properties which dominate this civic/financial center.

-East New York, where 21% of all structural arson involved private dwellings, three quarters of which were vacant when burned.

-Canarsie/Flatlands, where 56% of its building arsons took place in a commercial/industrial premises, in a district where industrial/commercial lots account for only 5% of its land use.

There was a very high rank order correlation between arson rates and fire incidence; and between arson and the number of occupied residential units. Arson rates were found to be less strongly correlated with population density and the number of vacant buildings in particular districts.

An Outline of 1984 Arson Data

During 1984, arson in buildings fell to a 17 year low. There were 5,104 structural arson fires in the city last year, a decline of 8% from 1983's total of 5,557. Incendiary fires in vacant buildings declined 15% from the 1983 total of 1,871 to 1,584 last year. Arson in occupied structures also fell 5%, from 3,686 in 1983 to 3,520 in 1984. There were 737 motor vehicle arsons in 1984, a 50% rise over 1983's total of 490. (There is evidence to suggest that this sharp increase is more a reflection of better reporting procedures than an actual increase in incidents.)

Brooklyn experienced a 20% decline in vacant building arsons and a 6% decrease in occupied building arson, for an overall structural arson drop of 11%. However, Brooklyn remains the most arson-prone borough, accounting for 36% of all arson in the city. The Bronx saw the largest declines in vacant (-24%), occupied (-10%) and total structural arsons (-17%), but it still ranks second in arson incidence (25% of the city total). Manhattan and Queens, accounting for 20% and 12% of the city's arson total respectively, both experienced slight increases of 1% in structural arson. Staten Island, unique among the boroughs in 1984, witnessed increases in both occupied (+11%), vacant (+ 9%) and total structural arsons (+10%), but because its arson totals are comparatively low, this increase consisted of a gain of only 21 structural arson cases.

More than 50% of all structural arson is concentrated in only 17 of the city's 59 Community Districts. The largest decrease occurred in East Tremont/West Farms, where structural arsons fell

from 280 cases in 1983 to 172 in 1984, a 39% decline. The largest increase took place on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, where structural arsons rose from 69 in 1983 to 115 in 1984, a 67% rise.

Deaths caused by incendiary fires declined only slightly last year (from 29 to 28), continuing a downward trend that has seen a 30% reduction in arson fatalities since 1981, when 40 people died in arson fires.

Arrests for arson increased 2%, from 630 in 1984 to 641 in 1984.

Finally, the total number of arson fires in the city (including structural, motor vehicle and other arsons) decreased 3% in 1984, from 6,094 to 5,885. The sharp increase in auto arson lessened an otherwise significant decline in the occurrence of this crime.

CITY - WIDE ARSON TREND

1968 to 1983

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Arson Fires In N.Y.C.
1958 - 1983

Year	O C C U P I E D			V A C A N T			Total	% Change
	Number	% of Total	% Change	Number*	% of Total	% Change		
1958	660	(28.0)	-	1,699	(72.0)	-	2,359	-
1959	774	(28.6)	+17.3	1,930	(71.4)	+13.6	2,704	+14.6
1960	799	(24.5)	+ 3.2	2,462	(75.5)	+27.6	3,261	+20.6
1961	786	(26.5)	- 1.6	2,183	(73.5)	-11.3	2,969	- 9.0
1962	876	(30.4)	+11.5	2,005	(69.6)	- 8.2	2,881	- 3.0
1963	1,007	(35.7)	+15.0	1,810	(64.3)	- 9.7	2,817	- 2.2
1964	950	(32.1)	- 5.7	2,012	(67.9)	+11.2	2,962	+ 5.1
1965	1,184	(32.4)	+24.6	2,467	(67.6)	+22.6	3,651	+10.5
1966	1,414	(32.0)	+19.4	3,007	(68.0)	+21.9	4,421	+17.4
1967	1,670	(32.8)	+18.1	3,421	(67.2)	+13.8	5,091	+15.2
1968	1,997	(25.9)	+19.6	5,711	(74.1)	+40.1	7,708	+51.4
1969	2,585	(30.1)	+29.4	5,992	(69.9)	+11.3	8,577	+11.3
1970	2,419	(27.7)	- 6.4	6,322	(72.3)	+ 5.5	8,741	+ 1.9
1971	1,888	(23.1)	-22.0	6,302	(76.9)	- .3	8,190	- 6.3
1972	2,691	(32.1)	+42.5	5,686	(67.9)	- 9.8	8,377	+ 2.3
1973	3,093	(34.3)	+14.9	5,920	(65.7)	+ 4.1	9,013	+ 7.6
1974	3,501	(33.5)	+13.2	6,940	(66.5)	+17.2	10,441	+15.8
1975	2,592	(22.5)	-26.0	8,931	(77.5)	+28.7	11,523	+10.4
1976	3,255	(23.7)	+25.6	10,497	(76.3)	+17.5	13,752	+19.3
1977	4,573	(34.3)	+40.5	8,775	(65.7)	-16.4	13,348	- 2.9
1978	4,727	(45.9)	+ 3.4	5,575	(54.1)	-36.5	10,302	-22.8
1979	4,653	(60.0)	- 2.9	3,101	(40.0)	-43.7	7,754	-24.7
1980	4,863	(58.5)	+ 4.5	3,449	(41.5)	+11.2	8,312	+ 7.2
1981	4,484	(58.1)	- 7.8	3,223	(41.9)	- 6.5	7,707	- 7.3
1982	3,993	(58.7)	-11.00	2,813	(41.3)	-12.7	6,806	-11.7
1983	3,686	(66.3)	- 7.7	1,871	(33.7)	-33.5	5,557	-18.4

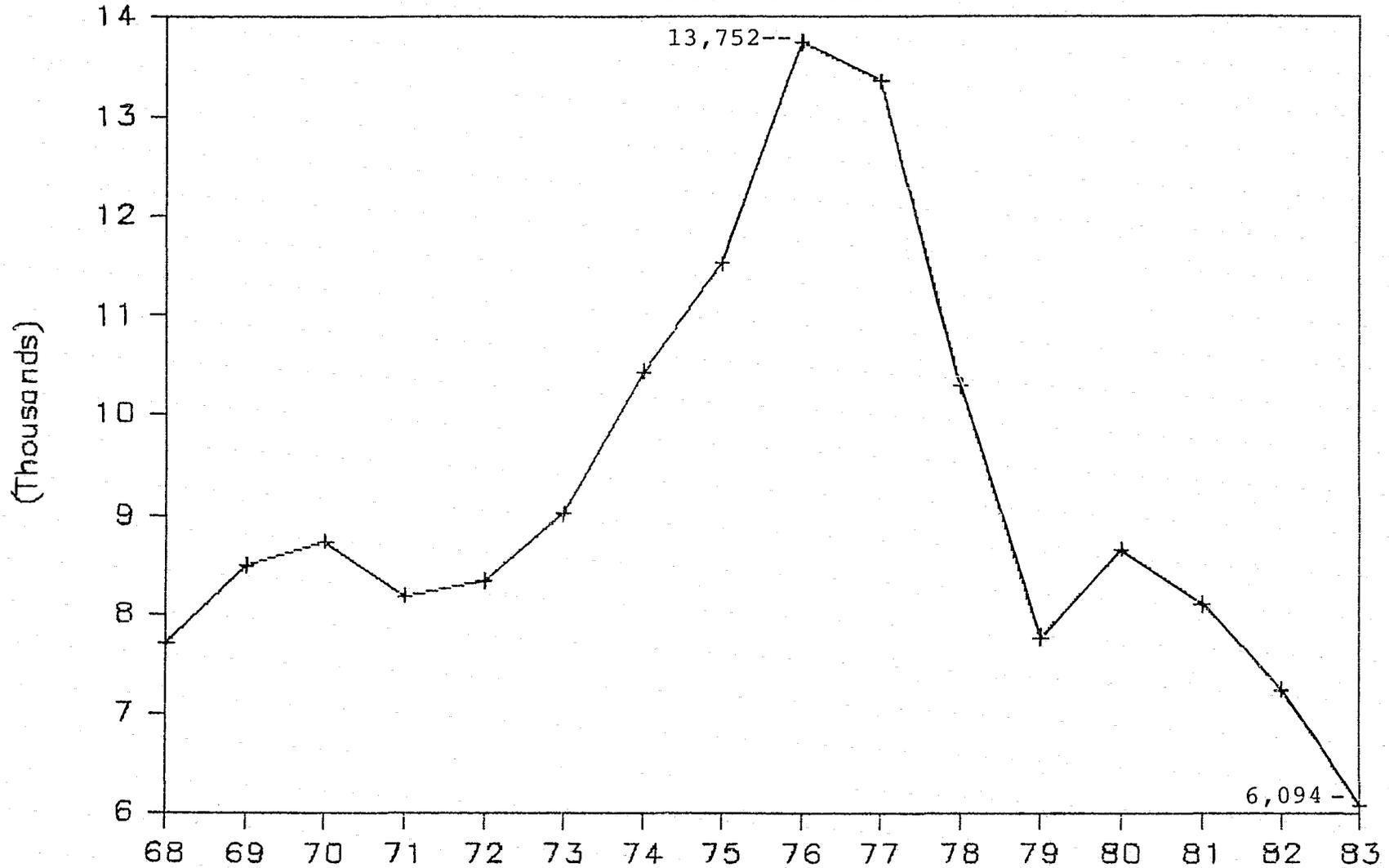
*Prior to March of 1979 the Bureau of Fire Investigation estimated vacant building arson totals by arbitrarily classifying 90% of all fires that originated in vacant buildings as incendiary.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Like most other crime categories, arson increased dramatically in the mid-1960's. After reaching its peak in the mid-1970's, arson declined steadily, particularly in vacant structures. The incidence of incendiary fires in empty buildings dropped to a 20 year low in 1983.

ARSON FIRES IN NYC

1968 TO 1983



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Arson Fires in N.Y.C.
1968 - 1983

	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Total*</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1968	1,997	-	5,711	-	7,708	-
1969	2,585	+29.4	5,992	+ 4.9	8,577	+11.3
1970	2,419	- 6.4	6,322	+ 5.5	8,741	+ 1.9
1971	1,888	-22.0	6,302	- .3	8,190	- 6.3
1972	2,691	+42.5	5,686	- 9.8	8,377	+ 2.3
1973	3,093	+14.9	5,920	+ 4.1	9,013	+ 7.6
1974	3,501	+13.2	6,940	+17.2	10,441	+15.8
1975	2,592	-26.0	8,931	+28.7	11,523	+10.4
1976	3,255	+25.6	10,497	+17.5	13,752	+19.3
1977	4,573	+40.5	8,775	-16.4	13,348	- 2.9
1978	4,727	+ 3.4	5,575	-36.5	10,302	-22.8
1979	4,653	- 2.9	3,101	-43.7	7,754	-24.7
1980**	4,863	+ 4.5	3,449	+11.2	8,312	+ 7.2
1981	4,484	- 7.8	3,223	- 6.5	7,707	- 7.3
1982	3,993	-11.0	2,813	-12.7	6,806	-11.7
1983	3,686	- 7.7	1,871	-33.5	5,557	-18.4

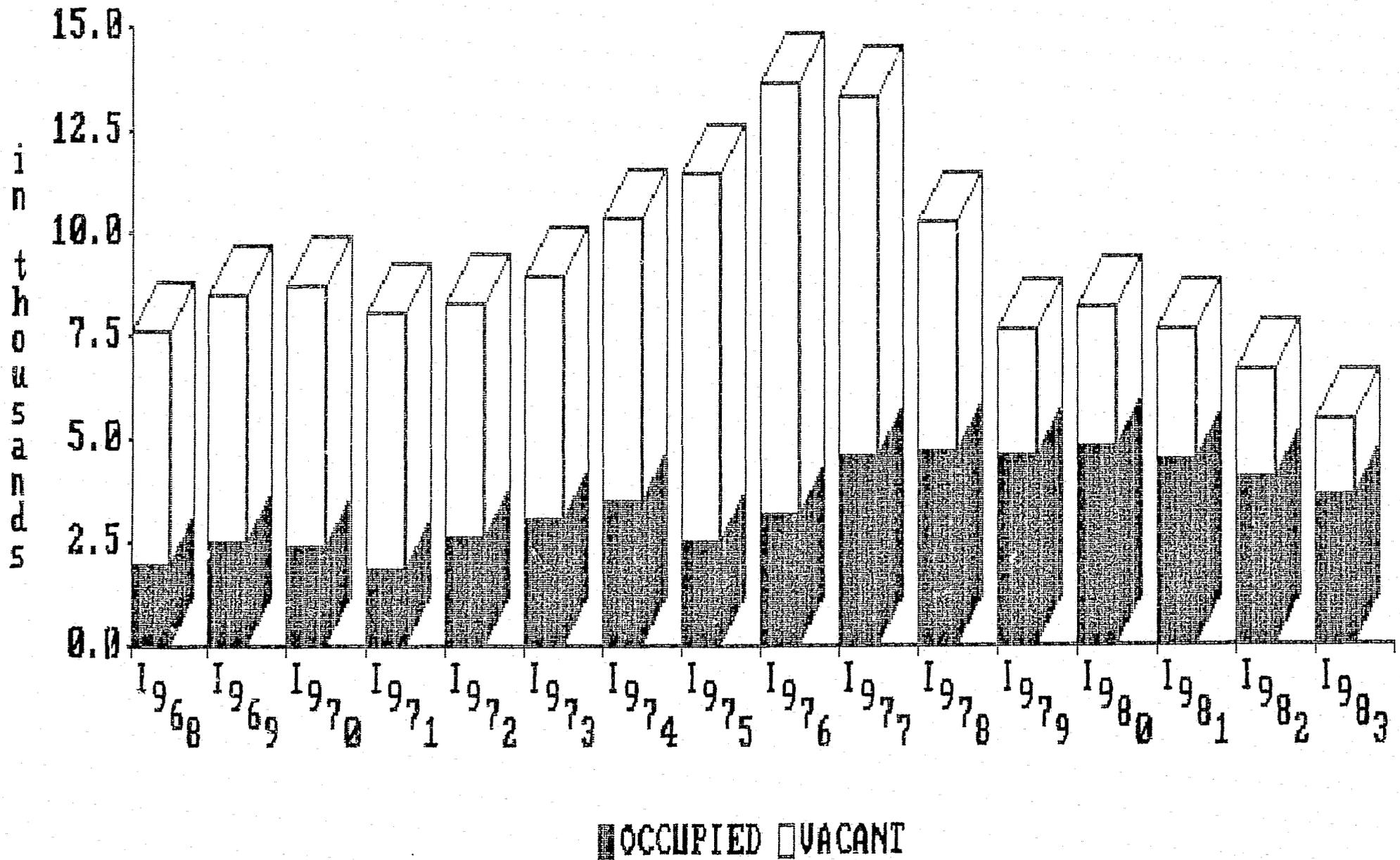
*Prior to March of 1979, when fire marshals first began to routinely investigate suspicious fires in vacant buildings, the Bureau of Fire Investigation estimated vacant building arson incidence by arbitrarily classifying 90% of all fires that originated in vacant buildings as incendiary.

** Since the NYS Penal Law was amended to make the intentional burning of a motor vehicle arson during 1979, Structural arson totals account for all arson incidence only in years prior to 1980.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

When arson peaked in 1976, 76.3% of incendiary fires (10,497 out of 13,752) were occurring in vacant buildings. Vacant building arsons declined dramatically over the next seven years and in 1983 there were only 1,871 such incidents (a decline of 82.2%). Arson in occupied buildings meanwhile peaked in 1980 and declined steadily thereafter until by 1983, there had been an overall decrease of 24.2% in this category (from 4,863 to 3,686). In 1983, two out of every three structural arsons occurred in occupied buildings while one out of three occurred in vacant buildings (66.4% occupied vs. 33.6% vacant).

Structural Arson
1968-1983

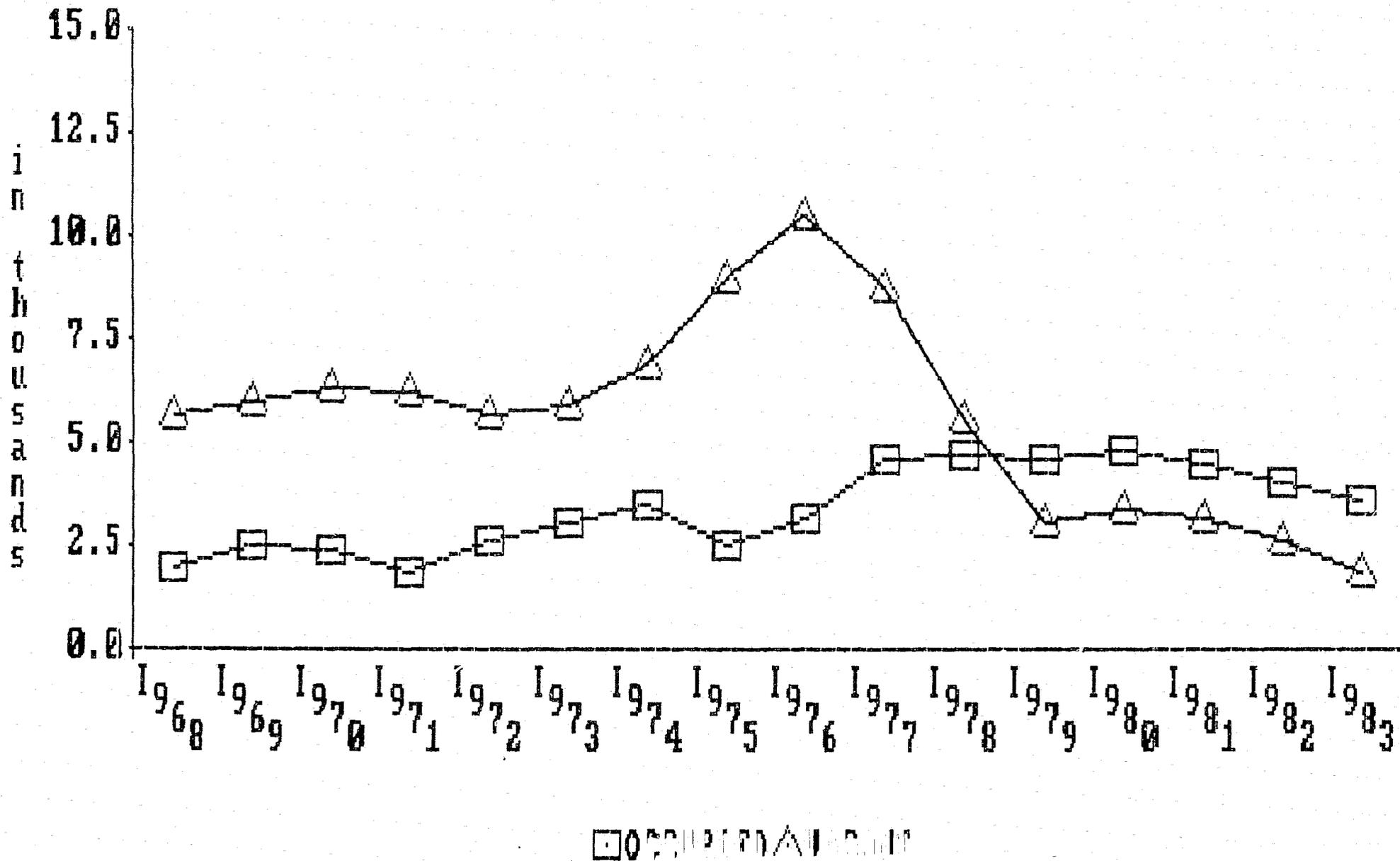


ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Arson Trend

Occupied vs. Vacant

1968-1983



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

New York City
Crime Trends 1979 - 83
Number of Offenses Known to Police

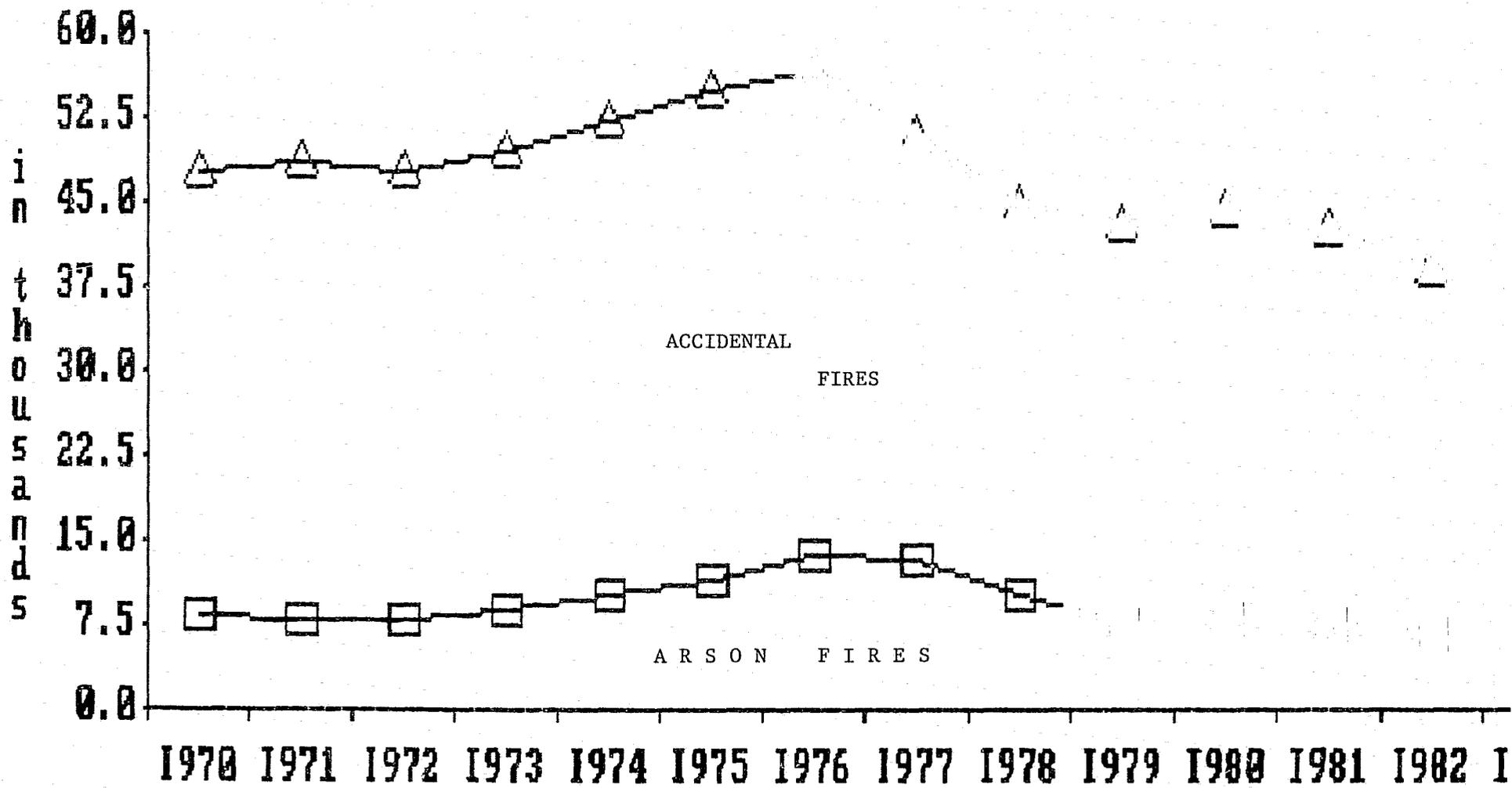
	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>% Change</u> <u>1982 - 1983</u>	<u>% Change</u> <u>1979 - 1983</u>
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	1,733	1,812	1,826	1,668	1,622	- 2.76	- 6.41
Forcible Rape	3,875	3,711	3,862	3,547	3,662	+ 3.24	- 5.50
Robbery	82,572	100,550	107,475	95,944	84,043	-12.4	+ 1.78
Aggravated Assault	44,203	43,476	43,783	42,784	43,326	+ 1.27	- 1.98
Burglary	178,162	210,703	205,825	172,794	143,698	-16.84	-19.34
Larceny/Theft	220,817	249,421	258,369	264,400	253,801	- 4.01	+14.94
Motor Vehicle Theft	89,748	100,478	104,706	107,430	92,725	-13.69	+ 3.32
Arson	<u>7,754</u>	<u>8,659</u>	<u>8,105</u>	<u>7,249</u>	<u>6,094</u>	<u>-15.93</u>	<u>-21.40</u>
Total	<u>628,864</u>	<u>718,810</u>	<u>733,951</u>	<u>695,816</u>	<u>628,971</u>	<u>- 9.61%</u>	<u>+ 0.02%</u>

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports. (Arson totals are provided by N.Y.C. Fire Department, Bureau of Fire Investigation.)

Comparing the arson trend to the seven other major felonies which comprise the Index offenses in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, it is readily apparent that arson, followed closely by burglary, have shown the greatest decline in New York City: not only from 1982 to 1983, but also over the entire five year period presented here.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Fires
Arson vs. Accidental
1970-1983



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Fires*
1970 - 1983

Year	O C C U P I E D			V A C A N T			Total	% Change
	Number	% Change	% of Total	Vacant	% Change	% of Total		
1970	40,722	-	85.3	7,024	-	14.7	47,746	-
1971	41,902	+ 2.9	85.7	7,002	- .3	14.3	48,904	+ 2.4
1972	41,427	- 1.1	86.8	6,318	- 9.8	13.2	47,745	- 2.3
1973	42,955	+ 3.7	86.7	6,578	+ 4.1	13.3	49,533	+ 3.7
1974	44,457	+ 3.5	84.7	8,016	+21.9	15.3	52,473	+ 5.9
1975	45,033	+ 1.3	82.0	9,924	+23.8	18.0	54,957	+ 4.7
1976	45,147	+ .3	79.5	11,663	+17.5	20.5	56,810	+ 3.3
1977	41,191	- 8.8	80.9	9,750	-16.4	19.1	50,941	-10.3
1978	38,476	- 6.6	86.1	6,194	-36.5	13.9	44,670	-12.3
1979	37,374	- 2.9	86.8	5,698	- 8.0	13.2	43,072	- 3.5
1980	38,339	+ 2.6	86.8	5,812	+ 2.0	13.2	44,151	+ 2.5
1981	37,018	- 3.4	87.3	5,370	- 7.6	12.7	42,388	- 3.9
1982	34,593	- 6.6	88.1	4,658	-13.3	11.9	39,251	- 7.4
1983	33,001	- 4.6	90.4	3,504	-24.8	9.6	36,525	- 4.9

* Includes all fires - accidental and incendiary - that occurred in buildings.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

In 1976, one out of every five structural fires occurred in vacant buildings. This percentage decreased steadily over the next seven years, and by 1983, only one in ten fires occurred in vacant structures. Since 1976, there has been a 26.9% decline in fires in occupied structures and a 69.9% decrease in vacant building fires.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

STRUCTURAL ARSONS PER STRUCTURAL FIRES
1970 to 1983

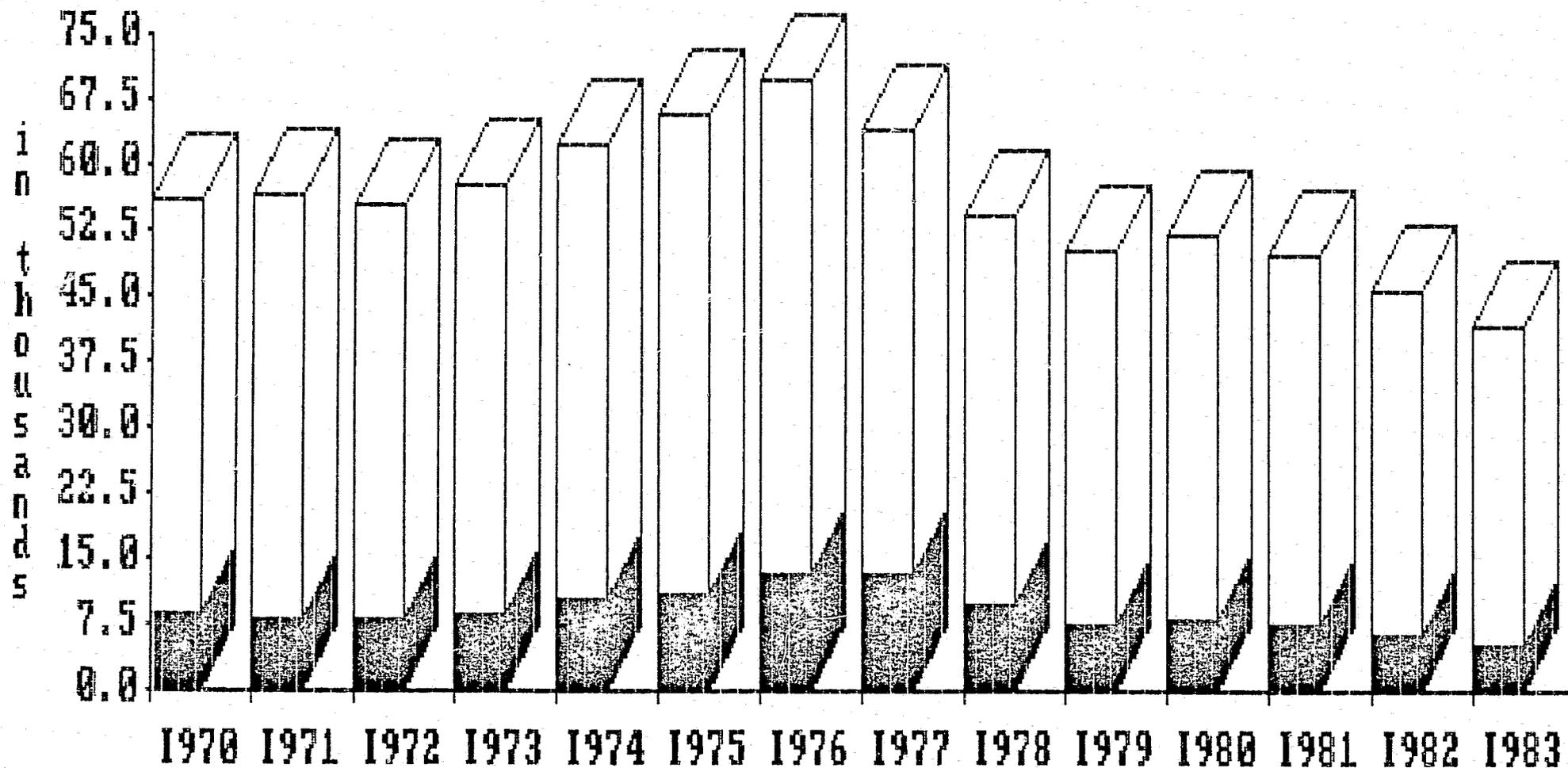
	<u># of Structural</u> <u>Arsons</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Change</u>	<u># of Structural</u> <u>Fires*</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Arson Per</u> <u>Fire Ratio</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Change</u>
1970	8,741	-	47,746	-	.1830	-
1971	8,190	- 6.3	48,904	+ 2.4	.1674	- 1.56
1972	8,377	+ 2.3	47,745	- 2.3	.1754	+ .80
1973	9,013	+ 6.1	49,533	+ 3.7	.1819	+ .73
1974	10,441	+15.8	52,473	+ 5.9	.1989	+ 1.70
1975	11,523	+10.4	54,957	+ 4.7	.2096	+ 1.07
1976	13,752	+19.3	56,810	+ 3.3	.2420	+ 3.24
1977	13,348	- 2.9	50,941	-10.3	.2620	+ 2.00
1978	10,302	-22.8	44,670	-12.3	.2306	- 3.14
1979	7,754	-24.7	43,072	- 3.5	.1800	- 5.06
1980	8,312	+ 7.2	44,151	+ 2.5	.1882	+ .82
1981	7,707	- 7.3	42,388	- 3.9	.1818	- .64
1982	6,806	-11.7	39,251	- 7.4	.1733	- .85
1983	5,557	-18.4	36,525	- 4.9	.1521	- 2.12

* Includes all structural fires, both incendiary and accidental.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The number of total structural fires and the number of arson fires both peaked in 1976. In 1977, 26.2% of all structural fires that occurred in the City were incendiary. In 1983, the percentage of incendiary fires had declined to a 14 year low of 15.2%. Since 1976, all structural fires have decreased by 35.7%, while structural arson has declined at an even greater rate of 59.6%.

Structural Arsons Per Structural Fires
1970-1983



■ STRUCTURAL ARSON □ STRUCTURAL FIRE

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Percentage of Structural Fires (Occupied/Vacant)
Classified as Incendiary, 1970 - 1983

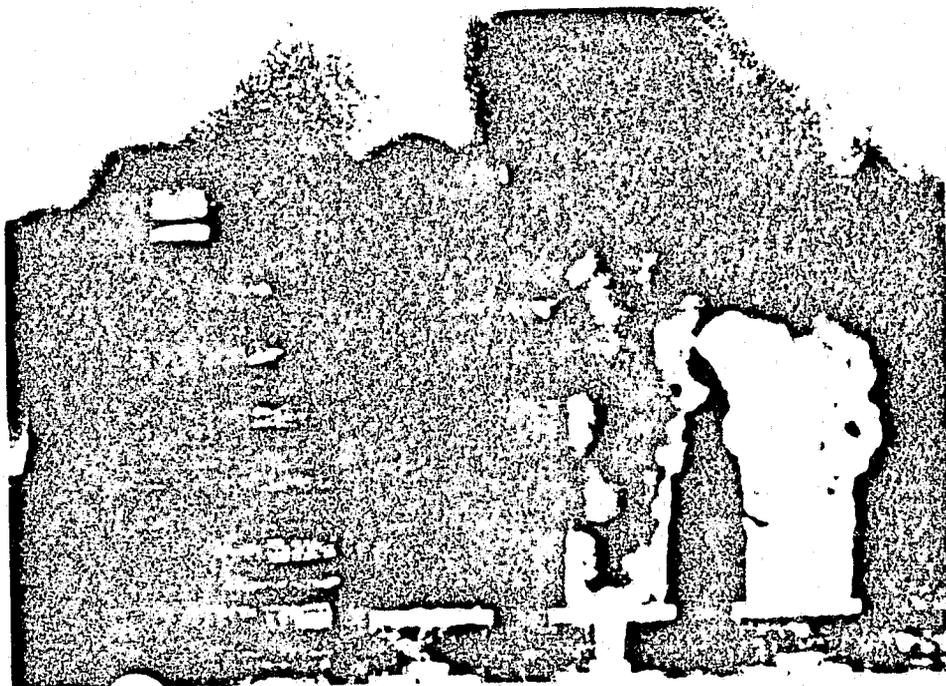
Year	O C C U P I E D				V A C A N T				T O T A L	
	Number of Fires	% of Total	Number Incendiary	% Incendiary	Number of Fires	% of Total	Number Incendiary*	% Incendiary*	Number	% Incendiary
1970	40,722	(85.3)	2,419	(5.9)	7,024	(14.7)	6,322	(90)	47,746	(18.3)
1971	41,902	(85.7)	1,888	(4.5)	7,002	(14.3)	6,302	(90)	48,904	(16.7)
1972	41,427	(86.8)	2,691	(6.5)	6,318	(13.2)	5,686	(90)	47,745	(17.5)
1973	42,955	(86.7)	3,093	(7.2)	6,578	(13.3)	5,920	(90)	49,533	(18.2)
1974	44,457	(84.7)	3,501	(7.9)	8,016	(15.3)	6,940	(90)	52,473	(19.9)
1975	45,033	(82.0)	2,592	(5.8)	9,924	(18.0)	8,931	(90)	54,957	(21.0)
1976	45,147	(79.5)	3,255	(7.2)	11,663	(20.5)	10,497	(90)	56,810	(24.2)
1977	41,191	(80.9)	4,573	(11.1)	9,750	(19.1)	8,775	(90)	50,941	(26.2)
1978	38,476	(86.1)	4,727	(12.3)	6,194	(13.9)	5,575	(90)	44,670	(23.1)
1979	37,374	(86.8)	4,653	(12.4)	5,698	(13.2)	3,101	(54.4)	43,072	(18.0)
1980	38,339	(86.8)	4,863	(12.7)	5,812	(13.2)	3,449	(59.3)	44,151	(18.8)
1981	37,018	(87.3)	4,484	(12.1)	5,370	(12.7)	3,223	(60.0)	42,388	(18.2)
1982	34,593	(88.1)	3,993	(11.5)	4,658	(11.9)	2,813	(60.4)	39,251	(17.3)
1983	33,001	(90.4)	3,686	(11.2)	3,504	(9.6)	1,871	(53.4)	36,525	(15.2)

*Prior to March of 1979, the Bureau of Fire Investigation estimated vacant building arson incidence by arbitrarily classifying 90% of all fires that originated in vacant buildings as incendiary.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

The chart above indicates that vacant building arson totals might have been over-estimated in years prior to 1979 or that Battalion Chiefs might be under-reporting vacant building fires for investigation subsequent to 1979. Since fire marshals began to investigate all suspicious fires in March of 1979, the percentage of fires in vacant buildings that were actually determined to be incendiary has fluctuated between 53% and 60%. On the other hand, as fire marshal staffing levels expanded dramatically in the late 1970's, the percentage of arson determinations in occupied buildings also rose appreciably.



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson In N.Y.C.

1968 to 1983

<u>Year</u>	<u>Structural Arsons</u>	<u>Motor Vehicle Arsons*</u>	<u>Other Arsons**</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1968	7,708	-	-	7,708	-
1969	8,577	-	-	8,577	+ 11.3
1970	8,741	-	-	8,741	+ 1.9
1971	8,190	-	-	8,190	- 6.3
1972	8,377	-	-	8,377	+ 2.3
1973	9,013	-	-	9,013	+ 7.6
1974	10,441	-	-	10,441	+ 15.8
1975	11,523	-	-	11,523	+ 10.4
1976	13,752	-	-	13,752	+ 19.3
1977	13,348	-	-	13,348	- 2.9
1978	10,302	-	-	10,302	- 22.8
1979	7,754	-	-	7,754	- 24.7
1980	8,312	347	-	8,659	+ 14.0
1981	7,707	398	-	8,105	- 6.3
1982	6,806	443	-	7,249	- 10.5
1983	5,557	490	47	6,094	- 15.9

*Prior to the 1979 amendment of the NYS Penal Law, the intentional burning of a motor vehicle was not classified as arson.

**"Other" arsons include incendiary fires in sheds, dumpsters, mailboxes, etc.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Arson declined by more than 15% in 1983, continuing a downward trend that began in 1977. Overall, arson has declined by 55.7% since it peaked in 1976, and arson has now been reduced to its lowest level since 1967, when there were 5,091 cases of arson (not shown). Non-structural arson (the overwhelming majority of which occurs in automobiles) however, continues to increase steadily and now accounts for 8% of all incendiary fires in NYC (compared to 1980, when it accounted for only 4% of all arson).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Building Damage
Caused By All Fires and By Arson Fires
1978 vs. 1983

TABLE 1

All Structural Fires					
Year	None	Light (1-15%)	Moderate (16-49%)	Heavy (50+%)	Total
1978	52.6% (23,763)	39.9% (18,024)	4.8% (2,179)	2.7% (1,225)	100% (45,192)*
1983	61.2% (21,080)	32.1% (11,038)	4.6% (1,585)	2.1% (736)	100% (34,439)**

*Includes 522 fires from prior year.

**Data not available for 2,086 fires.

TABLE 2

Arson Fires in Occupied Buildings					
Year	None	Light (1-15%)	Moderate (16-49%)	Heavy (50+%)	Total
1978	25.6% (919)	56.5% (2,030)	12.0% (431)	5.9% (211)	100% (3,591)*
1983	30.8% (987)	54.6% (1,748)	10.0% (320)	4.5% (145)	100% (3,200)**

*Represents 75% of all arson in occupied buildings during 1978.

**Represents 87% of all arson in occupied buildings during 1983.

Source: 1978 Data: Arson Analysis And Prevention Final Report.
 (Arson Strike Force, 1981); 1983 Data: NYC Fire Department.

Table 1 indicates a sharp decline in the volume of all structural fires from 1978 to 1983 (-23.8%). Moreover, the damage to buildings caused by fires has also been reduced. The largest proportionate decreases occurred on the low end of the damage scale, where there were proportionately less fires causing light damage (-7.8%) and proportionately more fires causing no damage (+8.6%). Although the proportion of all fires causing moderate and heavy damage has remained relatively constant, the decrease in fire activity has resulted in a sharp decline in the number of buildings sustaining heavy damage (-39.9%) and moderate damage (-27.3%).

Table 2 demonstrates that building damage caused by arson in occupied buildings has also decreased appreciably, with proportionately 3.4% less arsons resulting in moderate and heavy damage to buildings in 1983.

CITY-WIDE ARSON, 1983

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson by Type of Property, 1983

City vs. State vs. Nation

<u>TYPE OF PROPERTY</u>	<u>PERCENT DISTRIBUTION(Number)</u>		
	<u>N.Y.C.</u>	<u>N.Y.S.</u>	<u>U. S. A.</u>
1. STRUCTURAL	<u>91.2% (5,557)</u>	<u>77.4% (8,830)</u>	<u>61.0% (51,690)</u>
-Residential	69.8	53.9	38.3
a) Single Occupancy	3.3	9.9	28.8
b) Other Residential	66.5	44.0	9.5
-Commercial	15.9	17.5	14.4
a) Storage	2.1	4.6	6.1
b) Industrial/Mfg.	1.9	1.0	1.0
c) Other Commercial	11.9	11.9	7.3
-Public/Community	5.5	5.2	5.6
2. MOBILE	<u>8.0%(490)</u>	<u>20.0%(2,285)</u>	<u>23.3%(19,724)</u>
a) Motor Vehicle	N/A	19.2	21.2
b) Other Mobile	N/A	.8	2.0
3. OTHER PROPERTY	<u>.8%(47)</u>	<u>2.6%(295)</u>	<u>15.7%(13,286)</u>
TOTAL	100%(6,094)	100%(11,410)	100%(84,700)*

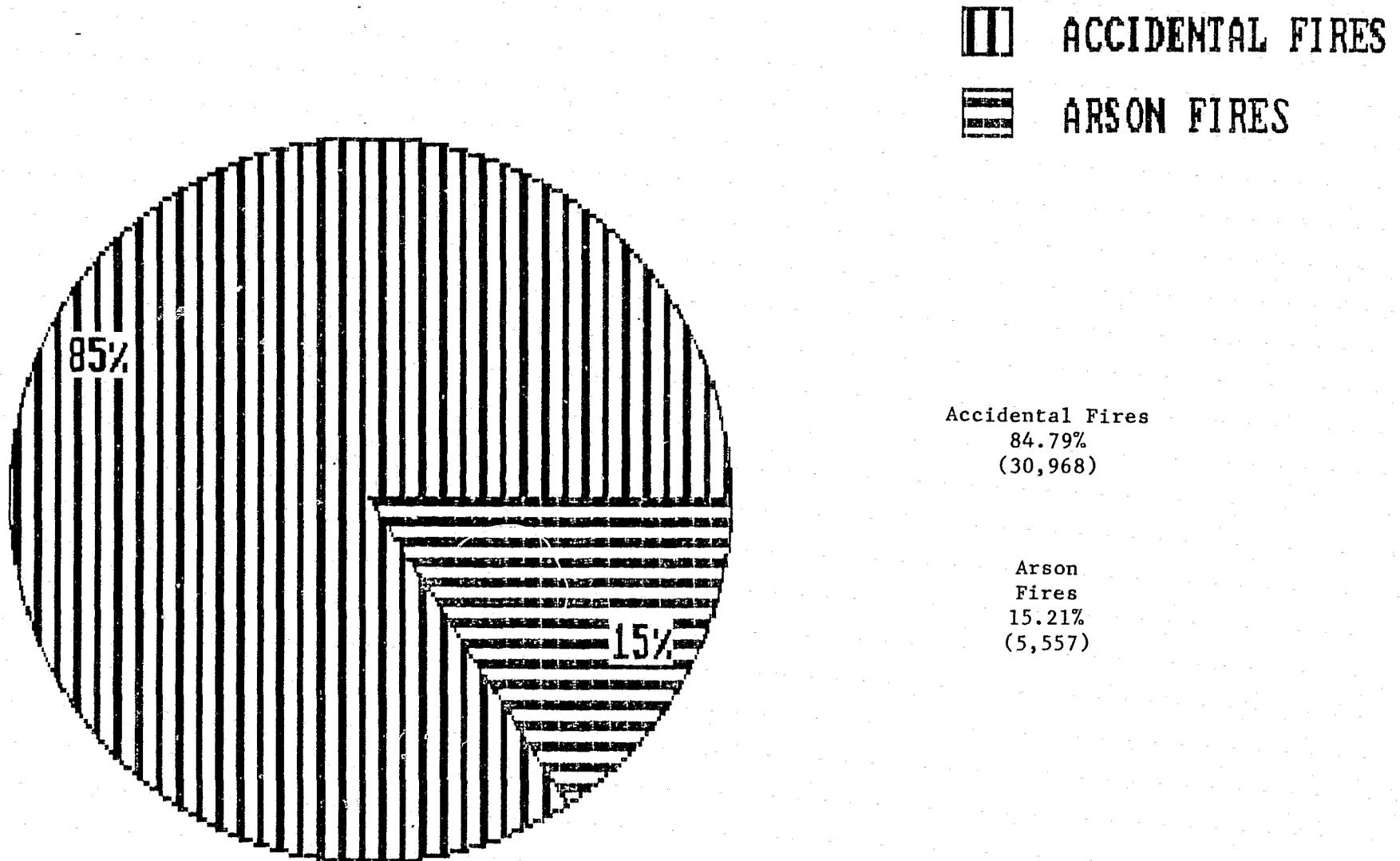
Source: NYC Fire Department; NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services; FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

*During 1983, 11,286 law enforcement agencies representing approximately 89 percent of the Nation's inhabitants reported a total of 101,947 arson offenses to the FBI's UCR Program. However data on the type of structure was not supplied in 17,247 cases.

New York City accounted for 53.4% and 6.0% of the State and national arson offense totals respectively, during 1983. Because the overwhelming majority of arson in the City occurs in buildings (91.2%), compared to 77.4% in the State and 61.0% in the Nation, New York City had a correspondingly higher share of the State and national structural arson totals: 62.9% and 8.9%, respectively. (Note: National ratio computed on the basis of 101,947 arson cases, estimating 6% of that total as structural.)

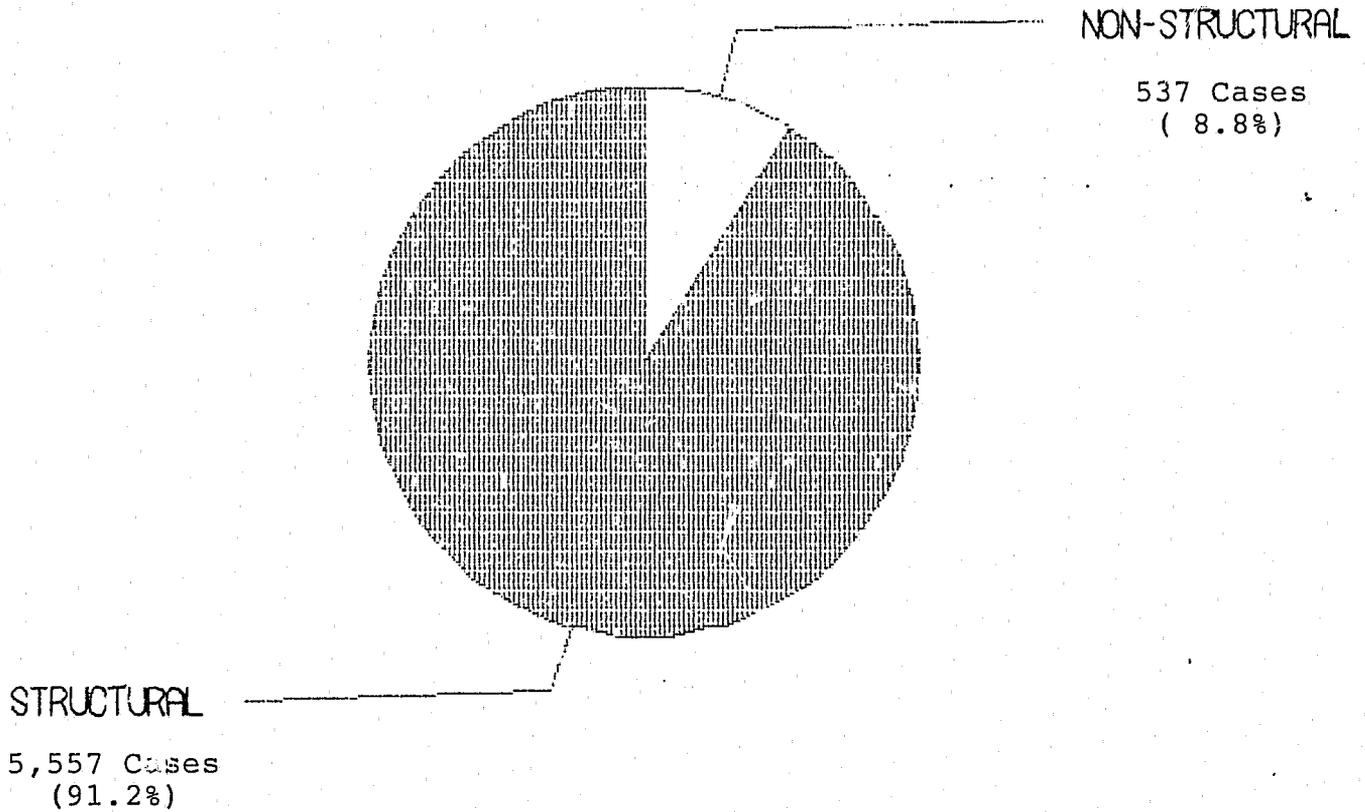
ARSON IN NYC: 1983

Structural Arsons Per Structural Fires



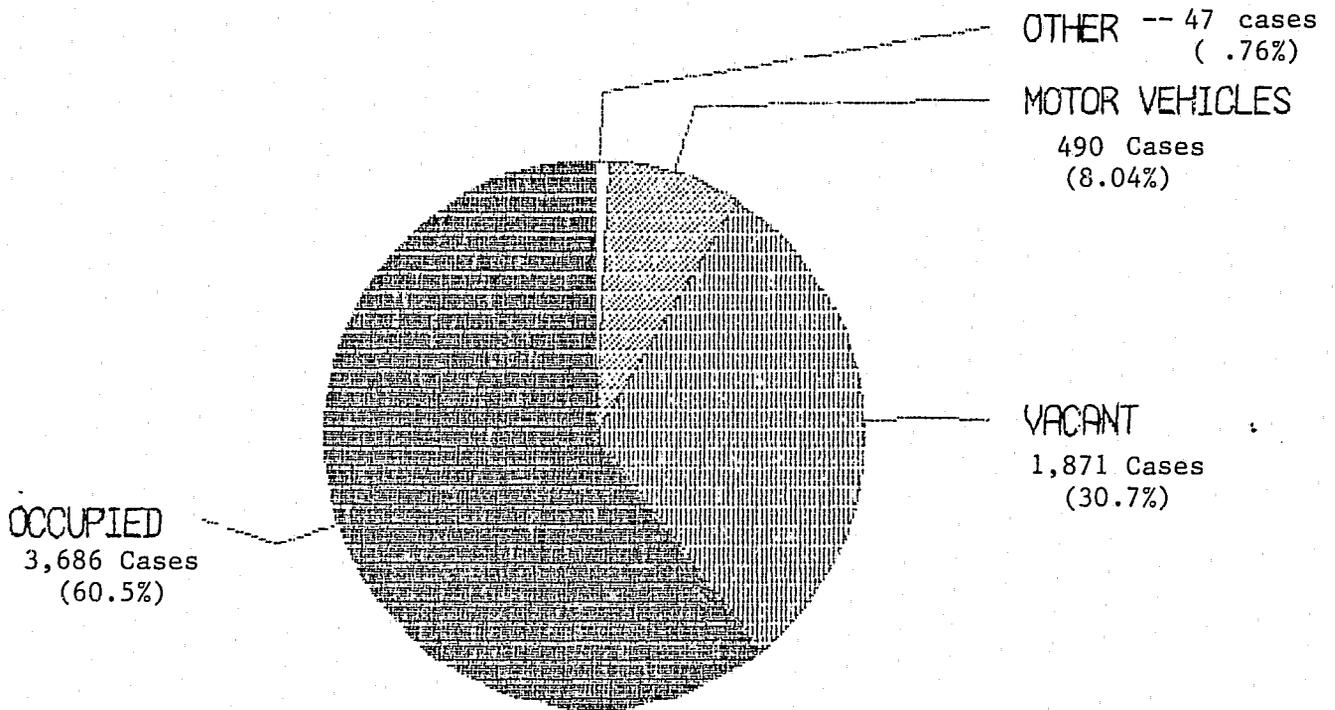
There were 36,525 structural fires in New York City during 1983, of which 30,968 (84.79%) were accidental and 5,557 (15.21%) were incendiary.

ARSON CATEGORIES



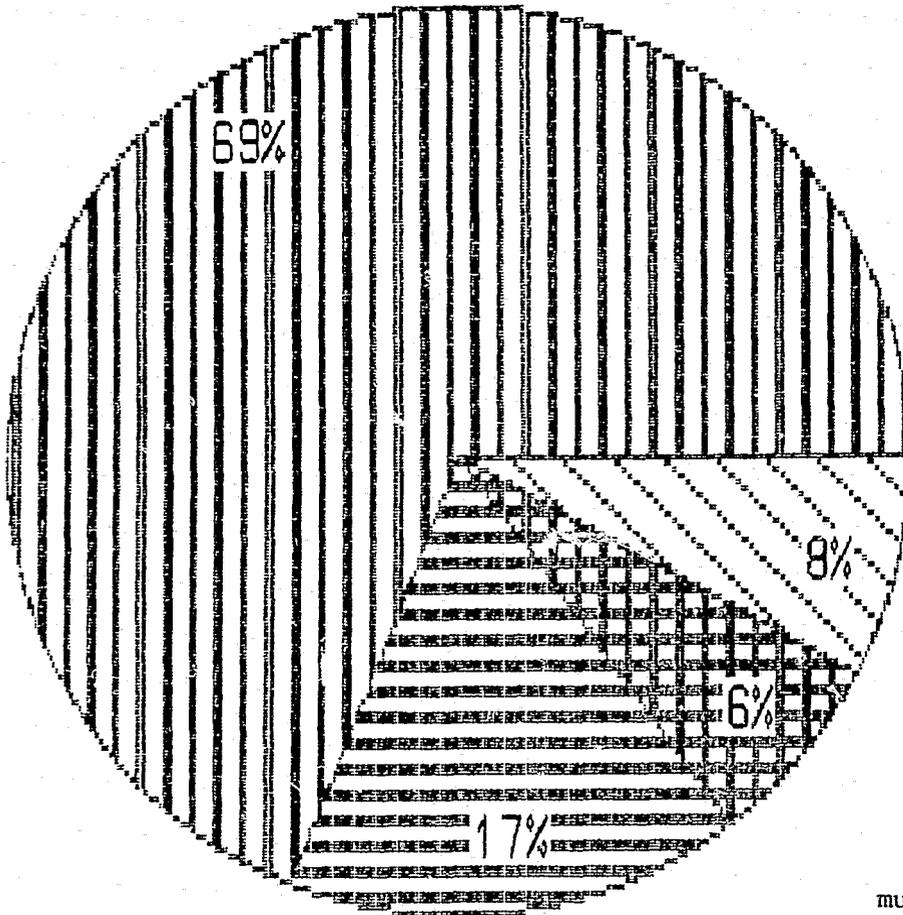
Most arson in New York City occurs in buildings. During 1983, 3,668 (or 66.3%) out of 5,557 structural arsons occurred in occupied buildings while 1,871 (or 33.6%) occurred in vacant buildings.

ARSON CATEGORIES



60.5% of all arson in New York City occurred in occupied buildings during 1983, the category which poses the greatest risk for civilian casualties. Structural arson can be further subdivided by the type of building: residential, commercial or public. Information on the type of building was available in over 90% of the cases for 1983 and is presented below.

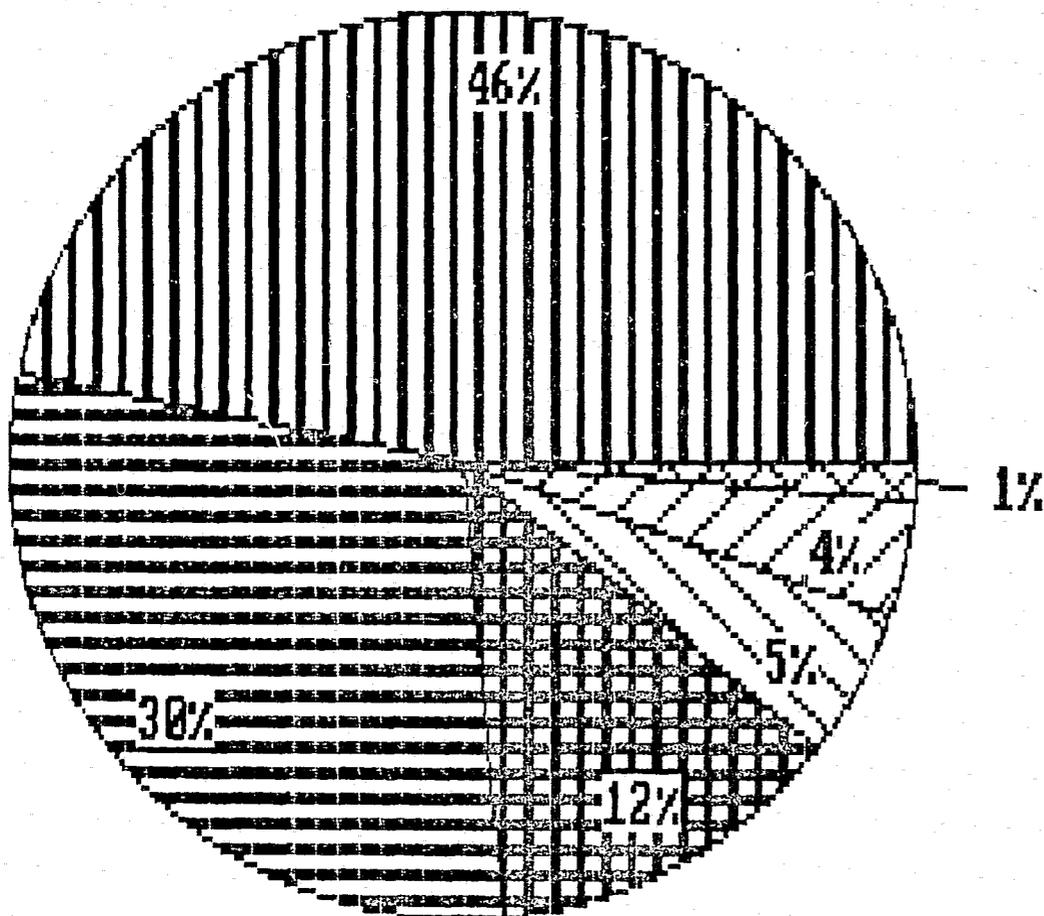
STRUCTURAL ARSON BY PROPERTY



-  MULTIPLE DWELLINGS
-  COMMERCIAL
-  PUBLIC
-  PRIVATE HOMES

During 1983, structural arson was most prevalent in multiple dwellings (68.4% of all structural arson), followed by commercial structures (17.1%), one and two family houses (8.4%) and public buildings (5.9%).

STRUCTURAL ARSON BY BUILDING TYPE



-  RESIDENTIAL OCCUPIED
-  RESIDENTIAL VACANT
-  COMMERCIAL OCCUPIED
-  COMMERCIAL VACANT
-  PUBLIC OCCUPIED
-  PUBLIC VACANT

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

TABLE OF BUILDINGS HAVING MULTIPLE ARSON FIRES

<u>Number of Incidents</u>	<u>Number of Buildings</u>	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>No. of Arsons Accounted for</u>	<u>% of Total Structural Arsons (n=5,557)</u>
2	399	254	145	798	14.36
3	97	62	35	291	5.23
4	37	29	8	148	2.66
5	8	6	2	40	.72
6	6	6	0	36	.65
7	2	2	0	14	.25
8	2	2	0	16	.29
13	1	1	0	13	.23
14	2	2	0	28	.50
32	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>.58</u>
Total	555	365	190	1,416	25.48%

Source: NYC, Fire Department.

There were 555 buildings that suffered more than one arson fire during 1983. 156 of these 555 buildings experienced more than two arson fires. The building that suffered the most arson fires (32) during 1983 was the Brooklyn House of Detention. (However, none of the fires caused structural damage, being confined for the most part to mattresses in cells.)

These 555 buildings accounted for 25% of all structural arson fires for the year. Adding these buildings to the 4,141 structures that experienced only one arson fire (3,321 occupied and 1,681 vacant), there were a total of 4,696 buildings affected by arson during 1983. Thus less than 1% of the approximately 775,000 buildings in New York City suffered arson fires during 1983.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Types of Buildings by the
Number of Arsons Sustained

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Type of Building</u>	<u>No. of Arsons</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
1	New Law Tenement (Class A)	1,337	26.35
2	Apartment House (Class A)	1,283	25.29
3	Old Law Tenement (Class A)	632	12.46
4	Private Dwelling (Two Family)	238	4.69
5	Store (Taxpayer)	209	4.12
6	Private Dwelling (One Family)	190	3.74
7	Store & Private Dwelling	146	2.88
8	Other Commercial Building	120	2.36
9	Other Residential Building	69	1.36
10	Warehouse	67	1.32
11	Factory (Single Occupancy)	55	1.08
12	Public Elementary School	48	.95
13	Boarding House (Class B)	46	.91
14=	Garage (non-storage)	43	.85
	Restaurant/Diner	43	.85
16	Other Public Building	42	.83
17	Office Building	40	.79
18	Public High School	39	.77
19	Factory (Multi-occupancy)	37	.73
20	Hotel (Class B)	35	.69
21	Converted Dwelling (Class A)	29	.57
22	Hospital (Infirmary)	28	.55
23	Garage (Storage)	23	.45
24=	Shed, Newstand	22	.43
	Church, Synagogue	22	.43
26	Public Junior High School	19	.37
27	Apartment Hotel (Class A)	18	.35
28	Motel	13	.26
29	Motor Vehicle Repair Shop	12	.24
30=	Pier, Wharf, Dock, Bulkhead	11	.22
	Public Transit Station	11	.22
	Dormitory-School, Club, Lodge	11	.22

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Type of Building</u>	<u>No. of Arsons</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
33=	City Building	9	.18
	College University Building	9	.18
35=	State Building	8	.16
	Nursing Home	8	.16
	Private Elementary School	8	.16
38=	Department Store	7	.14
	Lumber Yard	7	.14
40=	Brewery	6	.12
	Dance Hall, Banquet Hall	6	.12
	Other School Building	6	.12
43=	Bank	5	.10
	Federal Building	5	.10
	Theatre (Legitimate)	5	.10
	Tunnel	5	.10
47=	Freight Depot	4	.08
	Asylum	4	.08
	Theatre (Motion Picture)	4	.08
50=	Stable	3	.06
	Airport Building	3	.06
	Dispensary, Clinic	3	.06
	Railroad Station	3	.06
	Lodging House (Class B)	3	.06
55=	Foundry	2	.04
	Steam Generating Plant	2	.04
	Foreign Building	2	.04
	Private High School	2	.04
59=	Oil Selling Station	1	.02
	Bus Terminal	1	.02
	Interstate Building	1	.02
	Children's Nursery School	1	.02
	Television Studio	1	.02
	Convent, Rectory, Monastery	1	.02
	Total	<u>5,073*</u>	<u>100.%</u>

* There were 484 cases (8.7%) for which this information was not available.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

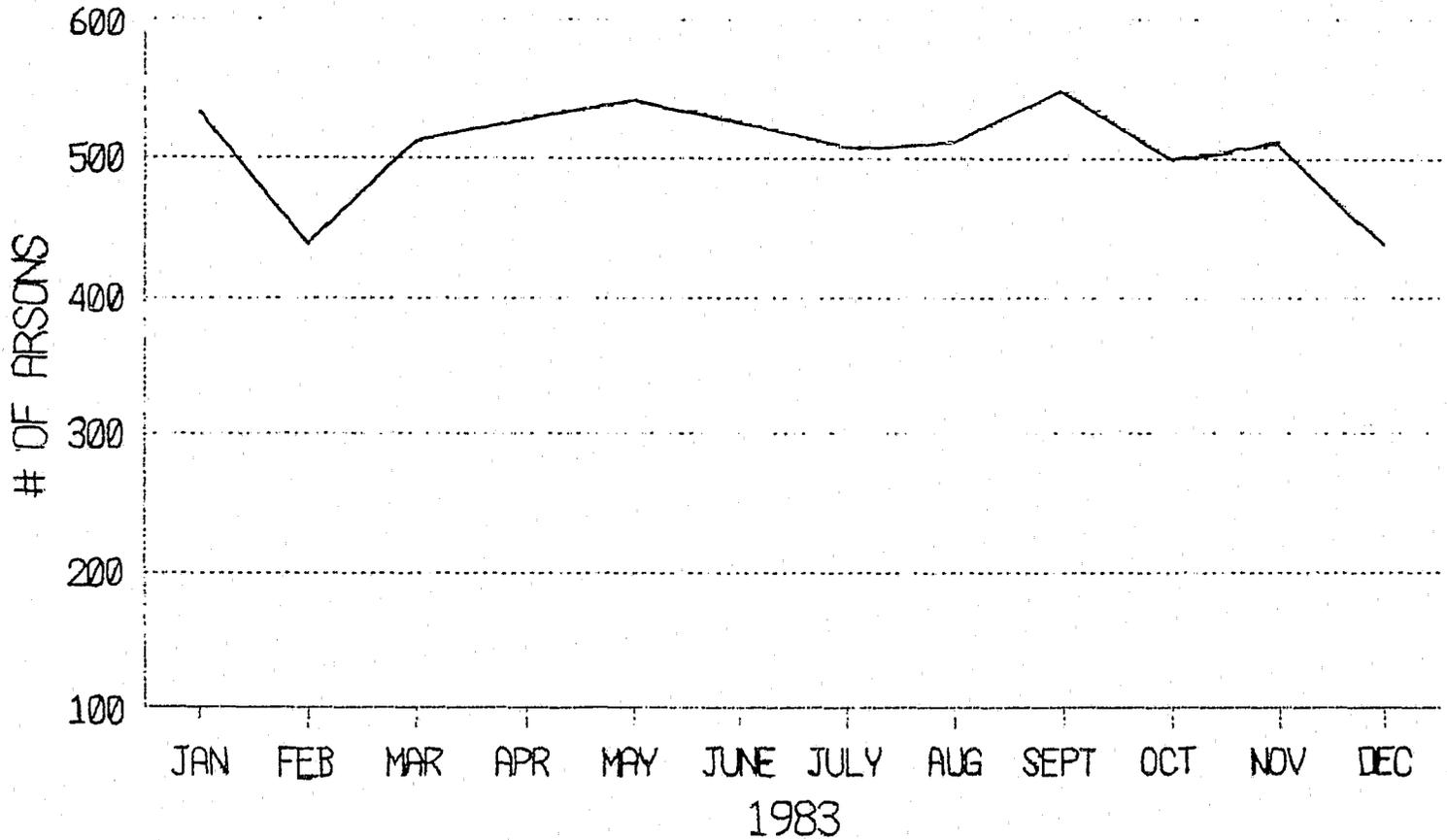
Arson Incidents by Quarter

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>% OF TOTAL</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
1st Quarter	1,481	24.3	--
2nd Quarter	1,599	26.2	+ 7.9
3rd Quarter	1,566	25.7	- 2.1
4th Quarter	1,448	23.8	- 7.5
Total	6,094	100%	

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The arson rate in the City increased in the Spring (+7.9%) and decreased in the Fall (-7.5%).

ARSON BY MONTH



Source: N.Y.C. Fire Department

The most arson cases were recorded in September (549) and May (542), while the fewest occurred in February and December (437 each). Controlling for the number of days in a given month, arson was most frequent in September (18.3 cases a day) and April (17.7 cases a day) and least prevalent in December (14.1 cases a day) and February (15.6 cases a day). For the entire year, there was an average of 16.7 arsons per day.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson by Type of Building
and Month of Year (%)

	<u>Resid. Bldgs</u>	<u>Comm. Bldgs.</u>	<u>Public Bldgs.</u>	<u>Total % for Each Month</u>
January	6.79%	1.30%	.53%	8.62%
February	5.59%	1.08%	.31%	6.99%
March	6.52%	1.43%	.37%	8.32%
April	6.44%	1.57%	.47%	8.48%
May	6.79%	1.41%	.73%	8.93%
June	6.69%	1.33%	.61%	8.64%
July	6.58%	1.43%	.43%	8.44%
August	6.69%	1.71%	.49%	8.89%
September	7.20%	1.71%	.49%	9.40%
October	6.18%	1.69%	.49%	8.36%
November	6.08%	1.47%	.39%	7.95%
December	5.34%	1.04%	.61%	6.99%
Total*	76.90%	17.17%	5.93%	100%

* There were 462 cases for which this information was not available.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Residential and commercial arsons both peaked in September, while arson in public buildings peaked in May. December saw the least amount of residential and commercial arsons, while the fewest arsons in public buildings occurred in February.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson by Type of Building
And Day of Week (%)

	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Total*</u>
Sunday	17.1%	14.4%	17.8%	16.68%
Monday	14.5%	17.8%	14.5%	15.11%
Tuesday	11.7%	11.7%	15.2%	11.92%
Wednesday	13.9%	11.3%	11.2%	13.33%
Thursday	13.4%	13.7%	10.9%	13.37%
Friday	12.4%	14.4%	11.5%	12.72%
Saturday	<u>16.8%</u>	<u>16.5%</u>	<u>18.5%</u>	<u>16.86%</u>
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
	(3,918 cases)	(875 cases)	(302 cases)	(5,095 cases)*

*There were 462 cases for which this information was not available.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

33.9% of all residential arsons (accounting for 26.1% of all structural arsons) occurred on Saturday and Sunday, in 1983. Commercial arson was most likely to occur on Monday (17.8%), while Saturday was the most frequent day for public building arson (18.5%).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Arson Incidents
by
Time of Day

<u>Hour</u>	<u>% of City Total*</u>
Midnight to 12:59 am	5.25%
1:00 am to 1:59 am	5.13%
2:00 am to 2:59 am	5.38%
3:00 am to 3:59 am	5.21%
4:00 am to 4:59 am	4.48%
5:00 am to 5:59 am	4.07%
6:00 am to 6:59 am	2.02%
7:00 am to 7:59 am	2.27%
8:00 am to 8:59 am	1.90%
9:00 am to 9:59 am	2.27%
10:00 am to 10:59 am	2.64%
11:00 am to 11:59 am	2.72%
Noon to 12:59 pm	2.72%
1:00 pm to 1:59 pm	3.82%
2:00 pm to 2:59 pm	3.80%
3:00 pm to 3:59 pm	4.19%
4:00 pm to 4:59 pm	4.64%
5:00 pm to 5:59 pm	5.19%
6:00 pm to 6:59 pm	4.60%
7:00 pm to 7:59 pm	4.93%
8:00 pm to 8:59 pm	5.38%
9:00 pm to 9:59 pm	5.62%
10:00 pm to 10:59 pm	5.66%
11:00 pm to 11:59 pm	<u>6.09%</u>
	100%

*N=5,107 (There were 450 cases for which this information was not available.)

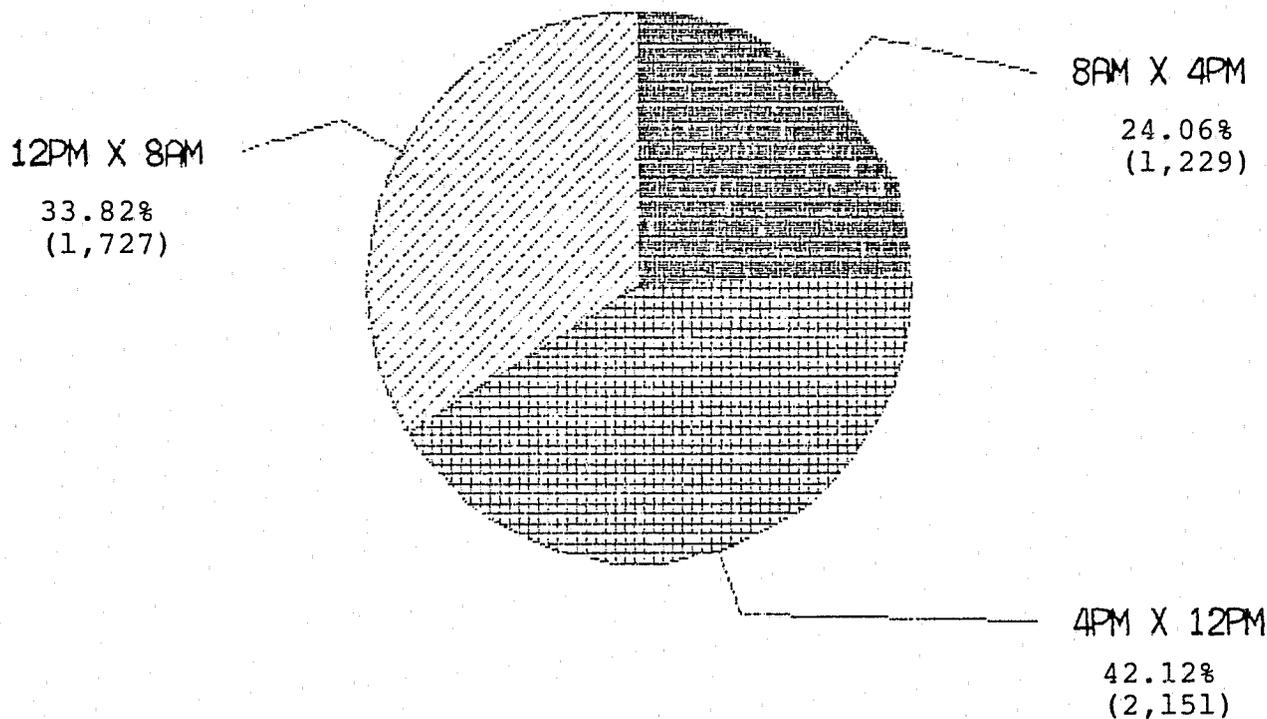
Source: NYC Fire Department.

Structural arson peaks in the three hours before midnight and then gradually recedes, dropping dramatically after 6:00 am until it reaches its lowest level at 8:00 am.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

ARSON ACTIVITY BY TRADITIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SHIFTS

(STRUCTURAL ARSON ONLY)



The lowest number of structural arson cases occurred during the 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. tour of duty (24%), then nearly doubled during the ensuing eight hour shift (42%). The midnight to 8:00 A.M. tour experienced an amount of arson exactly midway between the maximum and minimum levels (33%).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Arson Incidents by Place of
Origin of Fire

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Vacant Building	1,038	20.33
Public Hall	658	12.89
Bedroom	624	12.22
Living Room	344	6.74
Vacant Apartments	311	6.09
Storage	223	4.37
Kitchen	214	4.19
Unclassified	177	3.47
Basement	176	3.45
Outside	171	3.35
Workroom	139	2.72
Showroom	102	2.00
Stairway	92	1.80
Roof	86	1.68
Cellar	72	1.41
Office	64	1.25
Closet	60	1.17
Toilet	57	1.12
Private Hall	57	1.12
Incinerator	52	1.02
Classroom	41	.80
Flooring	39	.76
Lobby	37	.72
Shafts (Elev.)	34	.66
Shafts (Gen.)	33	.65
Ceiling	22	.43

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Dining Room	18	.35
Cockloft	17	.33
Porch	17	.33
Rec. Area	16	.31
Attic	11	.21
Furnace	10	.20
Balcony	9	.18
Loading Area	9	.18
Partition	8	.16
Machine Room	6	.12
Awning	4	.08
Ducts	4	.08
Stage	4	.08
Courts (Ext/Int)	3	.06
Chimney	1	.02
Proj. Booth	1	.02
Miscoded	<u>45</u>	<u>.88</u>
Total	5,106*	100%

*There were 451 cases for which this information was not available.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Points of origin for fires that occur in vacant buildings are usually not specified. In occupied buildings, however, 31% of all arsons are set in public hallways and bedrooms.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Extent of Fire Damage to Buildings
Caused by Structural Arson

T A B L E 1

	<u>Damage by Building Use</u>			
	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Total</u>
None	1,272(80.61%)+	188(11.91%)	118(7.48%)	1,578(31.10%)
Light*	1,971(76.60%)	452(17.57%)	150(5.83%)	2,573(50.71%)
Moderate**	448(75.17%)	126(21.13%)	22(3.69%)	596(11.75%)
Heavy***	<u>214(65.44%)</u>	<u>101(30.89%)</u>	<u>12(3.67%)</u>	<u>327(6.44%)</u>
Total	3,905(76.96%)	867(17.09%)	302(5.95%)	5,074 (100%)

T A B L E 2

	<u>Damage by Building Occupancy</u>		
	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>Total</u>
None	987(62.55%)	591(37.45%)	1,578(31.10%)
Light*	1,748(67.94%)	825(32.06%)	2,573(50.71%)
Moderate**	320(53.69%)	276(46.31%)	596(11.75%)
Heavy***	<u>145(44.34%)</u>	<u>182(55.66%)</u>	<u>327(6.44%)</u>
Total	3,200(63.07%)	1,874(36.93%)	5,074(100%)

* 1 to 15% of building damaged.

** 16 to 49% of building damaged.

*** 50% (or greater) of building damaged.

+The figures in parentheses in the first three columns are all row percentages. For example, 1,272, or 80.61%, of the arson fires which caused no damage to buildings, occurred in residential structures. The last column contains column percentages, e.g., 31.1% of all structural arsons caused no damage to buildings. (There were 43 cases for which information on extent of damage was not available).

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Fire Damage (continued)

T A B L E 3

	<u>Residential Buildings Only</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	
None	812(63.84%)	460(36.16%)	1,272(32.57%)
Light*	1,273(64.59%)	698(35.41%)	1,971(50.47%)
Moderate**	206(45.98%)	242(54.02%)	448(11.47%)
Heavy***	69(32.24%)	145(67.76%)	214(5.48%)
Total	2,360(60.44%)	1,545(39.56%)	3,905(100%)

T A B L E 4

	<u>Commercial Buildings Only</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	
None	93(49.47%)	95(50.53%)	188(21.68%)
Light*	350(77.43%)	102(22.57%)	452(52.13%)
Moderate**	100(79.37%)	26(20.63%)	126(14.53%)
Heavy***	71(70.30%)	30(29.70%)	101(11.65%)
Total	614(70.82%)	254(29.30%)	867 (100%)

T A B L E 5

	<u>Public Buildings Only</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	
None	82(69.49%)	36(30.51%)	118(39.07%)
Light*	125(83.33%)	25(16.67%)	150(49.67%)
Moderate**	14(63.64%)	8(36.36%)	22(7.28%)
Heavy***	5(41.67%)	7(58.33%)	12(3.97%)
Total	226(74.83%)	76(25.17%)	302(100%)

* 1 to 15% of building damaged.

** 16 to 49% of building damaged.

*** 50% (or greater) of building damaged.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Extent of Damage to Contents of Buildings Caused by Arson Fires

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
None	2,510	364	139	3,013	61.3
Light*	897	287	138	1,322	27.0
Moderate**	287	111	13	411	8.4
Heavy***	<u>119</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>3.3</u>
Total	3,813	800	297	4,910	100%

* 1 to 15% of contents damaged.

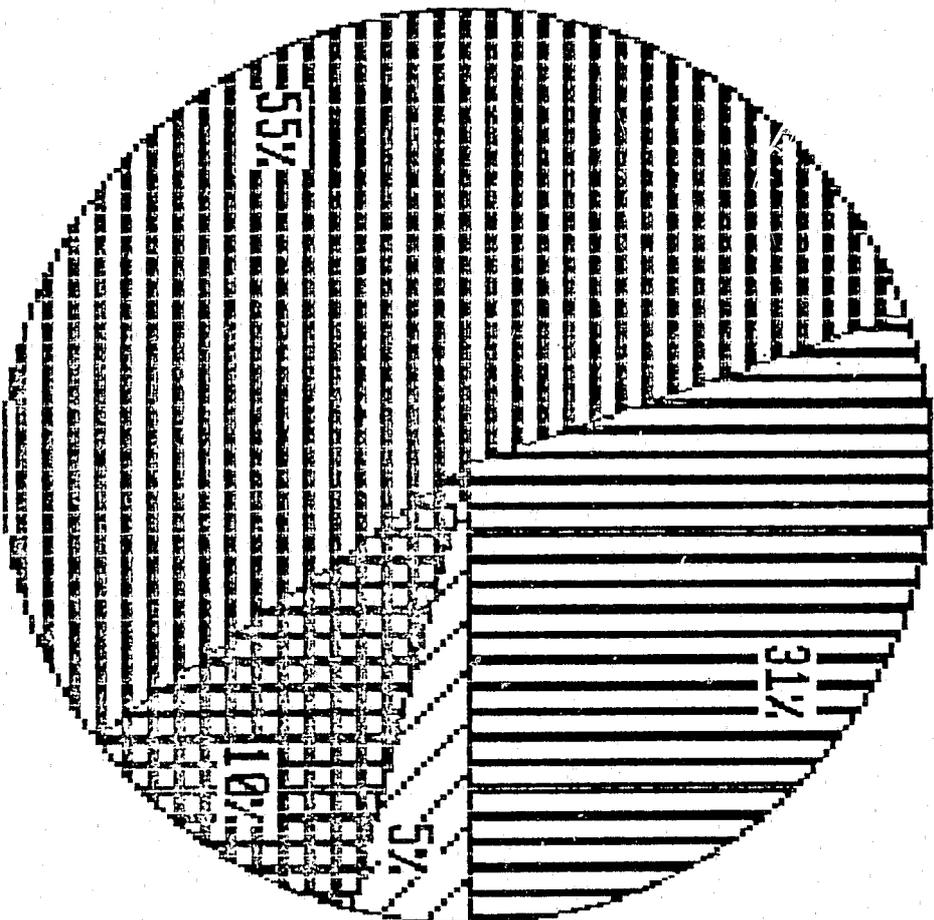
**16 to 49% of contents damaged.

***50% (or more) of contents damaged.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Approximately 11 out of 100 arson fires caused moderate to heavy damage to the contents of buildings. Although commercial arson accounts for only 17% of the city's total, 26% of all arson fires which cause moderate to heavy damage to contents occur in commercial buildings.

EXTENT OF DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS



NONE



LIGHT

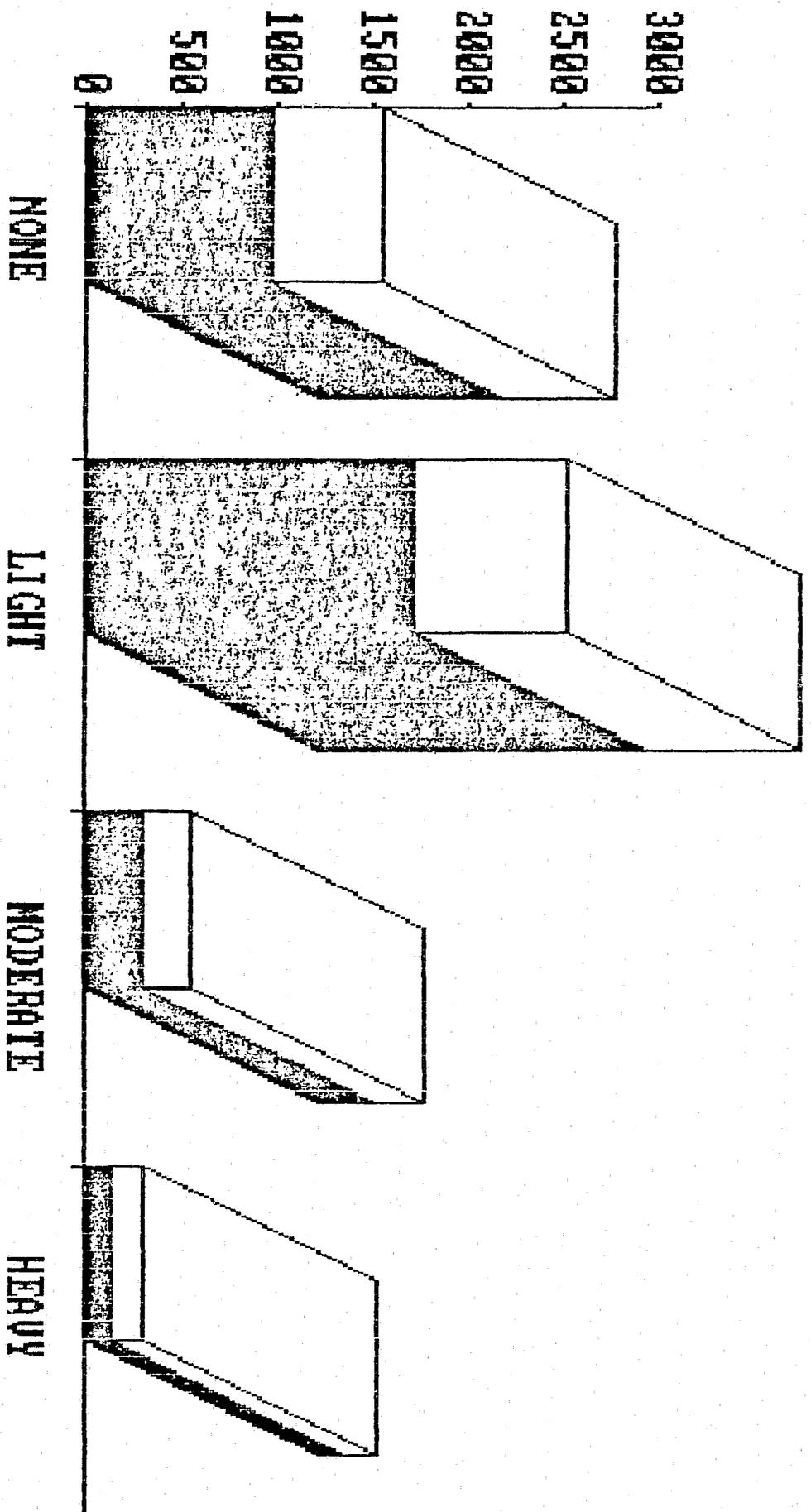


MODERATE

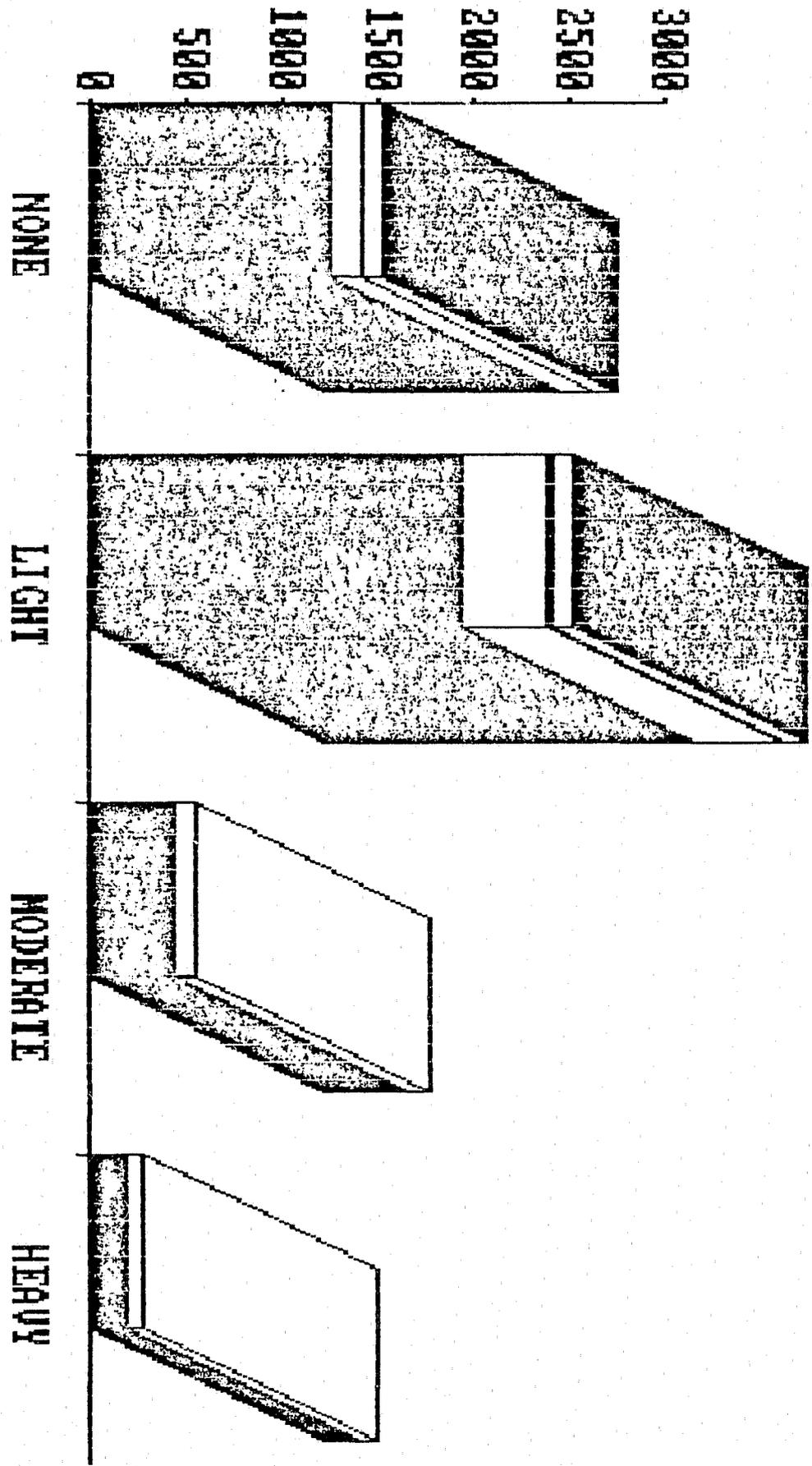


HEAVY

DAMAGE BY BUILDING OCCUPANCY



DAMAGE BY BUILDING USE



RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL PUBLIC

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Types of Buildings Which Experienced
Heavy Damage to Structure and/or Contents Due to Arson

<u>Type of Building</u>	<u># of Arsons Causing Heavy Damage</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Total Arsons</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>% of Arsons Causing Heavy Damage</u>
1. New Law Tenement (Class A)	91	(19%)	1,337	(26%)	6.8
2. Old Law Tenement (Class A)	72	(15%)	632	(12%)	11.4
3. Apartment House (Class A)	62	(13%)	1,283	(25%)	4.8
4. Private Dwelling (One Family)	44	(9%)	190	(4%)	23.2
5. Private Dwelling (Two Family)	37	(8%)	238	(5%)	15.5
6. Miscellaneous Commercial	33	(7%)	235	(5%)	14.0
7. Store (Taxpayer)	31	(6%)	209	(4%)	14.8
8. Miscellaneous Residential	22	(5%)	168	(3%)	13.1
9. Store & Private Dwelling	21	(4%)	146	(3%)	14.4
10. Miscellaneous Public	14	(3%)	277	(5%)	5.1
11. Shed/Newstand	11	(2%)	22	(4%)	50.0
12. Restaurant/Diner	9	(2%)	43	(9%)	20.8
13. Garage (Non-storage)	8	(2%)	43	(9%)	18.6
14. Warehouse	8	(2%)	67	(1%)	11.9
15. Factory (Single Occupancy)	7	(1%)	55	(1%)	12.7
16. Garage (Storage)	5	(1%)	23	(5%)	21.7
17. Church/Synagogue	5	(1%)	22	(4%)	22.7
18. Boarding House (Class B)	5	(1%)	46	(8%)	10.9
19. Factory (Multi-Occupancy)	3	(6%)	37	(7%)	8.1
20. Unknown	3	(6%)	11	(2%)	27.3
TOTAL	491	(100%)	5,084*	(100%)	9.6%

*Data was unavailable for 484 cases, or 8%, of the 5,557 total structural arson cases during 1983.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Approximately 10% of structural arson fires caused heavy damage to a building and/or its contents during 1983. The arson fires causing heavy damage are distributed among building types in much the same frequency as all arson fires. However, some categories of buildings appear to suffer particularly severe damage: one family homes (23.2% of arsons occurring there cause heavy damage); restaurants (20.9%); two family homes (15.5%); churches/synagogues (22.7%); and

newstands/sheds (50%). This is not particularly surprising since an arson in a 50 unit elevator building, for example, is more likely to be contained before it destroys half the building or its contents than an arson in a small home, especially since the majority of all private dwellings which experienced arson during 1983 were vacant at the time the fire was set.

Residential structures accounted for 68% of the buildings which suffered heavy damage, while commercial buildings were over-represented with 28% and public buildings comprised only 4%. Although residential buildings experiencing heavy damage were almost equally divided between the occupied (52%) and vacant (48%) category, commercial buildings were overwhelmingly occupied (78% occupied, 22% vacant) and public buildings fell nearest to the city-wide mean for all structural arsons (58% occupied and 42% vacant).



CITY-WIDE ARSON INJURIES & FATALITIES, 1983

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

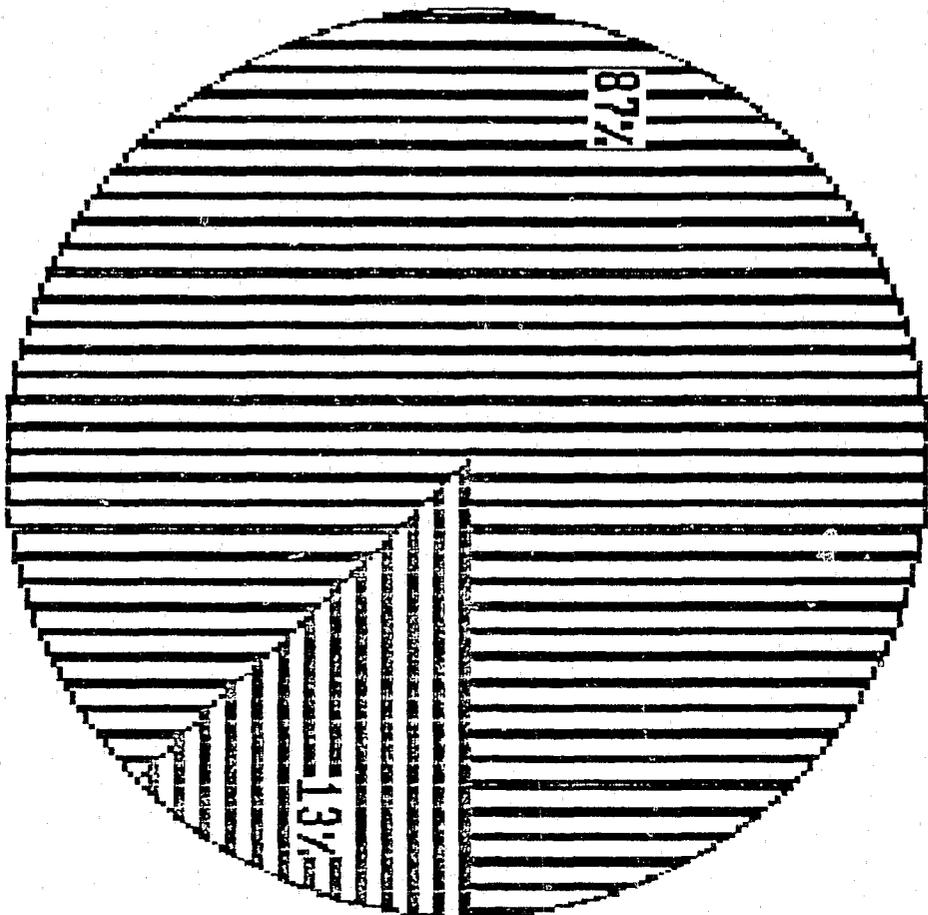
Arson Injuries by Month

<u>Month</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Uniformed Injuries</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Total</u>
January	16	6.6	174	10.4	190	9.9
February	23	9.5	92	5.5	115	6.0
March	27	11.1	145	8.6	172	8.9
<hr/>						
April	29	11.9	150	8.9	179	9.3
May	17	7.0	138	8.2	155	8.1
June	7	2.9	193	11.5	200	10.4
<hr/>						
July	23	9.5	117	6.9	140	7.3
August	14	5.8	133	7.9	147	7.6
September	18	7.4	151	9.0	169	8.8
<hr/>						
October	10	4.1	105	6.3	115	6.0
November	25	10.3	126	7.5	151	7.9
December	34	14.0	156	9.3	190	9.9
<hr/>						
Total	243	100%	1,680*	100%	1,923	100%

*Does not include one incident, where 39 uniformed firefighters were injured, for which the month was not specified.

Source: NYC, Fire Department.

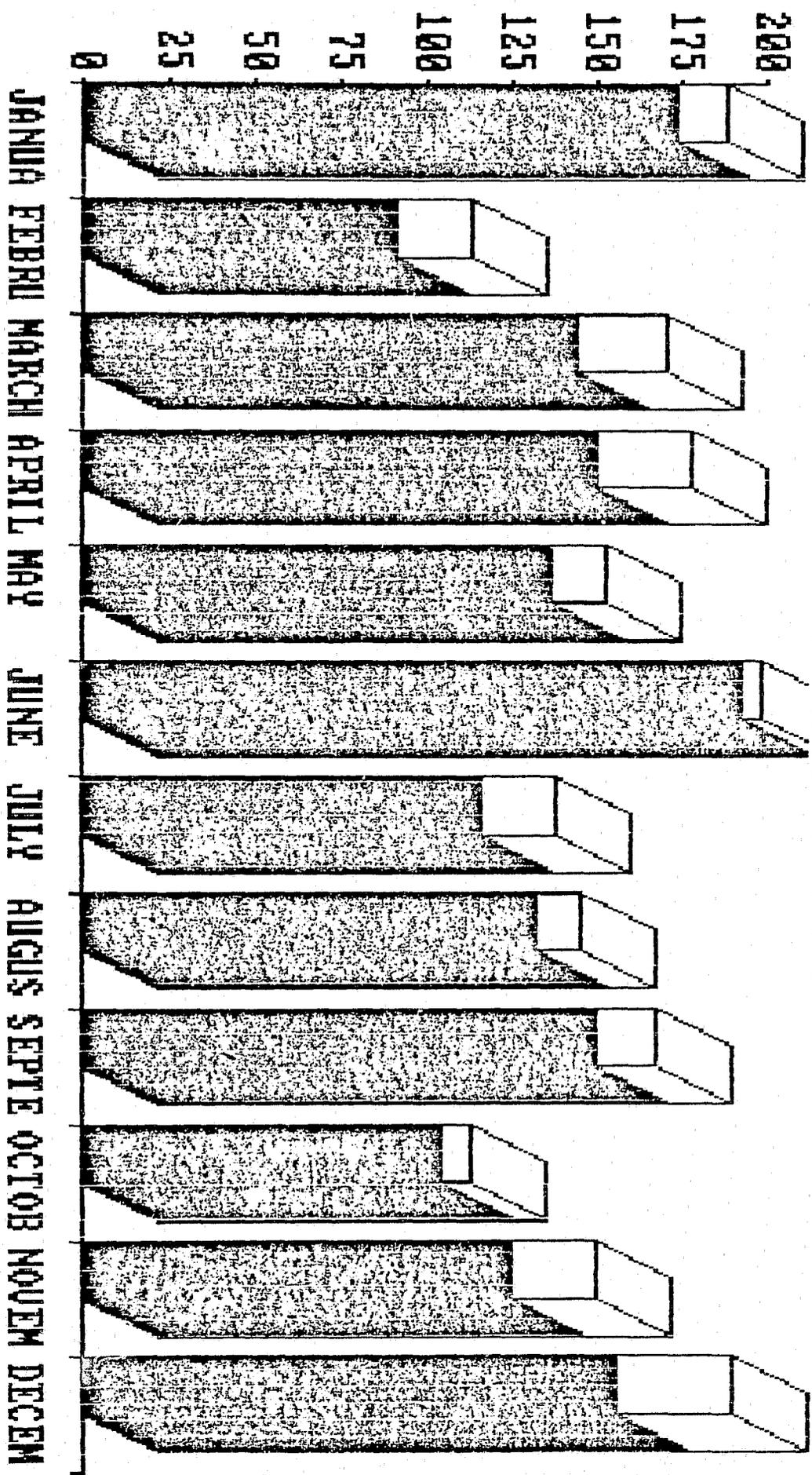
ARSON INJURIES



■ UNFORMED

■ CIVILIAN

ARSON INQUIRIES BY MONTH



UNIFORMED CIVILIAN

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Injuries by Time of Day

<u>Hour of Fire</u>	<u>Civilian Injuries</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Uniformed Injuries</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Total</u>
Midnight to 12:59 am	15	6.2	113	6.6	128	6.5
1:00 am to 1:59 am	11	4.5	82	4.8	93	4.7
2:00 am to 2:59 am	17	7.0	106	6.2	123	6.3
3:00 am to 3:59 am	24	9.9	105	6.1	129	6.6
4:00 am to 4:59 am	17	4.5	116	6.7	133	6.8
5:00 am to 5:59 am	18	7.4	87	5.1	105	5.4
6:00 am to 6:59 am	3	1.2	27	1.6	30	1.5
7:00 am to 7:59 am	6	2.5	37	2.2	43	2.2
8:00 am to 8:59 am	3	1.2	76	4.4	79	4.0
9:00 am to 9:59 am	4	1.6	22	1.3	26	1.3
10:00 am to 10:59 am	4	1.6	51	2.9	55	2.8
11:00 am to 11:59 am	9	3.7	59	3.4	68	3.5
Noon to 12:59 pm	14	5.8	34	1.9	48	2.4
1:00 pm to 1:59 pm	11	4.5	60	3.5	71	3.6
2:00 pm to 2:59 pm	5	2.1	81	4.7	86	4.4
3:00 pm to 3:59 pm	4	1.6	75	4.4	79	4.0
4:00 pm to 4:59 pm	5	2.1	50	2.9	55	2.8
5:00 pm to 5:59 pm	4	1.6	36	2.1	40	2.0
6:00 pm to 6:59 pm	7	2.9	62	3.6	69	3.5
7:00 pm to 7:59 pm	3	1.2	92	5.4	95	4.8
8:00 pm to 8:59 pm	20	8.2	102	5.9	122	6.2
9:00 pm to 9:59 pm	10	4.1	62	3.6	72	3.7
10:00 pm to 10:59 pm	15	6.2	98	5.7	113	5.8
11:00 pm to 11:59 pm	14	5.8	86	5.0	100	5.1
<u>Total</u>	<u>243</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>1,719</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>1,962</u>	<u>100%</u>

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Civilian injuries were most frequently associated with arsons that occurred at 3:00 A.M. (9.9%) and 8:00 P.M. (8.2%), while uniformed injuries peaked at 4:00 A.M. (6.7%) and midnight (6.6%).

ARSON IN N.Y.C. 1983

Arson Injuries and Place of Origin of Fire*

<u>Place of Origin</u>	<u>Number of Arsons</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Civillians Injured</u>	<u>% of Civ. Inj.</u>	<u>Uniformed Injured</u>	<u>% of Unif. Inj.</u>	<u>Total Injured</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Vacant Room/ Vacant Bldg.	1,350	26.67	27	11.64	496	29.83	523	27.60
Bedroom	624	12.33	52	22.41	229	13.77	281	14.83
Living Room	344	6.80	30	12.93	183	11.00	213	11.24
Public Hall	658	13.00	44	18.97	101	6.07	145	7.65
Storage Room	223	4.40	8	3.45	105	6.31	113	5.96
Kitchen	214	4.23	4	1.72	103	6.19	107	5.64
Showroom	102	2.01	12	5.17	54	3.25	66	3.48
Workroom	139	2.75	3	1.29	61	3.67	64	3.38
Stairway	92	1.82	14	6.04	37	2.23	51	2.69
Unclassified	177	3.50	10	4.31	37	2.23	47	2.48
Outside	171	3.38	5	2.16	38	2.29	43	2.27
Shafts (Gen)	33	.65	--	--	39	2.35	39	2.06
Office	64	1.26	--	--	32	1.93	32	1.69
Basement	176	3.48	4	1.72	23	1.38	27	1.42
Cellar	72	1.42	--	--	25	1.50	25	1.32
Private Hall	57	1.13	6	2.59	15	.90	21	1.11
Flooring	39	.77	1	.43	13	.78	14	.74
Ceiling	22	.43	--	--	10	.60	10	.53
Roof	86	1.70	--	--	9	.54	9	.47
Cockloft	17	.33	1	.43	7	.42	8	.42
Closet	60	1.18	1	.43	6	.36	7	.37
Shaft (Elev)	34	.67	5	2.16	2	.12	7	.37
Toilet	57	1.13	--	--	6	.36	6	.32
Lobby	37	.73	1	.43	5	.3	6	.32
Classroom	41	.81	--	--	5	.3	5	.26
Other	103	2.04	4	1.72	22	1.32	26	1.38
(No Injuries)	70	1.38	--	--	--	--	--	--
	<u>5,062</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>232</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>1,663</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>1,895</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

N=5,062 (This table does not include 44 incidents involving 11 civilian and 56 uniformed injuries for which origin of fire data was not available).

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The hazards associated with fighting fires in vacant buildings (no lighting, dilapidated structures, a more extensive fire spread before detection, etc.) help explain why arsons occurring there caused almost 30% of uniformed injuries resulting from arson fires in 1983. Arsons set in bedrooms and public hallways were most frequently associated with civilian injuries.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Fatalities By Month*

<u>Month</u>	<u>Arson Fires</u>	<u>Arson Fatalities</u>	<u>% of Total Fatalities</u>
January	3	4	14.3
February	4	6	21.4
March	3	3	10.7
April	1	1	3.6
July	1	1	3.6
August	1	2	7.1
September	1	1	3.6
November	1	1	3.6
December	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>28.6</u>
	18	27**	100%

* Tabulated by date of fire.

**There were a total of 29 arson fatalities in 1983. However, two fatalities resulting from fires that occurred prior to 1983 are not included.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Cold weather months (January, February, March and December) accounted for 13 out of 18 fatal arson fires and 21 out of the resulting 27 fatalities, all of whom were civilians.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Fatalities by Time of Day

<u>Hour</u>	<u>Incidents</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>
Midnight to 12:59 am	2	3
1:00 am to 1:59 am	3	4
2:00 am to 2:59 am	3	4
3:00 am to 3:59 am	2	2
11:00 am to 11:59 am	2	2
N o o n to 12:59 pm	1	1
1:00 pm to 1:59 pm	1	1
3:00 pm to 3:59 pm	1	1
4:00 pm to 4:59 pm	1	1
8:00 pm to 8:59 pm	1	6
11:00 pm to 11:59 pm	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	18	27

Source: NYC Fire Department.

There were 17 fatalities resulting from arson fires set between 11:00 A.M. and 4:00 A.M. There were no fatal arson fires between the hours of 4:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Fatalities by Origin of Fires

<u>Fire Origin</u>	<u>Incidents</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>
Bedroom	2	2
Living Room	3	3
Porch	1	1
Public Hallway	6	14
Sales Showroom	2	2
Stairway	1	1
Storage Room	1	1
Work Area	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	<u>18</u>	<u>27</u>

Arson Fatalities by Type of Building

	<u>Incidents</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>
Multiple Dwelling	12	20
Private House	3	3
Store	2	2
Loft Building	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>18</u>	<u>27</u>

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Fires set in public hallways in multiple dwellings accounted for the majority of arson fatalities in 1983. One of the four arson fatalities that occurred in commercial buildings was identified by authorities as one of the fire-setters, while another victim was the proprietor of a store who was murdered during the course of an attempted gunpoint robbery when the four perpetrators poured gasoline on the store counter, setting it ablaze. Arrests were made in both cases.

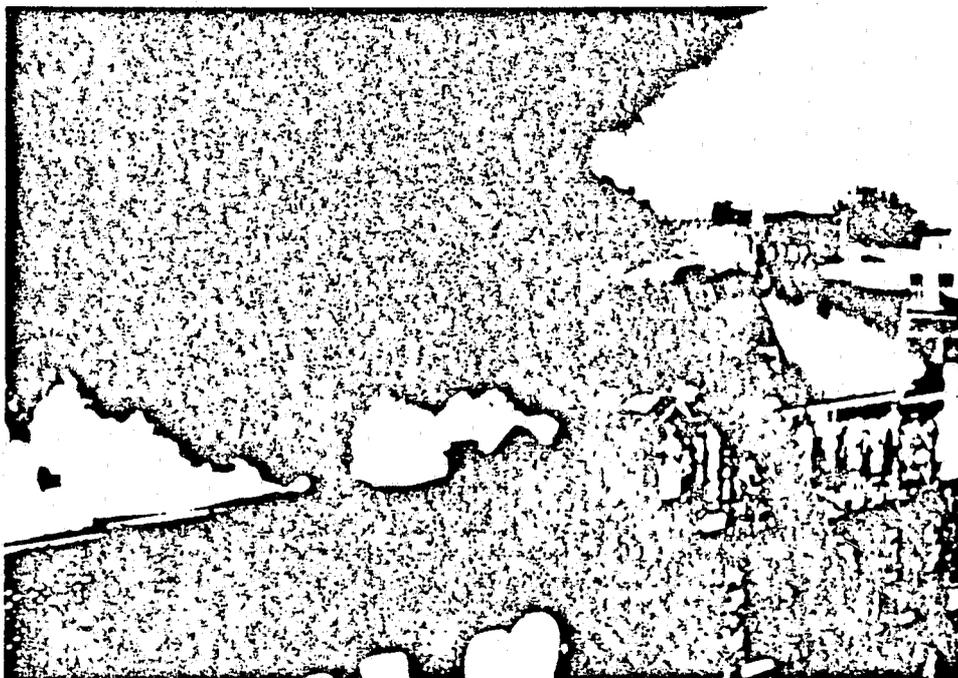
ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

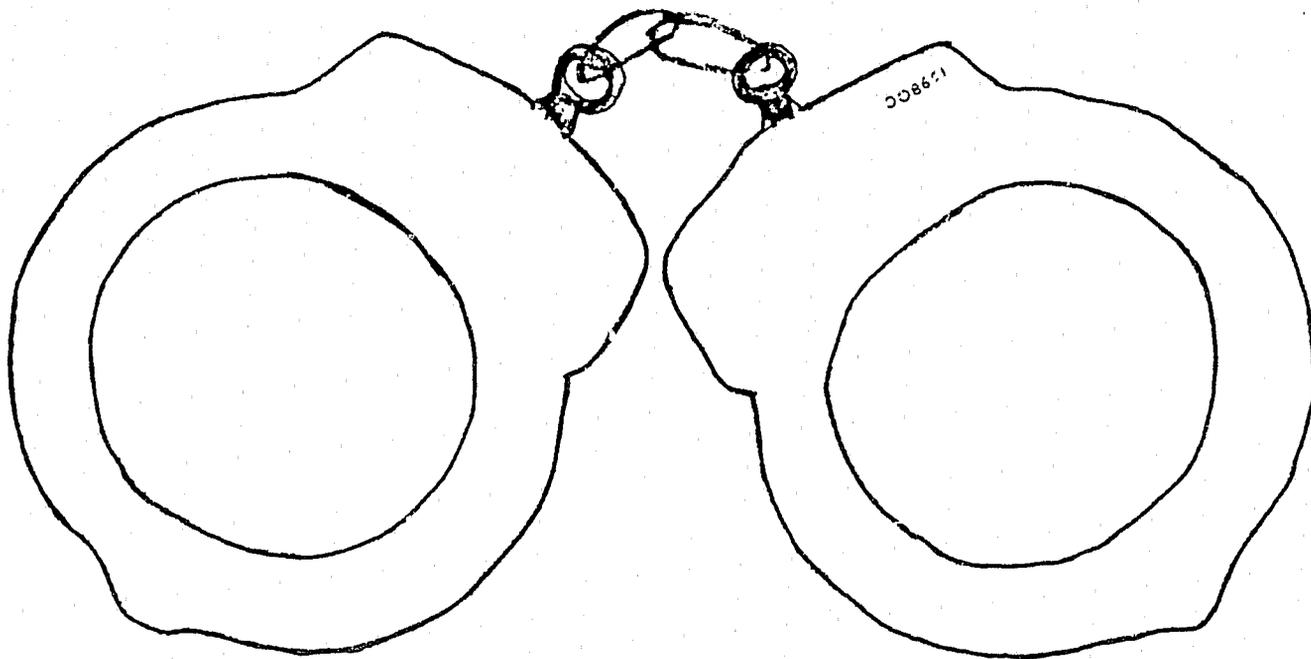
Arson Fatalities
By Age and Place of
Origin of Fire

<u>Age</u>	<u>Bedr'm</u>	<u>Liv.Rm</u>	<u>Porch</u>	<u>Pub.H.</u>	<u>Sales</u>	<u>Stair.</u>	<u>Storage</u>	<u>Workr'm</u>	<u>Total</u>
0- 9	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	7
10-19	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	3
20-29	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	4
30-39	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
40-49	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3
60-69	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	5
70-79	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
90-99	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	2	3	1	14	2	1	1	3	27

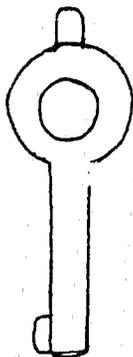
Source: NYC Fire Department.

The majority (14) of the victims of fatal arson fires consisted of children under the age of ten and senior citizens, age 60 and older.





CITY-WIDE ARSON ARRESTS, 1983



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

ARSON DEFINITIONS
UNDER ARTICLE 150 OF THE
NEW YORK STATE PENAL LAW

Arson in the First Degree (Class A-1 Felony)*.

1. A person is guilty of arson in the first degree when he intentionally damages a building or motor vehicle by causing an explosion or a fire and when (a) such explosion or fire is caused by an incendiary device propelled, thrown or placed inside such building or motor vehicle; or when such explosion or fire is caused by an explosive; and when (b) another person who is not a participant in the crime is present in such building or motor vehicle at the time; and (c) the defendant knows that fact or the circumstances are such as to render the presence of such person therein a reasonable possibility.

2. As used in this section, "incendiary device" means a breakable container designed to explode or produce uncontained combustion upon impact, containing flammable liquid and having a wick or a similar device capable of being ignited.

Arson in the Second Degree (Class B Felony).

A person is guilty of arson in the second degree when he intentionally damages a building or motor vehicle by starting a fire, and when (a) another person who is not a participant in the crime is present in such building or motor vehicle at the time, and (b) the defendant knows that fact or the circumstances are such as to render the presence of such a person therein a reasonable possibility.

Arson in the Third Degree (Class C Felony).

A person is guilty of arson in the third degree when he intentionally damages a building or motor vehicle by starting a fire or causing an explosion.

Arson in the Fourth Degree (Class E Felony).

A person is guilty of arson in the fourth degree when he recklessly damages a building or motor vehicle by intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion.

*Section 1 of Arson in the First Degree statute revised, effective 11/1/84, as follows (new matter is underscored):

1. A person is guilty of arson in the first degree when he intentionally damages a building or motor vehicle by causing an explosion or a fire and when (a) such explosion or fire is caused by an incendiary device propelled, thrown or placed inside or near such building or motor vehicle; or when such explosion or fire is caused by an explosive; or when such explosion or fire either (i) causes serious physical injury to another person other than a participant, or (ii) the explosion or fire was caused with the expectation or receipt of financial advantage or pecuniary profit by the actor; and when (b) another person who is not a participant in the crime is present in such building or motor vehicle at the time; and (c) the defendant knows that fact or the circumstances are such as to render the presence of such person therein a reasonable possibility.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests by Borough & City-Wide*

<u>Borough</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Brooklyn	195	30.95
Bronx	165	26.19
Manhattan	148	23.49
Queens	78	12.38
S.I.	<u>44</u>	<u>6.98</u>
Total	630	100 %

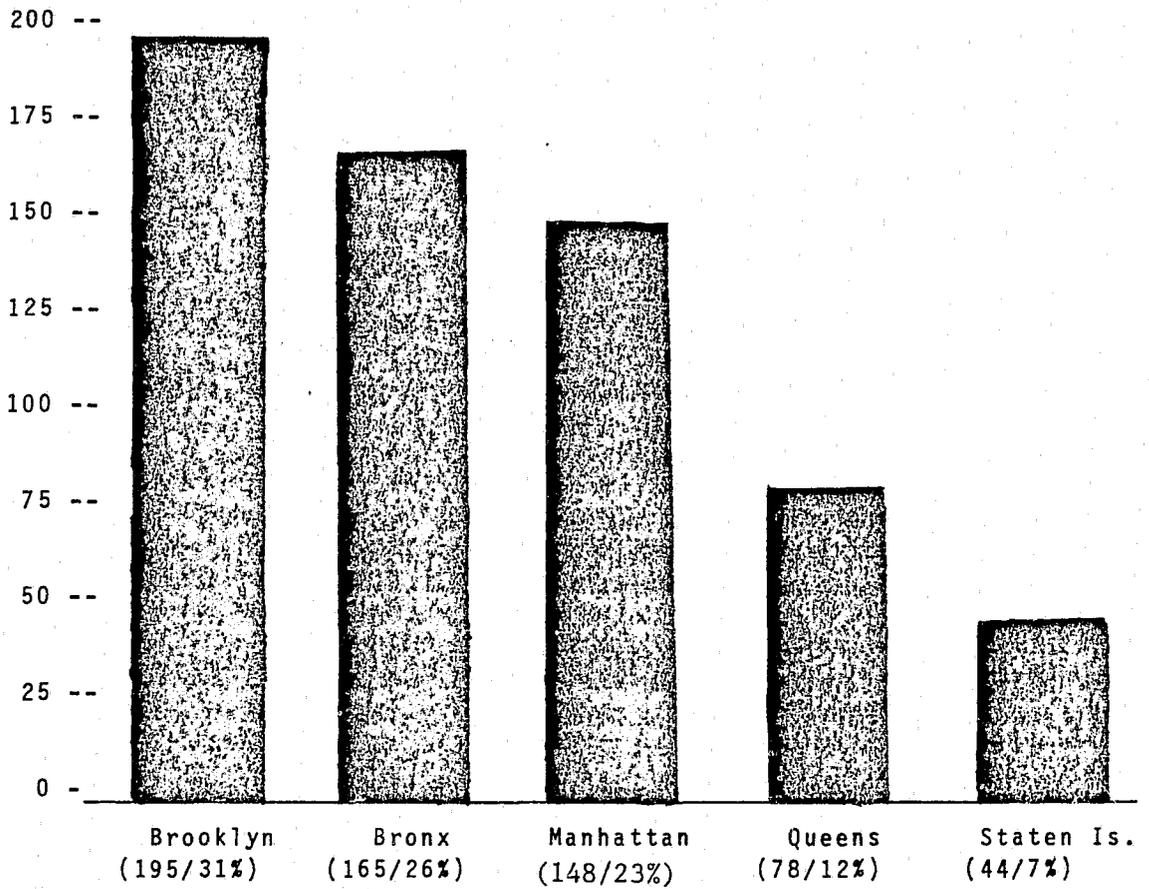
*Please note that the arrest information contained in this report, although derived from the same source utilized by the Police Department (i.e., its On Line Booking System), differs dramatically from the arson arrest data which they report. This is because the Police Department uses a hierarchical system of sorting arrests, in which cases involving multiple offenses are classified under the most serious charge according to the NYS Penal Law. Their reporting method is in keeping with guidelines set forth by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Committee and the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services for the classifying of offenses. The arrest data which we are reporting, however, obtained through the cooperation of the Police Department's Crime Analysis Section, includes all cases in which arson was at least one of the top five offenses charged.

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

Brooklyn, which led the five boroughs in arson incidence (2,320, or 38% of the city's arson total), also led in arrests (195, or 31% of the city's arrest total). The arson incidence vs. arson arrest percentages for the other boroughs are also comparable: Bronx (28% vs. 26%); Manhattan (23% vs. 18%); Queens (11% vs. 12%); and Staten Island (4% vs. 7%).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests
By Sex and Age

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
12 and Under	25	3.97	24	1
13 to 14	29	4.60	27	2
15	26	4.13	24	2
<u>Subtotal (15 & Under)</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>12.70%</u>	<u>75 (93.8%)</u>	<u>5 (6.2%)</u>
16	40	6.35	37	3
17	28	4.44	23	5
<u>Subtotal (17 & Under)</u>	<u>148</u>	<u>23.49%</u>	<u>135 (91.2%)</u>	<u>13 (8.8%)</u>
18	24	3.81	22	2
19	25	3.97	20	5
20	17	2.70	14	3
<u>Subtotal (20 & Under)</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>33.97%</u>	<u>191 (89.3%)</u>	<u>23 (10.7%)</u>
21 to 24	80	12.70	73	7
25 to 29	110	17.46	90	20
<u>Subtotal (29 & Under)</u>	<u>404</u>	<u>64.13%</u>	<u>354 (87.6%)</u>	<u>50 (12.4%)</u>
30 to 34	86	13.65	73	13
35 to 39	56	8.89	51	5
<u>Subtotal (39 & Under)</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>86.67%</u>	<u>478 (87.5%)</u>	<u>68 (12.5%)</u>
40 to 44	36	5.71	30	6
45 to 49	20	3.17	16	4
50 to 54	13	2.06	11	2
55 to 59	4	.63	4	0
60 to 64	5	.79	5	0
65 and over	6	.95	4	2
<u>Total All Ages:</u>	<u>630</u>	<u>100 %</u>	<u>548 (86.98%)</u>	<u>82 (13.02%)</u>

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Charge
By Age

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Under 16</u>	<u>16-20</u>	<u>21-24</u>	<u>25-34</u>	<u>35-44</u>	<u>45-54</u>	<u>55+Over</u>	<u>Total (%)</u>
	(3.7)	(13.33)	(4.9)	(4.0)	(2.2)	(2.9)	-	
Arson 1	3(8.3)	18(50.0)	4(11.1)	8(22.2)	2(5.5)	1(2.8)	-	36(5.6)
Attempted Arson 1	3	1	2	5	3	1	-	15(2.3)
<hr/>								
	(38.8)	(42.9)	(45.1)	(49.5)	(47.8)	(64.7)	(66.6)	
Arson 2	31(10.3)	58(19.3)	37(12.3)	99(32.9)	44(14.6)	22(7.3)	10(3.3)	301(47.1)
Attempted Arson 2	9	7	2	22	12	5	2	59(9.2)
<hr/>								
	(17.5)	(24.4)	(20.7)	(21.5)	(22.8)	(11.8)	(6.7)	
Arson 3	14(10.5)	33(24.8)	17(12.8)	43(32.3)	21(15.8)	4(3.0)	1(.8)	133(20.8)
Attempted Arson 3	-	8	6	6	1	-	1	22(3.4)
<hr/>								
	(17.5)	(5.9)	(5.9)	(6.0)	(7.6)	(2.9)	(6.7)	
Arson 4	14(27.5)	8(15.7)	8(15.7)	12(23.5)	7(13.7)	1(1.9)	1(1.9)	51(7.9)
Attempted Arson 4	6	2	6	5	2	-	-	21(3.3)
<hr/>								
Total	80	135	82	200	92	34	15	638*(100%)
(%)	(12.5)	(21.2)	(12.9)	(31.3)	(14.4)	(5.3)	(2.4)	(100%)

*Note: Since some individuals were booked for multiple arson charges, this figure does not equal the total number of arrests (630).

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

The figures in parentheses above represent the row percentage (top) and column percentage (bottom) for each cell. It is significant to note that whereas individuals between age 16 and 20 account for 21.2% of all arson arrests, they account for 50% of all arrests for Arson First Degree.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests by Race

	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Black	262	41.59
Hispanic	225	35.71
White	136	21.59
Other	<u>7</u>	<u>1.11</u>
Total	630	100.00%

Arson Arrests by Birthplace

<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
New York	352	55.87
Other USA	205	32.54
Dominican Rep.	13	2.06
Cuba	7	1.11
Haiti	6	.95
Jamaica	6	.95
Poland	5	.79
Guyana	5	.79
Italy	5	.79
Other	<u>26</u>	<u>4.13</u>
Totals	630	100%

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section,
On Line Booking System.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Marital Status of those Arrested for Arson

<u>Status</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Single	451	71.59
Living Together	21	3.33
Married	105	16.67
Separated	22	3.49
Divorced	20	3.17
Widowed	8	1.27
Unknown	<u>3</u>	<u>.48</u>
Total	630	100%

Occupational Status of Those Arrested for Arson

<u>Status</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Unemployed	318	50.48
Construction Trade	17	2.70
Clerical	9	1.43
City Employee	4	.63
Other Occupation	244	38.73
Unknown	<u>38</u>	<u>6.03</u>
Total	630	100%

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section,
On Line Booking System.

Those arrested for arson (as are the majority of individuals arrested for the most serious crimes) tend to be predominately single and unemployed.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Charge by Premises Classification

Charge	Premises Type				Total (%)
	Residential	Commercial	Mobile	Public	
Arson 1	19	7	1	8	35 (6.1)
Attempted Arson 1	6	7	0	2	15 (2.6)
Arson 2	226	26	1	22	275 (47.6)
Attempted Arson 2	50	4	0	5	59 (10.2)
Arson 3	36	18	47	12	113 (19.6)
Attempted Arson 3	4	5	8	2	19 (3.3)
Arson 4	14	10	5	14	43 (7.4)
Attempted Arson 4	9	0	8	2	19 (3.3)
Total	364	77	70	67	578*(100%)
(%)	(62.9%)	(13.2%)	(12.11%)	(11.6%)	

*Note: There were 60 arrests for which the type of premises is not identified. (There were a total of 638 arson charges since some persons had multiple arson charges.)

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

Since the overwhelming majority of arson in mobile property is directed against unoccupied automobiles, the third degree arson charge predominates for this type of property. Over 56% of all arson charges in 1983 were for Class A-1 and Class B felonies (Arson and Attempted Arson First Degree and Arson Second Degree).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Premises Classification by Age of Arson Arrestee

<u>Age of Arrestee</u>	<u>Premises Type</u>				<u>Total %</u>
	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Mobile</u>	<u>Public.</u>	
Under 16	37(53.6)	2(2.9)	4(5.8)	26(37.7)	69(100%)
16 - 20	59(50.4)	17(14.5)	23(19.7)	18(15.4)	117(100%)
21 - 24	44(61.1)	9(12.5)	11(15.3)	8(11.1)	72(100%)
25 - 34	116(64.6)	30(17.4)	22(12.4)	10(5.6)	178(100%)
35 - 44	68(78.2)	8(9.2)	8(9.2)	3(3.5)	87(100%)
45 - 54	26(81.3)	4(12.5)	1(3.1)	1(3.1)	32(100%)
55 and Over	<u>10(66.7)</u>	<u>3(20.0)</u>	<u>1(6.7)</u>	<u>1(6.7)</u>	<u>15(100%)</u>
Total	360(63.2%)	73(12.8%)	70(12.11%)	67(11.6%)	570*(100%)

*There were 60 cases for which the property type was not identified.

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

Comparing the row percentages for each age group with the aggregate percentage for each property type, there appear to be few surprises. The under 16 age group falls well below the average distribution for Commercial and Mobile property arson arrests, which is perhaps attributable to a reduced access to such property among this group. Conversely, those arrested for arson in public buildings tend to be younger than the general distribution. This is largely a function of the number of arson arrests for fires set in schools (26, out of which 24 were age 20 or younger).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Charge
By Number of Associates

<u>Charge</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Total %</u>
Arson 1	22	9	1	4	-	-	36 (5.64)
Attempted Arson 1	11	2	-	-	2	-	15 (2.35)
Arson 2	251	25	16	9	-	-	301 (47.18)
Attempted Arson 2	51	4	3	1	-	-	59 (9.25)
Arson 3	92	25	10	4	-	2	133 (20.85)
Attempted Arson 3	18	2	-	-	-	2	22 (3.45)
Arson 4	33	7	-	4	5	2	51 (7.99)
Attempted Arson 4	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21 (3.29)</u>
Total	489	81	33	22	7	6	638* (100%)
(%)	(76.7%)	(12.7%)	(5.2%)	(3.5%)	(1.1%)	(.94%)	

*Note: Since some individuals were booked for multiple arson charges, this figure does not equal the number of arrests (630).

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

The overwhelming majority of arrested arsonists were arrested alone. Those arrested for Arson Third and Fourth Degree, however, were more likely to have co-defendants (37% of such charges involved associates).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Most Frequent Companion Felony Charges
For Arrested Arsonists

<u>Charge</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Attempts*</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Reckless Endangerment	151	2	153	32.3
Burglary	67	2	69	14.6
Criminal Mischief	60	2	62	13.1
Assault	35	6	41	8.7
Criminal Poss. of Weapons	30	-	30	6.3
Conspiracy	19	-	19	4.0
Grand Larceny	18	3	21	4.4
Robbery	14	5	19	4.0
Criminal Poss. Stolen Prop.	16	-	16	3.9
Murder	13	13	26	5.5
Criminal Poss. of Drugs	5	-	5	1.1
Insurance Fraud	3	1	4	.8
Rape	2	-	2	.4
Sexual Abuse	2	-	2	.4
Gambling Offenses	2	-	2	.4
Escape	1	-	1	.2
Forgery	1	-	1	.2
Criminal Facilitation	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>.2</u>
	440	34	474	100%

* Only includes those charges involving attempted crimes for which the attempt does not lower the classification to a misdemeanor. Thus, two Attempted Grand Larceny Third Degree charges are not included, since the attempt reduces this charge to a misdemeanor.

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section, On Line Booking System.

Thirteen individuals were arrested for arson homicides during 1983, and an additional 13 were arrested for attempting to commit intentional murder by using fire as their weapon.

ARSON BY BOROUGH, 1983

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Number and Percent Change of
Structural Arsons by Borough
1979 vs. 1983

Borough	1979		1983		C H A N G E	
	Number	% of City	Number	% of City	Number	%
Brooklyn	3,040	39.2	2,063	37.1	- 977	(-32.1)
Bronx	2,247	29.0	1,636	29.4	- 611	(-27.2)
Manhattan	1,348	17.4	1,078	19.4	- 270	(-20.0)
Queens	864	11.1	578	10.4	- 286	(-33.1)
Staten Is.	255	3.3	202	3.6	- 53	(-20.8)
Total	7,754	100%	5,557	100%	-2,200	(-28.4)

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Structural arson has declined dramatically in all five boroughs since 1979 ranging from a 33.1% drop in Queens to a 20.0% decrease in Manhattan, for a total City-wide decline of 28.4%. The relative distribution of structural arson throughout the City has fluctuated very little over the past five years. Structural arson in Brooklyn accounted for 2.1% less, while Manhattan accounted for 2.0% more, of the City's total in 1983, compared to 1979. The remaining boroughs all experienced relative shifts of less than 1%.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Number and Percent Change of
Structural Arson, by Borough
1982 vs. 1983

Borough	O C C U P I E D					
	1 9 8 2		1 9 8 3		C H A N G E	
	Number	% of City Total	Number	% of City Total	Number	%
Brooklyn	1,580	39.5	1,379	37.4	-201	-12.7
Bronx	925	23.2	871	23.6	- 54	- 5.8
Manhattan	771	19.3	818	22.2	+ 47	+ 6.1
Queens	587	14.7	496	13.5	- 91	-15.5
Staten Is.	130	3.3	122	3.3	- 8	- 6.2
Total	3,993	100%	3,686	100%	-307	- 7.7%

Borough	V A C A N T					
	Number	% of City Total	Number	% of City Total	Number	%
Brooklyn	1,030	36.6	684	36.6	-346	-33.6
Bronx	1,144	40.7	765	40.9	-379	-33.1
Manhattan	351	12.5	260	13.9	- 91	-26.0
Queens	166	5.9	82	4.4	- 84	-50.6
Staten Is.	122	4.3	80	4.3	- 42	-34.4
Total	2,813	100%	1,871	100%	-942	-33.5%

Borough	T O T A L S T R U C T U R A L					
	Number	% of City Total	Number	% of City Total	Number	%
Brooklyn	2,610	38.3	2,063	37.1	-547	-20.9
Bronx	2,069	30.4	1,636	29.4	-433	-20.9
Manhattan	1,122	16.5	1,078	19.4	- 44	- 3.9
Queens	753	11.1	578	10.4	-175	-23.2
Staten Is.	252	3.7	202	3.6	- 50	-19.8
Total	6,806	100%	5,557	100%	-1,249	-18.4%

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Arson declined in every structural category in every borough during 1983, with the exception of occupied building arsons in Manhattan, which rose 6.1%. The over-all 18.4% drop in structural arson was to a large extent attributable to dramatic decreases in vacant building arsons in all five boroughs.

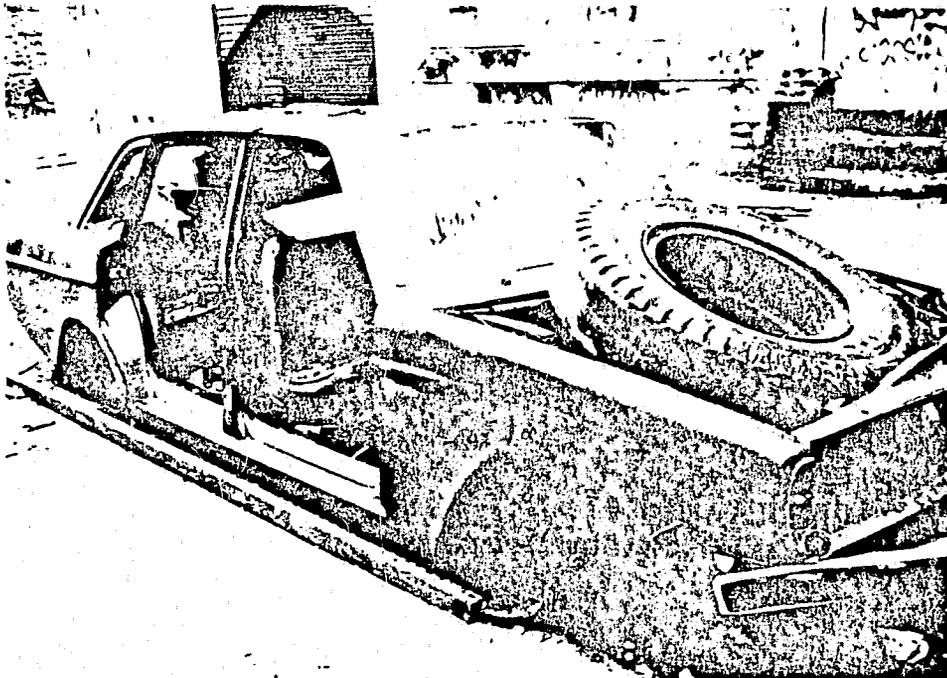
ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Number and Percent Change of
Arson In Motor Vehicles, by Borough
1982 - 1983

Borough	1982		1983		CHANGE	
	Number	% of City Total	Number	% of City Total	Number	%
Brooklyn	217	49.0	240	49.0	+23	+10.6
Queens	105	23.7	94	19.2	-11	-10.5
Bronx	47	10.6	75	15.3	+28	+59.6
Staten Is.	45	10.2	47	9.6	+ 2	+ 4.4
Manhattan	29	6.5	34	6.9	+ 5	+17.2
Total	443	100%	490	100%	+47	+10.6%

Source: N.Y.C. Fire Department.

Arson in motor vehicles rose for the third straight year in 1983, with every borough except Queens participating in the increase. The Bronx exhibited the sharpest rise, more than doubling its 1982 total (+59.6%). Brooklyn accounted for almost half of the City's arson in this category.



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Structural Arsons per Structural Fires, 1983

	<u># Struct.</u> <u>Arsons</u>	<u>% City</u> <u>Total</u>	<u># Struct.</u> <u>Fires*</u>	<u>% City</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>Arson per</u> <u>Fire Ratio</u>
Staten Is.	202	3.69	997	2.7	.20260
Bronx	1,636	29.4	8,198	22.4	.19956
Brooklyn	2,063	37.1	12,334	33.5	.16726
Queens	578	10.4	5,234	14.3	.11043
Manhattan	1,078	19.4	9,762	26.7	.11042
Total	5,557	100%	36,525	100%	.15214

* Includes all structural fires, both arson and accidental.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Although Staten Island accounts for only 3.64% of the City's structural arsons, and only 2.73% of the City's structural fires, it has the highest ratio of structural fires caused by arson, 20.26%. This is more than 5% above the City average of 15.21%. The Bronx (19.95%) and Brooklyn (16.71%) also rank above the City average, while Manhattan and Queens (11.04% for both) fall well below the City-wide arson per fire ratio.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Combined Accidental and Arson
Fire Insurance Claims by Borough*

<u>Borough</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Est. Loss In Dollars</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Average Value of Claim per Fire</u>
Staten Is.	153	4.30	2,882,077	5.17	18,837.10
Manhattan	1,025	28.79	18,215,290	32.67	17,771.01
Bronx	546	15.34	9,228,140	16.55	16,901.36
Queens	528	14.83	8,308,986	14.9	15,736.72
Brooklyn	<u>1,308</u>	<u>36.74</u>	<u>17,125,288</u>	<u>30.71</u>	<u>13,092.73</u>
Total	3,560	100.00%	\$55,759,781	100.00%	\$15,662.86**

* These are claims filed for property losses caused by all fires, both accidental and incendiary. These totals reflect data for only three quarters of 1983.

** This figure is an average sum for all claims.

Source: Property Insurance Loss Register.

The Property Insurance Loss Register, created by the insurance industry in 1980, is a national computerized database of fire loss claims which contains information on claims resulting from fire damage in excess of \$1,000. Although Brooklyn accounts for the largest number of claims, their average loss is the lowest of the five boroughs. Conversely, Staten Island witnessed the fewest claims but the highest average dollar loss per claim. Pro-rating the total number of claims for the entire year, less than 14% of the City's 36,000 structural fires resulted in fire claims exceeding \$1,000 during 1983 (excluding City-owned properties, which are covered under the City's self-insured program).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Buildings with Multiple Arson Fires
by Borough

No. of Buildings Involved (Occupied/Vacant)

<u>No. of Fires</u>	<u>Bronx</u>	<u>Brooklyn</u>	<u>Manhattan</u>	<u>Queens</u>	<u>S.I.</u>	<u>City-Wide</u>
2	141 (76/65)	143 (95/48)	82 (56/26)	25 (23/2)	8 (4/4)	399 (254/145)
3	42 (26/16)	31 (13/18)	19 (18/1)	3 (3/0)	2 (2/0)	97 (62/35)
4	14 (10/4)	15 (13/2)	7 (5/2)	-	1 (1/0)	37 (29/8)
5	5 (3/2)	3 (3/0)	-	-	-	8 (6/2)
6	3 (3/0)	1 (1/0)	1 (1/0)	1 (1/0)	-	6 (6/0)
7	-	-	1 (1/0)	1 (1/0)	-	2 (2/0)
8	-	1 (1/0)	-	1 (1/0)	-	2 (2/0)
13	1 (1/0)	-	-	-	-	1 (1/0)
14	2 (2/0)	-	-	-	-	2 (2/0)
32	-	1 (1/0)	-	-	-	1 (1/0)
Total No. of Buildings	208 (121/87)	195 (127/68)	110 (81/29)	31 (29/2)	11 (7/4)	555 (365/190)
Total No. of Fires	548 (344/204)	500 (342/158)	262 (199/63)	80 (76/4)	26 (18/8)	979 (679/437)
No. of Fires as a % of all struct. arsons for boro. (%Occ/% Vacant)	33.5* (39.5/26.7)	24.2* (24.8/23.1)	24.3* (24.3/24.2)	13.8* (15.3/4.9)	12.9* (14.8/4.0)	25.9* (26.7/23.4)
	*n=1,636 (53.2/46.8)	*n=2,063 (66.8/33.2)	*n=1,078 (75.9/24.1)	*n= 578 (80.8/14.2)	*n=202 (60.4/30.6)	*n=5,557 (66.3/33.7)

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The 121 occupied buildings in the Bronx that experienced more than one arson fire during 1983 accounted for 344, or 39.5%, of the total number of arsons in occupied buildings in that borough (871).

Three Community districts in the Bronx had between 40% and 45% of their structural arsons concentrated in these buildings. Brooklyn's Fort Greene/Downtown area led all districts, with 55 out of its 120 structural arsons (or 46%) occurring in only nine buildings. City-wide, approximately 16%, or 89, of these 555 buildings experienced heavy damage to their structure and/or contents.

Approximately 87% of these 555 properties were residential, 9% were commercial and 4% were public.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Incidents by Quarter

	<u>BX</u>		<u>BK</u>		<u>MN</u>		<u>QN</u>		<u>S.I.</u>		<u>CITY</u>
		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
		<u>CHANGE</u>		<u>CHANGE</u>		<u>CHANGE</u>		<u>CHANGE</u>		<u>CHANGE</u>	
1st Qtr.	381		589		281		180		50		1,481
(% of Boro. Total)	(22.1)	-	(25.4)	-	(25.1)	-	(26.6)	-	(19.9)	-	(24.3%)
2nd Qtr.	486	+27.5	581	-1.3	274	- 2.4	183	+1.6	75	+50.0	1,599
(% of Boro. Total)	(28.2)		(25.0)		(24.5)		(27.0)		(30.0)		(26.2%)
3rd Qtr.	500	+2.8	584	+ .5	256	- 6.5	158	-13.6	68	-9.3	1,566
(% of Boro. Total)	(29.0)		(25.2)		(22.9)		(23.3)		(27.0)		(25.7%)
4th Qtr.	357	-28.6	566	+ .5	308	+20.3	158	0	59	-13.9	1,448
(% of Boro. Total)	(20.7)		(24.4)		(27.6)		(23.3)		(23.4)		(23.8%)
TOTAL	1,724	-	2,320	-	1,119	-	679	-	252	-	6,094
(% of City Total)	(28.3)		(38.1)		(18.4)		(11.1)		(4.1)		(100%)

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The arson rate rose dramatically in the Bronx (+27.5%) and Staten Island (+50%) during the Spring. It decreased significantly in the Fall in the Bronx (-28.6%) and Staten Island (-13.9%) while increasing markedly in Manhattan (+20.3%) during the same quarter.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Incidents By Month

	<u>BROOKLYN</u>	<u>BRONX</u>	<u>MAN .</u>	<u>QUEENS</u>	<u>S.I.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Jan.	226	121	106	58	21	532	-
Feb.	161	125	83	54	14	437	- 17.8
Mar.	202	135	92	68	15	512	+ 17.1
Apr.	181	172	103	49	25	530	+ 3.5
May	206	151	88	74	23	542	+ 2.2
June	194	163	83	60	27	527	- 2.7
July	180	170	81	50	24	505	- 4.1
Aug.	190	161	99	44	18	512	+ 1.3
Sept.	214	169	76	64	26	549	+ 7.2
Oct.	195	136	103	49	17	500	- 8.9
Nov.	199	132	108	55	17	511	+ 2.2
Dec.	172	89	97	54	25	437	- 14.4
TOTAL	2,320	1,724	1,119	679	252	6,094	

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The most noteworthy shift in the arson rate took place in Manhattan in October when arson increased 36%. Other significant fluctuations in the monthly arson rate occurred in the Bronx, when arson declined 33% from November to December, and in Brooklyn, where arson declined 29% from January to February.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson in Connection with
Number of Building Lots*

1 9 8 3

<u>Borough</u>	<u>Total Lots</u>	<u>Vacant Lots</u>	<u>Occupied Lots</u>	<u>Vacancy Rate</u>	<u>No. of Structural Arsons per 1,000 Occupied Lots</u>
Manhattan	55,590	3,542	52,048	6.4%	.20769
Bronx	91,467	10,199	81,268	11.2%	.20328
Brooklyn	276,758	19,075	257,683	6.9%	.08214
Staten Island	101,246	18,733	82,513	18.5%	.02472
Queens	<u>319,897</u>	<u>15,231</u>	<u>304,666</u>	<u>4.8%</u>	<u>.01900</u>
Total	844,958	66,780	778,178	7.9%	.07174

*These figures refer to the number of tax lots -- not buildings or units.

Source: NYC Dept. of City Planning, Real Property File; NYC Fire Department.

Since Manhattan's residential building lots are predominately multiple dwellings (its population density per square mile is more than twice the value of any other borough -- see page 76 and page 106), it has the highest rate of arson per occupied lot.

Otherwise, the rank order presented here is equivalent to the rank order of the boroughs for the arson rate per 10,000 population presented on page 76.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Per Occupied
Residential Units by Borough

<u>Units</u>	<u># Occupied Res. Units</u>	<u>% City Total</u>	<u># Occupied Res. Arsons</u>	<u>% City Total</u>	<u>Arson Rate Per 1,000 Occupied</u>
Bronx	429,257	15.4	535	25.8	1.246
Brooklyn	828,257	29.7	714	34.5	.862
Manhattan	704,502	25.3	552	26.7	.783
Staten Is.	114,574	4.1	52	2.5	.453
Queens	711,940	25.5	218	10.5	.306
<u>City-Wide</u>	<u>2,788,530</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>2,071</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>.742</u>

Source: NYC Fire Department; US Bureau of Census.

Although the most arson in occupied residential units occurs in Brooklyn, the Bronx has a much higher rate per 1,000 occupied units. The rates in Staten Island and Queens are both well below the City-Wide rate, which is strongly correlated to the comparatively lower numbers of multiple dwellings in those boroughs.

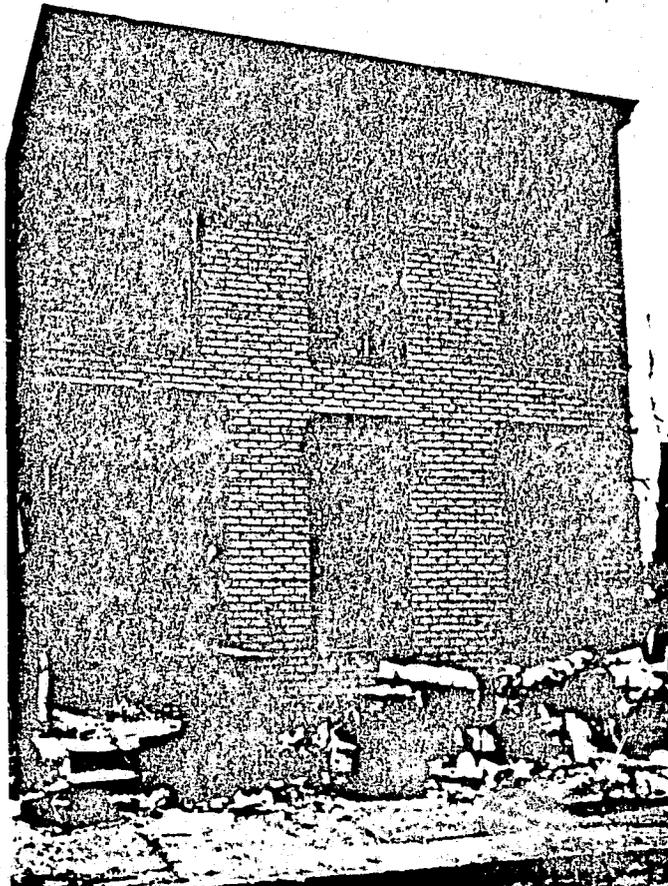
ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Per Vacant Building Ratio

	<u># of Arsons In Vacant Buildings</u>	<u>% City Total</u>	<u># of Vacant Buildings</u>	<u>% City Total</u>	<u>Arson per 100 Vacant Buildings</u>
Bronx	765	40.9%	2,795	15.7%	27.4
Staten Is.	80	4.3%	722	4.0%	11.1
Brooklyn	684	36.5%	8,693	48.8%	7.9
Manhattan	260	13.9%	3,411	19.1%	7.7
Queens	82	4.4%	2,203	12.4%	3.7
City-Wide	1,871	100%	17,824	100%	10.5

Source: NYC Fire Department; NYC Dept. of City Planning (Sanborn Vacant Building File).

The table above indicates that although only 15.7% of the vacant buildings in the City are located in the Bronx, that borough accounts for 40.9% of the City's vacant building arson problem. 27.4 out of every 100 vacant buildings suffered arson fires in the Bronx. This is more than twice the rate for Staten Island (11.1) and the City-wide rate (10.5), and more than seven times the rate for Queens (3.7). 95% of vacant building arsons in the Bronx are concentrated in six of the borough's 12 community districts located in the county's southern half where 92% of its vacant buildings are also concentrated.



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Rate per
100,000 Population

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Pop. Density (Per Sq.Mile)</u>	<u>No. of Arsons</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Arson Rate per 100,000</u>
1	Bronx	1,168,972	16.6	28,209	1,724	28.3	147.4800
2	Brooklyn	2,230,936	31.5	27,559	2,320	38.1	103.9922
3	Manhattan	1,428,285	20.1	63,877	1,119	18.4	78.3457
4	Staten Island	352,121	5.0	6,178	252	4.1	71.5663
5	Queens	1,891,325	26.8	15,943	679	11.1	35.9008
	Total	7,071,639	100%	22,072	6,094	100%	86.1752

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census; NYC Fire Department.

The Bronx accounts for significantly more arson per 100,000 inhabitants than its population total (fourth lowest in the City) would otherwise indicate. However, the Bronx has a population density second only to Manhattan.

The City's arson rate of 86.2 per 100,000 inhabitants is less than the overall national rate of 96.2 for cities with 1,000,000 or more inhabitants.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

B R O O K L Y N

Total Arsons = 2,320

% of Total NYC Arsons = 38.07%

Total Structural Arsons = 2,063

% of Total NYC Structural Arsons = 37.12%

- a. Total Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 1,379
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 37.41%
- b. Total Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 684
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 36.56%

Total Auto Arsons = 240

% of Total NYC Auto Arsons = 48.98%

Total Other Arsons = 17

% of Total NYC Other Arsons = 36.17%*

Structural Arsons

- a. Total % in Occupied Buildings = 66.84%
- b. Total % in Vacant Buildings = 33.16%
- c. Total % in Residential Buildings = 72.99%
61.5% Occupied
38.5% Vacant
- d. Total % in Commercial Buildings = 19.94%
68.0% Occupied
32.0% Vacant
- e. Total % in Public Buildings = 7.07%
74.2% Occupied
25.8% Vacant

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

B R O N X

Total Arsons = 1,724
% of Total NYC Arsons = 28.29%

Total Structural Arsons = 1,636
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons = 29.44%

- a. Total Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 871
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 23.63%
- b. Total Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 765
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 40.89%

Total Auto Arsons = 75
% of Total NYC Auto Arsons = 15.31%

Total Other Arsons = 13
% of Total NYC Other Arsons = 27.66%*

Structural Arsons

- a. Total % in Occupied Buildings = 53.24%
- b. Total % in Vacant Buildings = 46.76%
- c. Total % in Residential Buildings = 86.05%
49.2% Occupied
50.8% Vacant
- d. Total % in Commercial Buildings = 10.89%
56.1% Occupied
43.9% Vacant
- e. Total % in Public Buildings = 3.06%
62.5% Occupied
37.5% in Vacant

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

M A N H A T T A N

Total Arsons = 1,119
% of Total NYC Arsons = 18.36%

Total Structural Arsons = 1,078
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons = 19.4%

- a. Total Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 818
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 22.19%
- b. Total Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 260
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 13.9%

Total Auto Arsons = 34
% of Total NYC Auto Arsons = 6.94%

Total Other Arsons = 7
% of Total NYC Other Arsons = 14.89%*

Structural Arsons

- a. Total % in Occupied Buildings = 75.88%
- b. Total % in Vacant Buildings = 24.12%
- c. Total % in Residential Buildings = 82.09%
 - 70.8% Occupied
 - 29.2% Vacant
- d. Total % in Commercial Buildings = 11.74%
 - 83.9% Occupied
 - 16.1% Vacant
- e. Total % in Public Buildings = 6.17%
 - 72.6% Occupied
 - 27.4% Vacant

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Q U E E N S

Total Arsons = 679
% of Total NYC Arsons = 11.14%

Total Structural Arsons = 578
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons = 10.4%

- a. Total Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 496
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 13.46%
- b. Total Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 82
% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 4.38%

Total Auto Arsons = 94
% of Total NYC Auto Arsons = 19.18%

Total Other Arsons = 7
% of Total NYC Other Arsons = 14.89%*

Structural Arsons

- a. Total % in Occupied Buildings = 85.81%
- b. Total % in Vacant Buildings = 14.19%

- c. Total % in Residential Buildings = 57.17%
 - 82.8% Occupied
 - 17.2% Vacant

- d. Total % in Commercial Buildings = 34.48%
 - 86.3% Occupied
 - 13.7% Vacant

- e. Total % in Public Buildings = 8.35%
 - 92.3% Occupied
 - 7.7% Vacant

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

S T A T E N I S L A N D

Total Arsons = 252

% of Total NYC Arsons = 4.14%

Total Structural Arsons = 202

% of Total NYC Structural Arsons = 3.64%

a. Total Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 122

% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Occupied Buildings = 3.31%

b. Total Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 80

% of Total NYC Structural Arsons in Vacant Buildings = 4.27%

Total Auto Arsons = 47

% of Total NYC Auto Arsons = 9.59%

Total Other Arsons = 3

% of Total NYC Other Arsons = 6.38%*

Structural Arsons

a. Total % in Occupied Buildings = 60.4%

b. Total % in Vacant Buildings = 39.6%

c. Total % in Residential Buildings = 59.52%

53.7% Occupied

46.3% Vacant

d. Total % in Commercial Buildings = 27.38%

58.7% Occupied

41.3% in Vacant

e. Total % in Public Buildings = 13.1%

77.3% Occupied

22.7% Vacant

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON INJURIES AND FATALITIES, 1983

BY BOROUGH

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

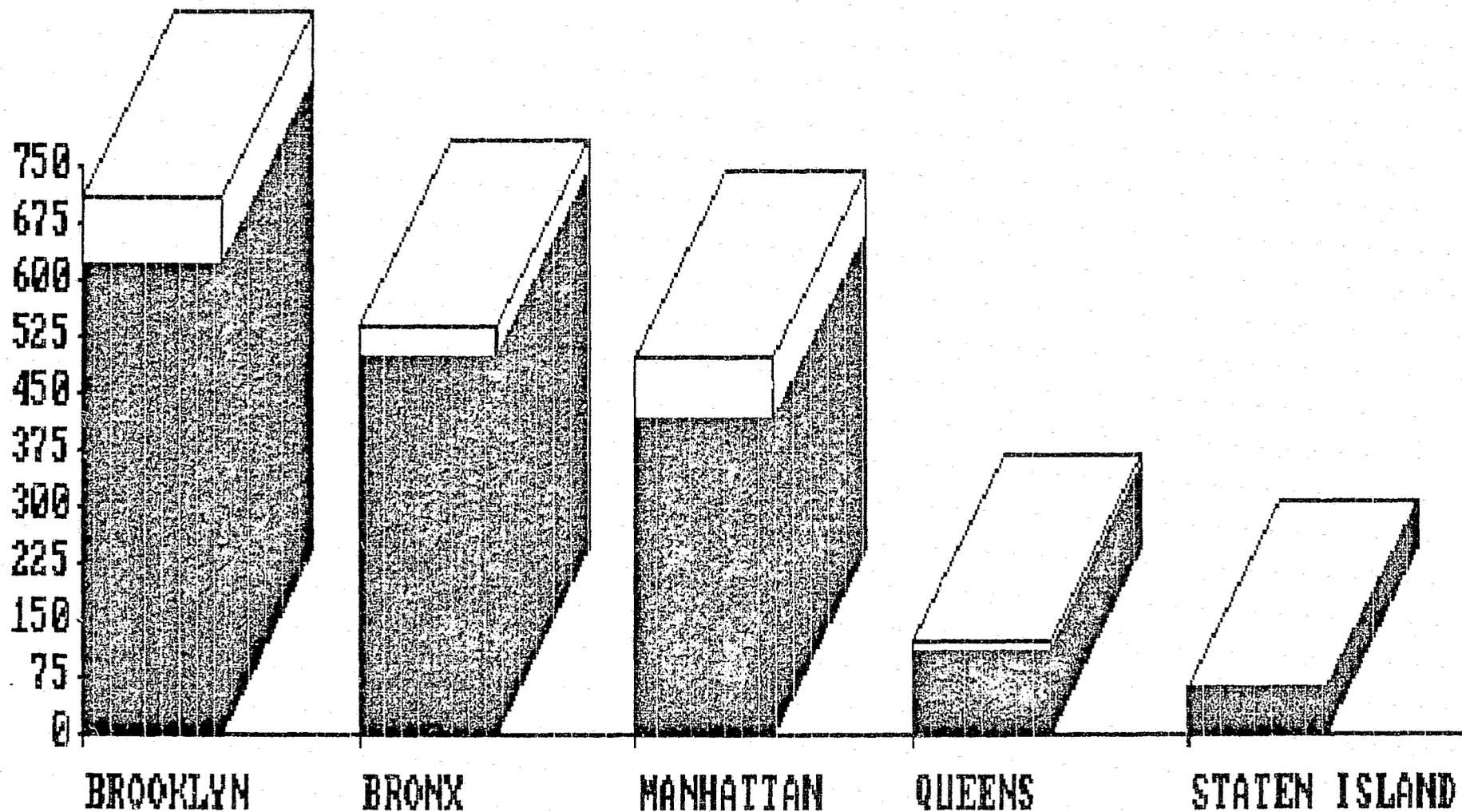
Civilian And Uniformed Injuries
as the Result of Arson

	<u>Civilian</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>%</u> <u>of Total</u>	<u>Uniformed</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>%</u> <u>of Total</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Injuries</u>	<u>%</u> <u>of Total</u>
Brooklyn	91	37.4	626	36.4	717	36.5
Bronx	45	18.5	499	29.0	544	27.7
Manhattan	84	34.6	419	24.4	503	25.6
Queens	16	6.6	114	6.6	130	6.6
S.I	<u>7</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>3.6</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>3.5</u>
Total	243	100%	1,719	100%	1,962	100%

Source: NYC Fire Department.

There were 1,962 physical injuries caused by arson fires during 1983. 87.6% of these injuries (1,719) were sustained by firefighters. Brooklyn arson fires accounted for the largest share of both civilian (37.4%) and uniformed (36.4%) injuries. As might be expected, ranking the boroughs by arson injuries produces the same rank order as that for arson incidence overall. It is interesting to note, however, that the Bronx experienced approximately half the number of civilian injuries as Manhattan, despite the much higher frequency of arson in the Bronx. This is probably attributable to the large percentage of vacant building arsons in the Bronx, since vacant building fires generally pose less risk to civilians than to firefighters. Support for this hypothesis is provided by the fact that the Bronx outranks Manhattan in the number of injuries to firefighters.

ARSON RELATED INJURIES



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Fatalities

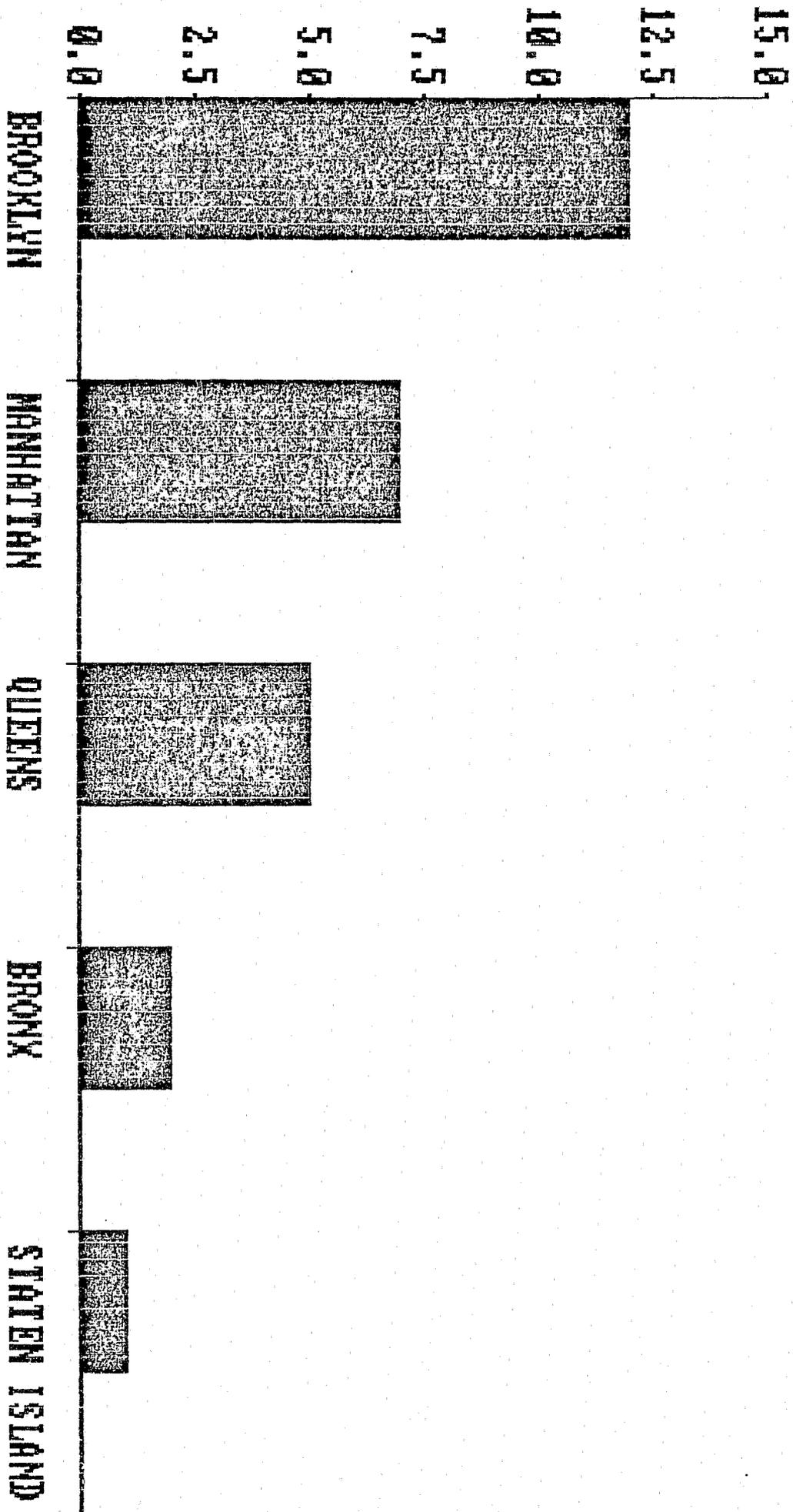
By Borough

<u>Borough</u>	<u>Arson Fires</u>	<u>Arson Fatalities</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Brooklyn	6	12	44.4
Manhattan	5	7	25.0
Queens	4	5	17.9
Bronx	2	2	7.1
Staten Island	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3.6</u>
Total	18	27	100.00%

Source: NYC Fire Department.

Brooklyn also witnessed the most arson fatalities during 1983. However, six of its 12 fatalities were claimed by a single arson fire.

ARSON FATALITIES



ARSON ARRESTS BY BOROUGH, 1983

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests by Precinct*

B R O O K L Y N

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Borough-wide % of Total</u>
60	8	4.1
61	5	2.6
62	7	3.6
63	4	2.1
66	7	3.6
67	9	4.6
68	7	3.6
69	1	0.6
70	7	3.6
71	13	6.7
72	8	4.1
73	5	2.6
75	17	8.7
76	5	2.6
77	3	1.5
78	5	2.6
79	9	4.6
81	24	12.3
83	15	7.7
84	17	8.7
88	3	1.5
90	10	5.1
<u>94</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0.5</u>
Total	195	100%

*Note: These figures refer only to the Precinct where an arson arrest occurred. They do not indicate the command of the arresting police officer or fire marshal.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests by Precinct*

B R O N X

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Borough-wide % of Total</u>
40	13	7.9
41	6	3.6
42	13	7.9
43	18	11.0
44	29	17.6
45	4	2.4
46	22	13.3
47	8	4.8
48	31	18.9
50	8	4.9
<u>52</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7.9</u>
Total	165	100%

*Note: These figures refer only to the Precinct where an arson arrest occurred. They do not indicate the command of the arresting police officer or fire marshal.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests by Precinct*

M A N H A T T A N

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Borough-wide % of Total</u>
1	2	1.4
5	8	5.4
7	7	4.7
9	8	5.4
10	4	2.7
13	4	2.7
14	13	8.8
18	12	8.1
19	9	6.1
20	3	2.0
23	6	4.1
24	5	3.4
25	15	10.1
26	3	2.0
28	15	10.1
30	4	2.7
32	16	10.8
<u>34</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9.5</u>
Total	148	100%

*Note: These figures refer only to the Precinct where an arson arrest occurred. They do not indicate the command of the arresting police officer or fire marshal.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Arson Arrests by Precinct*

Q U E E N S

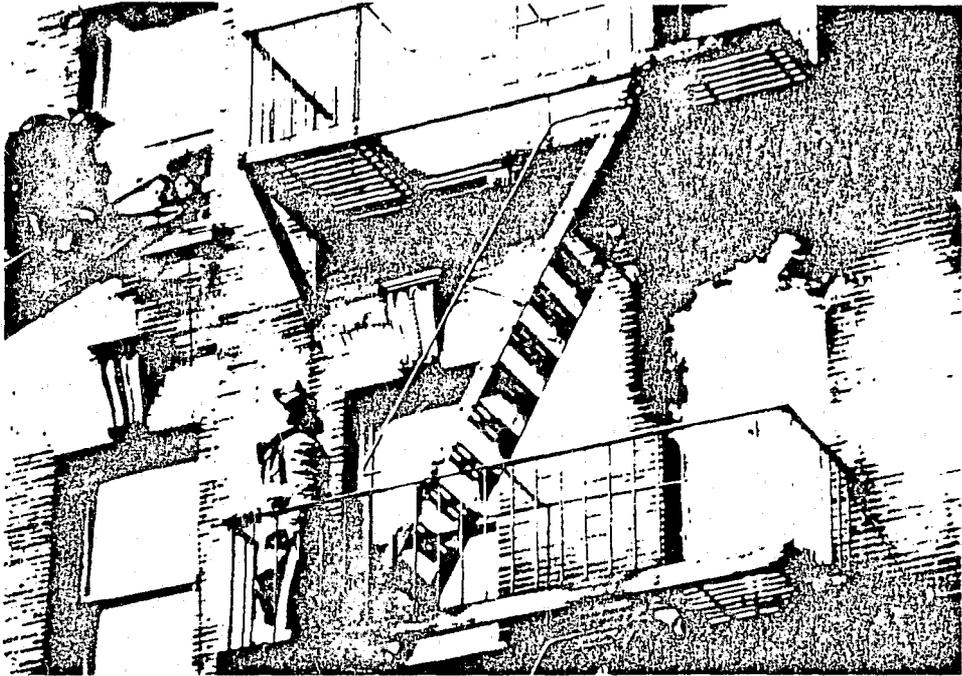
<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Borough-wide % of Total</u>
100	6	7.7
101	12	15.4
102	5	6.4
103	8	10.3
104	3	3.8
105	4	5.1
106	11	14.1
108	9	11.5
109	3	3.8
110	4	5.1
112	4	5.1
113	4	5.1
<u>114</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6.4</u>
Total	78	100%

S T A T E N I S L A N D

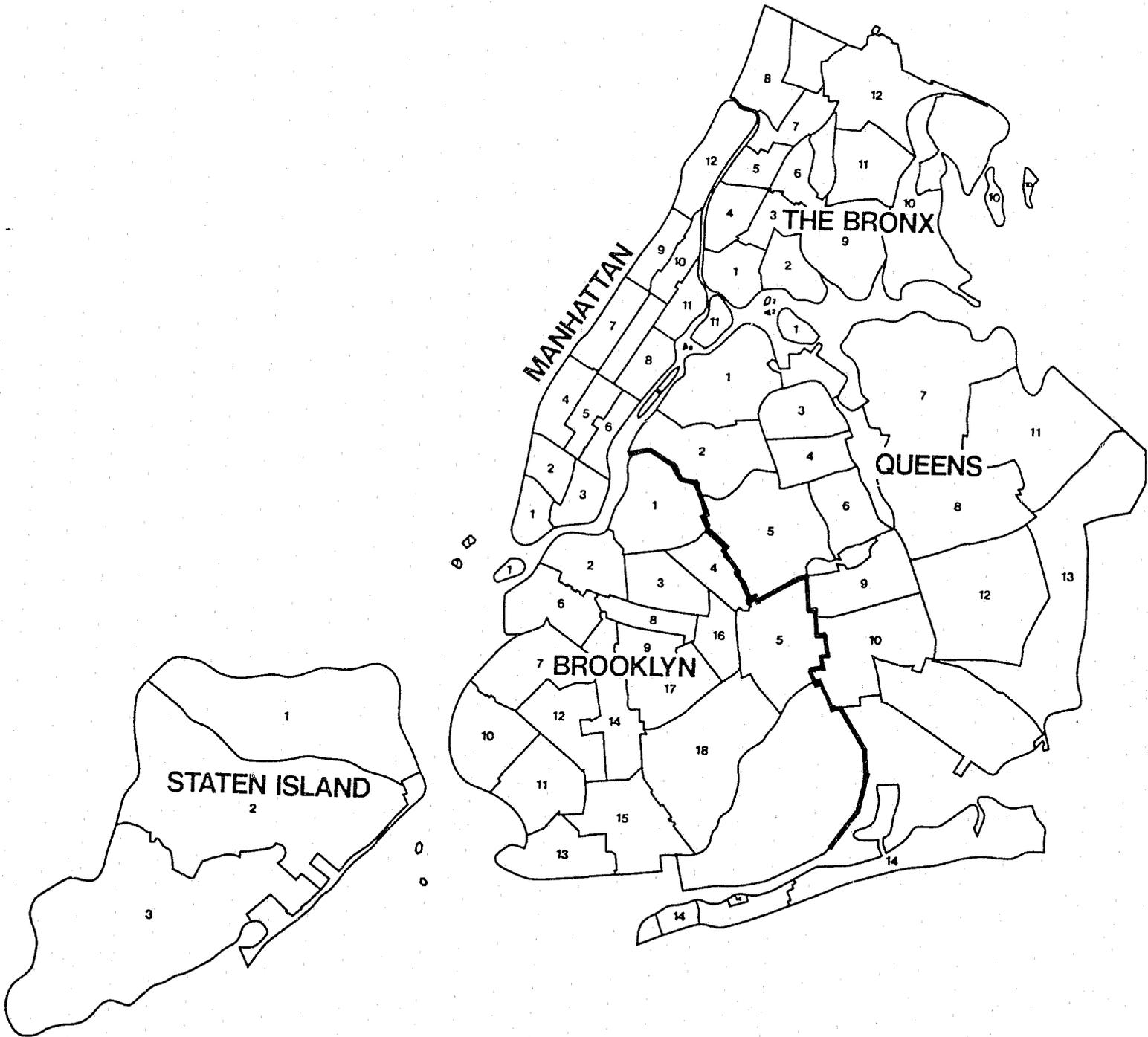
120	23	63.6
122	2	4.5
<u>123</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>31.8</u>
Total	44	100%

*Note: These figures refer only to the Precinct where an arson arrest occurred. They do not indicate the command of the arresting police officer or fire marshal.

Source: NYC Police Department, Crime Analysis Section,
On Line Booking System.



ARSON BY COMMUNITY DISTRICT, 1983



ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
by Number of Arsons In 1983

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>CD No.</u>	<u>Total Arsons</u>	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>Auto</u>	<u>Other</u>
1	E. Tremont/West Farms*	Bronx	(CD# 6)	303	109	171	22	1
2	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	298	160	129	6	3
3	Williamsburg/Greenpoint*	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	287	139	93	50	5
4	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	263	112	135	15	1
5	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	249	162	84	1	2
6	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	241	129	108	4	0
7	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	222	72	145	4	1
8	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	211	91	116	3	1
9=	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	199	129	60	10	0
	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	199	105	78	16	0
11	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	189	110	77	2	0
12	Lower East Side/E.Vill.*	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	177	103	62	12	0
13	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	145	93	51	1	0
14	North Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 1)	140	72	43	24	1
15	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	138	106	26	6	0
16	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	135	80	49	3	3
17	Fort Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	127	89	31	4	3
18	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	114	49	34	30	1
19	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	105	44	55	6	0
20	Jamaica/St. Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	103	77	15	9	2
21	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	97	76	14	6	1
22	Washington Hgts/Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	94	80	13	1	0
23	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	93	75	9	8	1
24	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	91	50	20	21	0
25=	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	88	74	11	2	1
	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	88	49	31	8	0
27	West Harlem	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	86	68	15	1	2
28	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	85	65	15	5	0
29	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	84	57	15	9	3
30	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	79	47	10	21	1
31	Chelsea/Clinton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	76	57	13	5	1
32=	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	75	71	2	2	0
	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 7)	75	65	4	6	0

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Rank	Name	Borough	CD No.	Total Arsons	Occupied	Vacant	Auto	Other
34	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	72	46	8	17	1
35=	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	68	50	3	15	0
	Astoria/Long Island City	Queens	(CD# 1)	68	48	9	11	0
	Williamsbridge/Wakefield	Bronx	(CD#12)	68	52	11	4	1
38	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	66	47	13	5	1
39	Central Area	Staten Is.	(CD# 2)	61	32	16	13	0
40	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	56	48	6	2	0
41	South Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 3)	51	18	21	10	2
42=	Jackson Heights/E.Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	50	44	1	5	0
	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	50	39	7	4	0
44	Ridgewood/Glendale*	Queens	(CD# 5)	46	29	4	12	1
45	Kew Gardens/Richmond Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	43	28	7	8	0
46	Greenwich Village	Manhattan	(CD# 2)	41	30	8	1	2
47	Morris Pk/Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	39	32	2	4	1
48=	E. Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	38	33	5	0	0
	Marble Hill/Riverdale	Bronx	(CD# 8)	38	34	2	1	1
50	Woodside*	Queens	(CD# 2)	37	21	3	13	0
51	Corona/Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 4)	35	26	2	6	1
52	Howard Beach/Ozone Park	Queens	(CD#10)	34	21	2	11	0
53	Murray Hill	Manhattan	(CD# 6)	33	28	3	2	0
54	Lower Manhattan	Manhattan	(CD# 1)	30	28	0	2	0
55=	Throgs Neck/CoC/City Is	Bronx	(CD#10)	27	17	0	10	0
	Forest Hills/Rego Park	Queens	(CD# 6)	27	21	4	2	0
57	Bay Ridge	Brooklyn	(CD#10)	25	19	0	6	0
58	Jamaica Estates/Fresh Mead	Queens	(CD# 8)	21	18	0	3	0
59	Bayside/Douglaston	Queens	(CD#11)	14	12	0	0	2
	Total			6,094	3,686	1,871	490	47

*Indicates a District where Red Caps were assigned for part of the year.

Source: N.Y.C., Fire Department, Bureau of Fire Investigation.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
By Number of Structural Fires

STRUCTURAL

<u>Arson Rank</u>	<u>Fire Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>C.D. No.</u>	<u>No. Struct Fires</u>	<u>% of City Total</u>
4	1	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	1,408	3.85
5	2	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	1,306	3.57
9	3	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	1,298	3.55
1	4	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	1,198	3.27
13	5	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	1,162	3.18
3	6	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	1,145	3.13
12	7	Lower East Side/E. Village*	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	1,100	3.01
16	8	Fort Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	966	2.64
6	9	Williamsburg/Greenpoint*	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	952	2.60
19	10	Washington Hts./Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	943	2.58
=24	11	West Harlem	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	937	2.56
10	12	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	935	2.55
8	13	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	922	2.52
15	14	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	919	2.51
32	15	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 7)	891	2.43
29	16	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	886	2.42
20	17	Jamaica/St. Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	812	2.23
21	18	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	764	2.09
2	19	E. Tremont/W. Farms*	Bronx	(CD# 6)	727	1.99
28	20	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	709	1.94
22	21	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	705	1.93
23	22	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	700	1.91
7	23	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	693	1.89
=44	24	E. Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	668	1.82
=37	25	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	642	1.76
11	26	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	640	1.75
=30	27	Chelsea/Clinnton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	619	1.69
14	28	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	602	1.64
17	29	North Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 1)	572	1.56
=26	30	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	548	1.50
=26	31	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	538	1.47
34	32	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	509	1.39
=44	33	Greenwich Village	Manhattan	(CD# 2)	505	1.38

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

S T R U C T U R A L

<u>Arson Rank</u>	<u>Fire Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>C.B. No.</u>	<u>No. Struct Fires</u>	<u>% of City Total</u>
=35	34	Astoria/Long Is.City	Queens	(CD# 1)	499	1.36
24	35	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	495	1.35
50	36	Murray Hill	Manhattan	(CD# 6)	482	1.31
33	37	Williamsbridge/Wakfield	Bronx	(DB#12)	429	1.17
30	38	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	420	1.14
18	39	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	409	1.11
56	40	Bay Ridge	Brooklyn	(CD#10)	371	1.01
37	41	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	343	.93
46	42	Marble Hill/Riverdale	Bronx	(CD# 8)	336	.91
39	43	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	333	.91
57	44	Jam. Estates/Fresh Med.	Queens	(CD# 8)	328	.89
41	45=	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	322	.88
=51		Corona/Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 4)	322	.88
=51	47	Lower Manhattan	Manhattan	(CD# 1)	321	.87
42	48	Jackson Hgts/E.Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	313	.85
58	49	Throgs Nk/C-0-C/City Is.	Bronx	(CD#10)	301	.82
54	50	Woodside*	Queens	(CD# 2)	291	.79
48	51	Morris Pk./Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	286	.78
=36	52=	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	269	.73
49		Ridgewood/Glendale*	Queens	(CD# 5)	269	.73
40	54	Central Area	Staten Is.	(CD# 2)	237	.64
47	55	Kew Gardens/Rich. Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	216	.59
53	56=	Forest Hills/Rego Pk.	Queens	(CD# 6)	198	.54
55	57	Howard Beach/Ozone Pk.	Queens	(CD#10)	185	.50
43	58	South Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 3)	178	.48
59	59	Bayside/Douglaston	Queens	(CD#10)	172	.47
-	-	- - -	-	-	279**	-
Total					36,525	100%

*Indicates a District where Red Caps were assigned for part of the year.

**Data on CD location unavailable for 279 cases (250 in Queens).

Source: NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
By Percentage of Structural Fires
Caused by Arson

STRUCTURAL

Fire Rank	Arson per		Name	Borough	CD #	No. of Struct. Fires	No. of Struct Arsons	% of Struct. Fires caused By Arson
	Arson Rank	Struct. Fire Rank						
19	2	1	E. Tremont/West Farms*	Bronx	(CD# 6)	727	280	38.51
23	7	2	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	693	217	31.31
26	11	3	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	640	183	28.59
9	6	4	Williamsburg/Greenpoint*	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	952	232	24.36
39	18	5	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	409	99	24.20
4	1	6	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	1,198	289	24.12
13	8	7	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	922	207	22.45
28	14	8	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	602	132	21.92
58	43	9	South Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 3)	178	39	21.91
6	3	10	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	1,145	247	21.57
=52	=35	11	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	269	57	21.18
54	40	12	Central Area	Staten Is.	(CD# 2)	237	48	20.25
29	17	13	North Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 1)	572	115	20.10
12	10	14	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	935	187	20.00
1	4	15	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	1,408	246	17.47
2	5	16	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	1,306	237	16.83
35	=24	17	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	495	83	16.76
38	=30	18	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	420	70	16.66
55	47	19	Kew Gardens/Richmond Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	216	35	16.20
43	39	20	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	333	53	15.91
41	=37	21	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	343	54	15.74
7	12	22	Lower E. Side/E. Village*	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	1,100	165	15.00
31	=26	23	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	538	80	14.89
37	33	24	Williamsbridge/Wakefield	Bronx	(CD#12)	429	63	14.68
30	=26	25	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	548	80	14.59
3	9	26	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	1,298	189	14.56
48	42	27	Jackson Heights/E.Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	313	45	14.37
=45	41	28	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	322	46	14.28
14	15	29	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	919	129	14.03
56	53	30	Forest Hills/Rego Park	Queens	(CD# 6)	198	25	12.62
57	55	31	Howard Beach/Ozone Park	Queens	(CD#10)	185	23	12.43

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

STRUCTURAL

			Arson per			No. of	No. of	% of Struct.
Fire Rank	Arson Rank	Struct. Fire Rank	Name	Borough	CD #	Struct. Fires	Struct Arsons	Fires caused By Arson
8	16	32	For + Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	966	120	12.42
5	13	33	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	1,162	144	12.39
=52	49	34	Ridgewood/Glendale*	Queens	(CD# 5)	269	33	12.26
21	22	35	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	705	85	12.05
22	23	36	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	700	84	12.00
51	48	37	Morris Pk/Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	286	34	11.88
32	34	38	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	509	60	11.78
18	21	39	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	764	90	11.78
34	=35	40	Astoria/Long Island City	Queens	(CD# 1)	499	57	11.42
17	20	41	Jamaica/St. Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	812	92	11.33
27	=30	42	Chelsea/Clinton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	619	70	11.30
42	46	43	Marble Hill/Riverdale	Bronx	(CD# 8)	336	36	10.71
20	28	44	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	709	73	10.29
10	19	45	Washington Hgts/Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	943	93	9.86
11	=24	46	West Harlem	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	937	83	8.85
47	=51	47	Lower Manhattan	Manhattan	(CD# 1)	321	28	8.72
=45	=51	48	Corona/Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 4)	322	28	8.69
25	=37	49	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	642	54	8.41
50	54	50	Woodside*	Queens	(CD# 2)	291	24	8.24
16	29	51	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	886	72	8.12
15	32	52	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 7)	891	69	7.74
33	=44	53	Greenwich Village	Manhattan	(CD# 2)	505	38	7.52
59	59	54	Bayside/Douglaston	Queens	(CD#11)	172	12	6.97
36	50	55	Murray Hill	Manhattan	(CD# 6)	482	31	6.43
24	=44	56	E. Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	668	38	5.68
49	58	57	Throgs Neck/CoC/City Is	Bronx	(CD#10)	301	17	5.64
44	57	58	Jamaica Estates/Fresh Mead	Queens	(CD# 8)	328	18	5.48
40	56	59	Bay Ridge	Brooklyn	(CD#10)	371	19	5.12
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	279**	-
<hr/>								
City-Wide	Average					36,525	5,557	15.21%

*Indicates a District where Red Caps were assigned for part of the year.

**Data on CD location unavailable for 279 Cases (250 in Queens).

Source: N.Y.C. Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
by Rate of Arsons per 10,000 Population

<u>Rank</u>	<u>(Overall Rank)</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>CD No.</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u># of Arsons</u>	<u># Arsons per 10,000</u>
1	(1)	East Tremont/West Farms*	Bronx	(CD# 6)	64,869	303	46.71
2	(7)	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	53,780	222	41.28
3	(19)	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	34,307	105	30.61
4	(2)	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	108,070	298	27.57
5	(8)	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	78,349	211	26.93
6	(11)	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	73,908	189	25.57
7	(5)	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	105,794	249	23.54
8	(9=)	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	93,099	199	21.38
9	(6)	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	114,495	241	21.05
10	(3)	Williamsburg/Greenpoint*	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	142,403	287	20.15
11	(32=)	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	39,552	75	18.96
12	(54)	Lower Manhattan	Manhattan	(CD# 1)	15,924	30	18.84
13	(4)	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	154,952	263	16.97
14	(16)	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	88,954	135	15.16
15	(9=)	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	133,440	199	14.91
16	(15)	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	99,520	138	13.87
17	(17)	Fort Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	92,849	127	13.67
18	(13)	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	114,423	145	12.67
19	(12)	Lower East Side/E. Vill.*	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	157,789	177	11.21
20	(14)	North Shore	Staten Is	(CD# 1)	138,209	140	10.12
23	(31)	Chelsea/Clinton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	82,005	76	9.26
22	(24)	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	98,650	91	9.22
23	(28)	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	100,552	85	8.45
24	(27=)	West Harlem	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	103,115	86	8.34
25	(25=)	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	110,372	88	7.97
26	(25=)	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	116,908	88	7.52
27	(18)	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	155,777	114	7.31
28	(23)	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	144,384	93	6.44
29	(21)	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	154,510	97	6.27
30	(39)	Central Area	Staten Is	(CD# 2)	105,306	61	5.79
31	(40)	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	96,892	56	5.77
32	(20)	Jamaica/St. Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	189,561	103	5.43

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Rank	(Overall Rank)	Name	Borough	CD No.	Population	# of# Arsons	Arsons per 10,000
33	(35=)	Williamsbridge/Wakefield	Bronx	(CD#12)	128,292	68	5.30
34	(22)	Washington Hgts/Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	179,919	94	5.22
35	(30)	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	154,961	79	5.09
36	(29)	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	167,921	84	5.00
37	(41)	South Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 3)	108,348	51	4.70
38	(46)	Greenwich Village	Manhattan	(CD# 2)	87,191	41	4.70
39	(35=)	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	149,490	68	4.54
40	(34)	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	169,037	72	4.25
41	(50)	Woodside*	Queens	(CD# 2)	88,985	37	4.15
42	(42)	Jackson Hgts/E.Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	122,292	50	4.09
43	(47)	Morris Pk/Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	98,839	39	3.94
44	(45)	Kew Gardens/Richmond Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	109,169	43	3.93
45	(48=)	Marble Hill/Riverdale	Bronx	(CD# 8)	98,276	38	3.86
46	(35=)	Astoria/Long Island City	Queens	(CD# 1)	185,462	68	3.66
47	(32=)	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 7)	206,604	75	3.63
48	(52)	Howard Beach/Ozone Park	Queens	(CD#10)	105,523	34	3.22
49	(38)	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	204,898	66	3.22
50	(44)	Ridgewood/Glendale*	Queens	(CD# 5)	149,774	46	3.07
51	(51)	Corona/Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 4)	118,303	35	2.95
52	(42=)	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	173,533	50	2.88
53	(53)	Murray Hill	Manhattan	(CD# 6)	127,631	33	2.59
54	(55=)	Throgs Nk/Co.C/City Isl.	Bronx	(CD#10)	106,278	27	2.54
55	(55=)	Forest Hills/Rego Park	Queens	(CD# 6)	112,297	27	2.40
56	(57)	Bay Ridge	Brooklyn	(CD#10)	117,646	25	2.12
57	(48=)	East Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	204,303	38	1.85
58	(58)	Ja.Estates/Fresh Mead	Queens	(CD# 8)	125,083	21	1.67
59	(59)	Bayside/Douglaston	Queens	(CD#11)	110,918	14	1.26
City-wide Rate					7,071,639	6,094	8.62

*Indicates a District where Red Caps were assigned for part of the year.

Source: N.Y.C. Fire Department, Bureau of Fire Investigation; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
By Arson per Vacant Building Ratio

<u>Vacant Bldg. Arsons Rank</u>	<u>Per Capita Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>C.D. No.</u>	<u>No. Vacant Bldgs.</u>	<u>No. Vacant Bldg. Arsons</u>	<u>Vacant Bldg. Arson Rate</u>
1	1	E. Tremont/West Farms*	Bronx	(CD# 6)	307	171	.557
=37	2	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	16	8	.500
=29	3	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	36	13	.361
4	4	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	364	129	.354
21	5	South Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 3)	68	21	.309
=24	6	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	50	15	.300
=32	7	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	39	11	.282
5	8	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	448	116	.259
17	9	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	135	34	.252
6	10	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	459	108	.235
2	11	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	687	145	.211
34	12	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	48	10	.208
13	13	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	306	55	.180
=49	14	Corona/Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 4)	12	2	.166
=18	15	Fort Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	499	31	.162
20	16	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	183	26	.142
7	17	Williamsburg/Greenpoint*	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	656	93	.141
=49	18	Marble Hill/Riverdale	Bronx	(CD# 8)	15	2	.133
23	19	Central Area	Staten Is.	(CD# 2)	123	16	.130
=32	20	Williamsbridge/Wakfield	Bronx	(DB#12)	85	11	.129
11	21	Lower East Side/E. Village*	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	507	62	.122
=29	22	Washington Hts./Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	115	13	.113
=49	23	Morris Pk./Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	18	2	.111
=35	24	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	91	9	.099
=39	25	Kew Gardens/Rich. Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	71	7	.098
9	26	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	808	78	.097
3	27	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	1,478	135	.091
=35	28	Astoria/Long Is. City	Queens	(CD# 1)	101	9	.089
42	29	E. Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	59	5	.085
16	30	North Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 1)	531	43	.081
14	31	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	630	51	.080
8	32	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	1,062	84	.079
15	33	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	668	49	.075
=43	34	Ridgewood/Glendale*	Queens	(CD# 5)	55	4	.072

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

<u>Vacant Bldg.Arsons Rank</u>	<u>Per Capita Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>C.D. No.</u>	<u>No. Vacant Bldgs.</u>	<u>No. Vacant Bldg.Arsons</u>	<u>Vacant Bldg. Arson Rate</u>
22	35	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	294	20	.068
28	36	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	206	14	.0679
=43	37	Forest Hills/Rego Pk.	Queens	(CD# 6)	59	4	.0677
=37	38	Greenwich Village	Manhattan	(CD# 2)	119	8	.0672
=24	39	West Harlem	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	226	15	.066
10	40	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	1,197	77	.064
=46	41	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	47	3	.063
=18	42	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	536	31	.058
=24	43	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	263	15	.057
=29	44	Chelsea/Clinton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	238	13	.055
=46	45	Woodside*	Queens	(CD# 2)	57	3	.053
=46	46	Murray Hill	Manhattan	(CD# 6)	68	3	.044
=39	47	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	183	7	.038
12	48	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	1,624	60	.037
41	49	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	184	6	.033
15	50	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 7)	178	4	.022
=49	51	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	97	2	.021
=24	52	Jamaica/St.Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	919	15	.016
54	53	Jackson Hgts/E.Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	75	1	.013
=49	54	Howard Beach/Ozone Pk.	Queens	(CD#10)	173	2	.012
=55	=55	Throgs Nk/C-0-C/City Is.	Bronx	(CD#10)	17	0	0
		Bay Ridge	Brooklyn	(CD#10)	23	0	0
		Jam. Estates/Fresh Med.	Queens	(CD# 8)	10	0	0
		Lower Manhattan	Manhattan	(CD# 1)	112	0	0
		Bayside/Douglaston	Queens	(CD#11)	189	0	0
<hr/> City-Wide					17,824	1,871	.105

*Indicates a District where Red Caps were assigned for part of the year.

Source: NYC Fire Department, Bureau of Fire Investigation; NYC Dept. of City Planning (Sanborn Vacant Building File).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
By Arson per Occupied Residential Units

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>C.D. No.</u>	<u># Occupied Res. Units</u>	<u># of Arsons</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Units</u>
1	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	25,130	86	3.422
2	East Tremont/West Farms*	Bronx	(CD# 6)	22,049	68	3.084
3	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	45,744	129	2.820
4	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	23,797	61	2.563
5	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	38,177	92	2.409
6	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	17,403	27	2.367
7	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	18,278	43	2.352
8	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	41,567	91	2.189
9	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	29,929	63	2.104
10	Williamsburg/Greenpoint*	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	50,624	82	1.619
11	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	41,161	62	1.506
12	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	41,765	62	1.484
13	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	48,062	71	1.477
14	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	33,754	46	1.362
15	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	48,806	65	1.331
16	West Harlem	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	40,351	51	1.263
17	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	35,107	44	1.253
18	Lower East Side/East Village*	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	62,876	75	1.192
19	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	47,667	51	1.069
20	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	26,188	26	.992
21	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	51,211	46	.898
22	Washington Hts./Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	70,554	60	.850
23	North Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 1)	48,276	40	.828
24	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	35,146	27	.768
25	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	34,414	25	.726
26	Marble Hill/Riverdale	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	40,303	28	.694
27	Fort Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	40,199	27	.671
28	Chelsea/Ciinton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	46,896	31	.661
29	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	56,819	36	.635
30	Williamsbridge/Wakefield	Bronx	(CD#12)	45,856	26	.566
31	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	61,894	35	.565
32	Jamaica/St. Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	60,697	32	.527
33	Jackson Hts./East Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	48,276	22	.455
34	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	57,470	26	.452

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>C.D. No.</u>	<u># Occupied Res. Units</u>	<u># of Arsons</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Units</u>
35	Lower Manhattan	Manhattan	(CD# 1)	6,751	3	.444
36	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 7)	113,409	47	.4144
37	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	43,478	18	.4140
38	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	61,459	24	.390
39	Morris Park/Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	39,489	14	.354
40	Corona/Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 4)	43,472	15	.345
41	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	61,412	20	.325
42	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	77,976	23	.295
43	Forest Hills/Rego Park	Queens	(CD# 6)	52,740	14	.265
44	Kew Gardens/Richmond Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	41,679	11	.2639
45	Astoria/L.I.C.	Queens	(CD# 1)	72,248	19	.2630
46	Central Area	Staten Is.	(CD# 2)	33,865	8	.236
47	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	54,362	12	.220
48	Bay Ridge	Brooklyn	(CD#10)	50,427	9	.178
49	Howard Beach/Ozone Park	Queens	(CD#10)	35,207	6	.1704
50	East Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	117,413	20	.1703
51	Murray Hill	Manhattan	(CD# 6)	80,072	12	.149
52	Bayside/Douglaston	Queens	(CD#11)	41,409	6	.144
53	Woodside*	Queens	(CD# 2)	38,271	5	.130
54	South Shore	Staten Is.	(CD# 3)	32,361	4	.123
55	Greenwich Village	Manhattan	(CD# 2)	33,865	8	.120
56	Ridgewood/Glendale*	Queens	(CD# 5)	59,851	7	.117
57	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	60,086	6	.099
58	Throgs Neck/Co-op City/City Is	Bronx	(CD#10)	40,183	2	.049
59	Jamaica Estates/Fr. Meadows	Queens	(CD# 8)	50,529	2	.039
City-Wide Rate				2,788,530	2,071**	.742

* Indicates a District where Red Caps were assigned for part of the year.

**Excludes cases of arson in vacant apartments within otherwise occupied buildings.

Source: NYC Fire Department; US Bureau of Census (1980).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Ranking of Community Districts
by Number of Arsons Causing Heavy Structural Damage

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>CD No.</u>	<u>No. of Arsons Causing Heavy Structural Damage</u>
1	Bushwick	Brooklyn	(CD# 4)	23
2	Central Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#10)	18
3	Bedford Stuyvesant	Brooklyn	(CD# 3)	17
4	Williamsburg	Brooklyn	(CD# 1)	16
5	E. Tremont/West Farms	Bronx	(CD# 6)	15
6	Morrisania	Bronx	(CD# 3)	14
	North Shore	Staten Island	(CD# 1)	14
	Jamaica/St. Albans	Queens	(CD#12)	14
9	Mott Haven	Bronx	(CD# 1)	13
	Crown Heights (North)	Brooklyn	(CD# 8)	13
11	East New York	Brooklyn	(CD# 5)	11
12	Williamsbridge/Wakefield	Bronx	(CS#12)	9
	Coney Island	Brooklyn	(CD#13)	9
	The Rockaways	Queens	(CD#14)	9
15	Highbridge	Bronx	(CD# 4)	8
	Park Slope/Red Hook	Brooklyn	(CD# 6)	8
	Central Area	Staten Island	(CD# 2)	8
18	Lower East Side/E. Vill.	Manhattan	(CD# 3)	7
	Sunset Park	Brooklyn	(CD# 7)	7
20	Canarsie/Flatlands	Brooklyn	(CD#18)	6
	Glen Oaks/Laurelton	Queens	(CD#13)	6
22	Morris Heights	Bronx	(CD# 5)	5
	Brownsville	Brooklyn	(CD#16)	5
	East Harlem	Manhattan	(CD#11)	5
	South Shore	Staten Island	(CD# 3)	5
	Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#14)	4
	East Flatbush	Brooklyn	(CD#17)	4
	West Side	Manhattan	(CD# 9)	4
	Jackson Heights/E. Elmhurst	Queens	(CD# 3)	4

Rank	Name	Borough	CD No.	No. of Arsons Causing Heavy Structural Damage
30	Hunts Point	Bronx	(CD# 2)	3
	Fort Greene	Brooklyn	(CD# 2)	3
	Borough Park	Brooklyn	(CD#12)	3
	Washington Hts/Inwood	Manhattan	(CD#12)	3
	Flushing/Whitestone	Queens	(CD# 7)	3
35	Fordham/Bedford Park	Bronx	(CD# 7)	2
	Sedgewick/Parkchester	Bronx	(CD# 9)	2
	Throgs Neck/CoC/City Is.	Bronx	(CD#10)	2
	Bensonhurst	Brooklyn	(CD#11)	2
	Sheepshead Bay	Brooklyn	(CD#15)	2
	Chelsea/Clinton	Manhattan	(CD# 4)	2
	Astoria/L.I.C.	Queens	(CD# 1)	2
	Ridgewood/Glendale	Queens	(CD# 5)	2
	Kew Gardens/Richmond Hill	Queens	(CD# 9)	2
	Howard Beach/Ozone Park	Queens	(CD#10)	2
45	Morris Park/Pelham	Bronx	(CD#11)	1
	Crown Heights (South)	Brooklyn	(CD# 9)	1
	Midtown	Manhattan	(CD# 5)	1
	East Side/Yorkville	Manhattan	(CD# 8)	1
	Woodside	Queens	(CD# 2)	1
(Ten C.D.'s experienced no arsons in this category)				

Total

321*

* Based on a sample of 5,074 structural arsons, or 91.3% of all structural arsons during 1983.

Source: NYC Fire Department.

The 321 arson cases that caused heavy structural damage accounted for 12 of the 27 fatalities which resulted from arson fires in 1983 (two fatalities were recorded in 1983 that resulted from arson fires set prior to 1/1/83). Although Crown Heights (South) in Brooklyn experienced only one arson fire which caused heavy structural damage, that same arson fire claimed a life. Brooklyn's community districts accounted for 134, or 42%, of the total, followed by the Bronx (74, or 23%), Queens (45, or 14%), Manhattan (41, or 13%) and Staten Island (27, or 8%).

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Percent Distribution of Structural Arson
by Types of Buildings Within Each C.D.

BROOKLYN

C.D.#	% Arson in Multiple Dwellings (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in 1-2 Family Homes (%Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Industrial Commercial (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Public Structures (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*
1	71% (56/44)	44%	4% (75/25)	24%	20% (62/38)	27%	5% (50/50)	5%
2	65% (60/40)	42%	7% (20/80)	30%	22% (50/50)	21%	6% (100/0)	7%
3	71% (69/31)	40%	9% (31/69)	47%	14% (80/20)	11%	6% (73/27)	2%
4	67% (57/43)	47%	6% (40/60)	41%	20% (46/54)	9%	6% (73/27)	3%
5	67% (46/54)	22%	21% (24/76)	64%	8% (45/55)	11%	4% (60/40)	3%
6	65% (49/51)	46%	6% (0/100)	35%	20% (53/47)	16%	9% (100/0)	3%
7	59% (72/28)	27%	13% (63/37)	56%	23% (79/21)	14%	5% (33/67)	3%
8	76% (56/44)	42%	5% (83/17)	43%	15% (79/21)	12%	5% (67/33)	3%
9	73% (87/13)	21%	0	66%	23% (92/8)	10%	4% (100/0)	3%
10	56% (100/0)	16%	6% (100/0)	74%	19% (100/0)	8%	19% (100/0)	1%
11	54% (85/15)	22%	8% (75/25)	68%	21% (70/30)	8%	17% (100/0)	2%
12	60% (49/51)	27%	12% (78/22)	61%	21% (56/44)	10%	7% (80/20)	2%
13	62% (91/9)	27%	10% (83/17)	60%	23% (64/36)	8%	5% (80/20)	5%
14	64% (88/12)	14%	5% (75/25)	73%	23% (100/0)	10%	9% (100/0)	3%
15	42% (89/11)	9%	9% (75/25)	82%	42% (100/0)	7%	7% (100/0)	2%
16	63% (58/42)	41%	7% (38/62)	41%	22% (54/46)	13%	8% (36/64)	5%
17	55% (86/14)	20%	6% (80/20)	71%	25% (82/18)	8%	17% (85/15)	1%
18	18% (100/0)	3%	5% (50/50)	91%	56% (77/23)	5%	21% (88/12)	1%
<hr/>								
Borough-								
Wide	64% (64/36)	24%	9% (44/56)	63%	20% (68/32)	11%	7% (74/25)	2%
<hr/>								
City-								
Wide	69% (62/38)	19%	8% (46/54)	70%	17% (71/29)	8%	6% (80/20)	3%

Source: NYC Department of City Planning, Real Property File; NYC Fire Department.

*Note: Land use statistics show the percentage of tax lots--not buildings or units--in each category as of 1983. In computing percentages, vacant land lots were eliminated.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Percent Distribution of Structural Arson
by Types of Buildings Within Each C.D.

BRONX

C.D.#	% Arson in Multiple Dwellings (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in 1-2 Family Homes (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Industrial Commercial (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Public Structures (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*
1	79% (44/56)	41%	6% (17/83)	19%	13% (33/67)	26%	2% (50/50)	14%
2	92% (43/57)	42%	0	18%	5% (60/40)	27%	3% (67/33)	13%
3	73% (33/67)	51%	7% (20/80)	22%	17% (18/82)	18%	3% (71/29)	9%
4	85% (51/49)	52%	6% (36/64)	26%	8% (61/39)	13%	1% (33/67)	9%
5	88% (53/47)	45%	5% (23/77)	36%	5% (80/20)	13%	2% (67/33)	6%
6	85% (37/63)	36%	7% (32/68)	43%	7% (44/56)	14%	1% (67/33)	7%
7	83% (86/14)	42%	4% (33/67)	41%	4% (100/0)	11%	9% (100/0)	6%
8	80% (100/0)	19%	6% (0/100)	69%	11% (100/0)	6%	3% (100/0)	6%
9	66% (85/15)	46%	7% (60/40)	47%	19% (92/8)	5%	8% (17/83)	2%
10	22% (100/0)	8%	11% (100/0)	84%	56% (100/0)	5%	11% (100/0)	3%
11	46% (100/0)	14%	17% (75/25)	78%	33% (100/0)	6%	4% (100/0)	2%
12	45% (88/12)	13%	13% (71/29)	78%	31% (82/18)	6%	11% (50/50)	3%
Borough- Wide	80% (50/50)	27%	6% (34/66)	61%	11% (56/44)	8%	3% (63/37)	4%
City- Wide	69% (62/38)	19%	8% (46/54)	70%	17% (71/29)	8%	6% (80/20)	3%

*Note: Land use statistics show the percentage of tax lots -- not buildings or units -- in each category as of 1983. In computing percentages, vacant land lots were eliminated.

Source: NYC Department of City Planning, Real Property File; NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Percent Distribution of Structural Arson
by Types of Buildings Within Each C.D.

MANHATTAN

C.D.#	% Arson in Multiple Dwellings (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in 1-2 Family Homes (%Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Industrial Commercial (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Public Structures (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*
1	18% (100/0)	14%	0	1%	73% (100/0)	76%	9% (100/0)	9%
2	24% (100/0)	54%	0	7%	55% (56/44)	30%	21% (100/0)	9%
3	93% (58/42)	67%	0	1%	3% (100/0)	22%	4% (29/71)	10%
4	70% (77/23)	60%	2% (1/0)	3%	29% (78/22)	29%	0	8%
5	48% (93/7)	48%	0	1%	44% (100/0)	48%	8% (100/0)	3%
6	63% (82/18)	73%	0	5%	11% (100/0)	16%	26% (100/0)	6%
7	91% (92/8)	81%	0	6%	5% (100/0)	7%	4% (100/0)	6%
8	77% (83/17)	70%	0	15%	10% (33/67)	9%	13% (100/0)	6%
9	91% (80/20)	64%	0	18%	3% (50/50)	8%	6% (80/20)	10%
10	90% (58/42)	83%	0	6%	4% (64/36)	5%	6% (38/62)	6%
11	92% (60/40)	72%	0	5%	4% (100/0)	13%	4% (67/33)	10%
12	87% (84/16)	68%	0	10%	8% (100/0)	12%	5% (67/33)	10%
<hr/>								
Borough-								
Wide	82% (71/29)	66%	.01% (100/0)	6%	12% (84/16)	21%	6% (73/27)	7%
<hr/>								
City-								
Wide	69% (62/38)	19%	8% (46/54)	70%	17% (71/29)	8%	6% (80/20)	3%

*Note: Land use statistics show the percentage of tax lots -- not buildings or units -- in each category as of 1983. In computing percentages, vacant land lots were eliminated.

Source: NYC Department of City Planning, Real Property File; NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Percent Distribution of Structural Arson
by Types of Buildings Within Each C.D.

QUEENS

C.D.#	% Arson in Multiple Dwellings (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in 1-2 Family Homes (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Industrial Commercial (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Public Structures (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*
1	49% (100/0)	31%	8% (67/33)	54%	43% (69/31)	13%	0	2%
2	23% (100/0)	22%	13% (33/67)	53%	59% (92/8)	20%	5% (100/0)	5%
3	31% (100/0)	21%	28% (91/11)	72%	33% (100/0)	6%	8% (100/0)	1%
4	64% (100/0)	29%	5% (100/0)	60%	23% (80/20)	9%	8% (100/0)	2%
5	21% (100/0)	20%	16% (100/0)	72%	47% (89/11)	6%	16% (100/0)	2%
6	56% (93/7)	7%	12% (33/67)	87%	28% (86/14)	4%	12% (33/67)	2%
7	29% (100/0)	30%	33% (56/44)	63%	20% (70/30)	5%	18% (78/22)	2%
8	11% (100/0)	6%	11% (100/0)	91%	56% (100/0)	2%	22% (100/0)	1%
9	31% (100/0)	8%	14% (75/25)	81%	48% (71/29)	9%	7% (100/0)	2%
10	9% (80/20)	5%	24% (100/0)	88%	19% (90/10)	5%	48% (100/0)	2%
11	50% (100/0)	4%	25% (100/0)	92%	12.5% (100/0)	3%	12.5% (100/0)	1%
12	19% (100/0)	3%	36% (62/38)	89%	44% (94/6)	6%	1% (100/0)	2%
13	8% (100/0)	1%	39% (60/40)	95%	31% (82/18)	3%	22% (100/0)	1%
14	57% (90/10)	8%	24% (47/53)	82%	16% (91/9)	4%	3% (100/0)	6%
<hr/>								
Borough-								
Wide	33% (97/3)	10%	24% (63/37)	82%	34% (86/14)	6%	8% (92/8)	2%
<hr/>								
City-								
Wide	69% (62/38)	19%	8% (46/54)	70%	17% (71/29)	8%	6% (80/20)	3%

*Note: Land use statistics show the percentage of tax lots -- not buildings or units -- in each category as of 1983. In computing percentages, vacant land lots were eliminated.

Source: NYC Department of City Planning, Real Property File; NYC Fire Department.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

Percent Distribution of Structural Arson
by Types of Buildings Within Each C.D.

STATEN ISLAND

C.D.#	% Arson in Multiple Dwellings (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in 1-2 Family Homes (%Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Industrial Commercial (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*	% Arson in Public Structures (% Occ/Vac)	% Land Use*
1	32% (91/9)	2%	33% (36/64)	88%	26% (58/42)	7%	9% (67/33)	3%
2	11% (100/0)	3%	40% (27/73)	91%	27% (80/20)	3%	22% (75/25)	3%
3	10% (33/67)	1%	42% (31/69)	93%	32% (40/60)	2%	16% (100/0)	4%
Borough-								
Wide	23% (87/13)	2%	36% (26/74)	91%	27% (59/41)	4%	13% (77/23)	3%
City-								
Wide	69% (62/38)	19%	8% (46/54)	70%	17% (71/29)	8%	6% (80/20)	3%

*Note: Land use statistics show the percentage of tax lots -- not buildings or units -- in each category as of 1983. In computing percentages, vacant land lots were eliminated.

Source: NYC Department of City Planning, Real Property File; NYC Fire Department.

The charts above attest to the fact that arson in N.Y.C. most frequently occurs in multiple dwellings: 69% of the City's 5,557 structural arsons originated in buildings of this type, with Manhattan (82%), the Bronx (80%) and Brooklyn (64%) experiencing the highest intra-borough rates. On a city-wide basis, these three boroughs account for 94% of all multiple dwelling arsons in New York (Brooklyn leads with 35.2%, followed closely by the Bronx with 34.9% and Manhattan has 23.6% of the city's total.) In only five of the 42 Community Districts located in those three counties do multiple dwellings fall to account for the most arsons.

On the other hand, arson in Queens is surprisingly the most frequent in commercial/industrial properties, while in Staten Island, one and two family dwellings are the most numerous targets in all three of its districts.

ARSON IN N.Y.C.: 1983

RED CAP DEPLOYMENT IN 1983

<u>BOROUGH</u>	<u>COMMUNITY DISTRICT (#)</u>	<u>LENGTH OF PATROL</u>
Queens	Woodside (CD#2)	1/01/83 to 3/30/83
Queens	Ridgewood/Glendale (CD#5)	1/01/83 to 3/30/83
Bronx	East Tremont/West Farms (CD#6)	4/01/83 to 7/31/83
Manhattan	Lower East Side (CD#3)	9/06/83 to 12/13/83
Brooklyn	Williamsburg/Greenpoint (CD#1)	9/26/83 to 12/22/83

Source: N.Y.C. Fire Department

The Red Cap Program was expanded to two task forces of 50 fire marshals each during 1983. These highly visible, highly mobile patrols respond to every fire and alarm in selected community districts. Since they investigate all fires, not just those cases referred by Battalion Chiefs, significantly more arson is reported during the length of their deployment. Vacant buildings are targetted for special attention by Red Caps because of these structures' susceptibility to arsonists.

