SUMMARY REPORT ON THE CRIME CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

84659

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PREFACE

Work on the Crime Classification project has been conducted under two grants from the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U. S. Department of Justice (Grants # 79-55-AX-0017 and # 80-BJ-CX-0034). The opinions expressed in this report are solely those of the Police Executive Research Forum and not necessarily those of the Department of Justice.

The Forum would like to publicly express its thanks to Benjamin Renshaw, Paul Sylvestre and Paul White of BJS for their assistance and support throughout this project. This project owes much, in its initial configuration, to Chief John Tagert's understanding of the importance of the public's perception of crime. The project's success is due in large measure to the commitment and expertise of the Operation Support Unit of the Colorado Springs Police Department and particularly to the work of Fred Newton and Tom Briggs.

The accompanying tables, charts, and text summarize the data originally released by the Colorado Springs Police Department as three separate monthly reports for January, February and March of 1981.

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Gary P. Hayes

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SUMMARY REPORT ON THE CRIME CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes three months of crime reports received by the Colorado Springs, Colorado Police Department. The three month data collection came at the end of an intensive, year-long development effort by the Police Executive Research Forum members and staff to derive a new system that could be effective for informing the public about crime and that would, at the same time, be useful for police managers. This development effort included a review of the crime reporting literature, an extensive design effort that involved police managers, academicians, elected public officials, media representatives, interested citizens and specialists in automated criminal justice information systems. The design panel's charge to the project staff represented consensus on the important aspects of crime that the panel felt would be useful in expanding public understanding of crime and at the same time be useful for strategic police management decisionmaking, i.e., budgeting, resource allocation, and evaluation.

The design panel emphasized five goals to be embodied in the new system:

- It should be comprehensive; that is, it should account for all reported criminal offenses in the jurisdiction during the reporting period.
- It should be victim-oriented to reflect the more complete aspects of the police offense data base.

- It should be geographically based so that different parts of the jurisdiction can be analyzed separately.

- It should be automated and efficient, that is, it must be computer-based, utilize the site department's current report forms and not require extensive coder time or expertise.

- Finally, it should utilize the best current criminological analytic techniques.

The reporting system developed by the Forum staff in pursuing these goals has many innovative aspects that can be broadly summarized in three areas:

- non-legal, victim-oriented classification of crimes;
- the reporting of offense information not previously reported;
- innovations in the portrayal of the results derived from new methods of analysis.

Classification

Instead of using the legal classification of crimes as a basis for reporting, the CCS groups all reported incidents into five categories based on the type of harm experienced by the victim. The first three categories are straightforward:

- Injury Events--reported crimes in which at least one victim received physical injury or was threatened with physical injury (e.g., assault, rape, etc.).

- Loss Events--reported crimes in which at least one victim had property stolen, damaged or destroyed (e.g., burglary, larceny, fraud, etc.).

- Injury and Loss Events--reported crimes in which at least one victim was physically injured or threatened with injury and property was stolen, damaged or destroyed (e.g., robbery).

There are two additional categories used in the CCS. One is for offenses that do not have an identifiable victim, and the second is for those offenses for which there is no identifiable harm to a victim.

- Regulatory Events are crimes in which the harm is not to an individual or business but against society or governmental order. The regulatory category includes crimes such as perjury, treason, and runaways. As a practical matter, most of the regulatory crimes reported by the police are typically vice offenses such as prostitution, gambling, drunken driving, and narcotics offenses.

- Incomplete Events are reported crimes that have an identifiable victim but neither injury nor loss. This category include crimes that are planned and perhaps begun but not to the point that the victim is harmed. The most common types of incomplete events are attempts and conspiracy-type offenses.

The use of this simplified framework will increase the public's knowledge of the actual nature of crimes committed rather than emphasizing legal distinctions that are less meaningful and less important to the general public. The non-legal framework improves the reliability of classification used in a national system--a system that must conform to a labyrinth of 50 differing penal codes.

It is important to note that there are two key advantages of this generalized non-legal classification. The first is that it allows the system to deal with all reported crime in a jurisdiction. The CCS system is a compilation of all types of crime rather than an index constructed

from a small, preselected subset of specific offense types, as is the case with the Uniform Crime Reports.

The second advantage is that the classifications are derived from the victim-related elements of the offense data base. These elements are much more complete than perpetrator data elements because police reports are based largely on victim interviews and because, for many offenses, suspect information is sketchy or non-existent. It is in the selection of these information elements that the system's broad goal of informing the public can be seen most clearly.

New Information

Any inconvenience incurred as a result of giving up the familiarity of legal categories is more than offset by the systematic presentation of a great deal of offense information that is widely available in contemporary police incident reports but is not usually presented to the public. The information presented in the CCS report includes:

- Time of occurrence;
- Place of occurrence (type of premises; e.g., residence, public building);
- Level and type of injury to the victim;
- Medical treatment received by the victim;
- Victim/offender relationship;
- Weapons used and extent of force;
- Nature and value of property stolen, damaged, or destroyed;
- Victim demographic information (residence status, age, sex, and race/ethnicity).

Counting Crimes

There are several different ways to count crimes, each of which serves a somewhat different purpose. The simplest incident would be one in which a single victim has one criminal act committed against him by a single offender. Many possible variations of complex and compound incidents are possible; multiple victims, multiple offenders, and multiple crimes might all exist within a single incident. The CCS counts crimes in five different ways. For most of the charts and tables in this report crimes are counted by incident. For such information as number of crimes reported, time and place of occurrence, event class, value of property, as well as for geographic analysis by planning area and census tract, it is more useful to count incidents rather than victims. A second set of charts presents demographic information about victims including age, sex, race/ethnicity, level and type of injury received, type of medical treatment administered, and residence status (e.g., resident, student, tourist). Those charts are based on the number of victims.

Two things should be kept in mind in studying this report. The first is, that on average, there are more victims than there are incidents, so the total number of incidents, as reflected in the first set of charts, will be different from the total number of victims, as reflected in the second set. In addition, there are some common crimes for which the report to the police contains the demographic characteristics of only a single

victim when there may be several other victims. In the report of a residential burglary in which the head of household gives the crime information to the police, other members of his household may have been victims (i.e., had their personal property stolen) but information on age, sex, and race/ethnicity of each separate victim is not part of the police report. In the case of corporate establishments there are no demographic characteristics for the victim. These reports are not counted in the victim section.

The final three types of counts are used on only one chart or table each. The chart on Types of Property Stolen, Damaged or Destroyed is based on the number of property types, and is not directly related to either the number of victims nor the number of incidents. The specific purpose was to develop a single chart that would represent property losses. The CCS report does not attempt to count each piece of property. The focus is on what type of item was stolen, damaged or destroyed rather than on how many items. Therefore, if cash was taken in an "injury and loss" event such as a robbery, CCS counts one under "cash" whether the amount was $10 or $10,000. If the robber had taken $100 cash, a gold wedding ring, and a wrist watch CCS counts one for each cash and jewelry because both the ring and the watch are jewelery. The totals for the types of property lost are not the same as the totals for incidents or victims. It is useful to point out that both the property types chart and the value of property chart contains information about damage and destruction of property as well as about loss of property by theft. In this sense it is much broader than the traditional property reports of the Uniform Crime Report. It provides information on the substantial amount of loss due to criminal vandalism that is not well reported in other systems.

The second type of specialized count is that of weapons used. It is constructed in the same manner as the property types chart; that is, it counts each time a particular weapon type is used in an incident. If two perpetrators, both armed with shotguns, rob a store, CCS counts one for shotgun. If one of the robbers has a shotgun and the other uses a handgun CCS counts one shotgun and one handgun. As with the property types there is no necessary relation between the weapons chart totals and the totals for incidents or victims.

The final specialized count is in the table "Weapon Used by Extent of Force." This table is compiled by looking at each reported victim in every injury event and in every injury-and-loss event and comparing the weapon used with the extent of force used on that victim. For example, if there are two victims to an injury event such as an assault, one of whom is threatened with a handgun and the other is struck on the head with a baseball bat, then this table in CCS would count one for handgun-threatened and one for blunt instrument-used.

Seriousness Scores

The concept of seriousness scoring for crimes was developed by Drs. Sellin and Wolfgang at the University of Pennsylvania. Their

objective was to develop a set of weights that could be applied to the various elements of harm in crime incidents. Their research found that although various dissimilar populations did show some differences in absolute values of seriousness weights assigned to the same offense, the ratio of seriousness of one offense compared to other offenses across population groups was relatively constant. The basic incident is the theft of an item worth $10.00. This incident is defined as having a seriousness score of "1." If this basic incident has a score of "1," what is the seriousness of stealing an item worth $300.00; of a rape with minor injuries; of an auto theft; etc.? The ratios between the scores for similar incidents across various populations are quite consistent. From these ratios Sellin and Wolfgang derived weights which can be applied to descriptions of crime incidents like those found in police offense reports. The table below gives the weights for each element of harm used in CCS to score the seriousness of the incidents reported.

Elements Score	Weights
I. For each victim of bodily harm	
(A) Minor injuries	1
(B) Treated and discharged	4
(C) Hospitalized	7
(D) Killed	26
II. For each forcible sex offense	
(A) Sex offense	10
(B) Intimidation by weapon	2
III. Intimidation (except II above)	
(A) Physical or verbal only	2
(B) By weapon	4
IV. Number of premises forcibly entered	1
V. Number of vehicles stolen	2
VI. Value of property stolen, damaged, or destroyed	
(A) Under $10	1
(B) $10-$250	2
(C) $251-$2,000	3
(D) $2,001-$9,000	4
(E) $9,001-$30,000	5
(F) $30,001-$80,000	6
(G) Over $80,000	7

The two following examples illustrate how the system of scoring is used.

(1) An individual enters a convenience store late at night and demands money using the threat of physical harm (intimidation). The clerk hands over all the money in the cash register ($100). The individual runs out the door into a car and drives off.

Using the seriousness weighting scale, this criminal event would receive a score of four--two for verbal/physical intimidation and two for the amount of money taken.

(2) An individual enters a convenience store late at night and points a gun at the clerk demanding money. The clerk hands over the money ($100) to the individual, before leaving the store the individual strikes the clerk repeatedly with the gun, causing him to be hospitalized.

Using the Sellin and Wolfgang scale, this criminal event would receive a score of 13--seven for the physical harm to the clerk, four for the intimidation with a weapon and two for the amount of money stolen.

This second example illustrates the additive nature of the scale, summing the specific components of the event to come up with a seriousness index for the event. Under the Uniform Crime Report system both of these

criminal events would be scored as a robbery, concealing the assault in the second example.

For each crime incident entered in CCS, the actual information is collected for seriousness scoring and written on the coding sheet. The calculation of the seriousness score is done automatically by the CCS computer software.

Levels of Information

As with any reporting system the CCS deals with three levels of information. The first level of most reporting systems is volume, that is, how many crimes occurred during a particular time period. This is a simple measure of frequency, i.e., there were 160 "Injury and Loss" incidents in Colorado Springs during the period of January through March 1981.

The second level of information of a reporting system is rate. Simply stated, rates are developed by dividing the number of crimes of various types by a standard denominator that is logically connected to the crimes. The simplest rate is one based on population. According to a 1978 enumeration the population of Colorado Springs is 208,006. The number of victims for all event categories for the three months in Colorado Springs was 4,796 persons. The rate per 100 population is 2.31 (4,796 ÷ (208,006/100) = 2.31). Colorado Springs is one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. Because of this growth rate the crime rates per 100 population will be overstated, i.e., the rates reported would be smaller if we knew how much the city's population had grown between 1978 and 1981. The general importance of this type of rate information is that it makes comparison possible by eliminating the impact of the size of a characteristic. For example, the volume of crimes (number of crimes reported) in both Colorado Springs and Denver compared directly because Denver is larger and presumably has many more crimes. The rate information for crimes reported to the police, when standardized by the jurisdiction's population, makes the rates comparable.

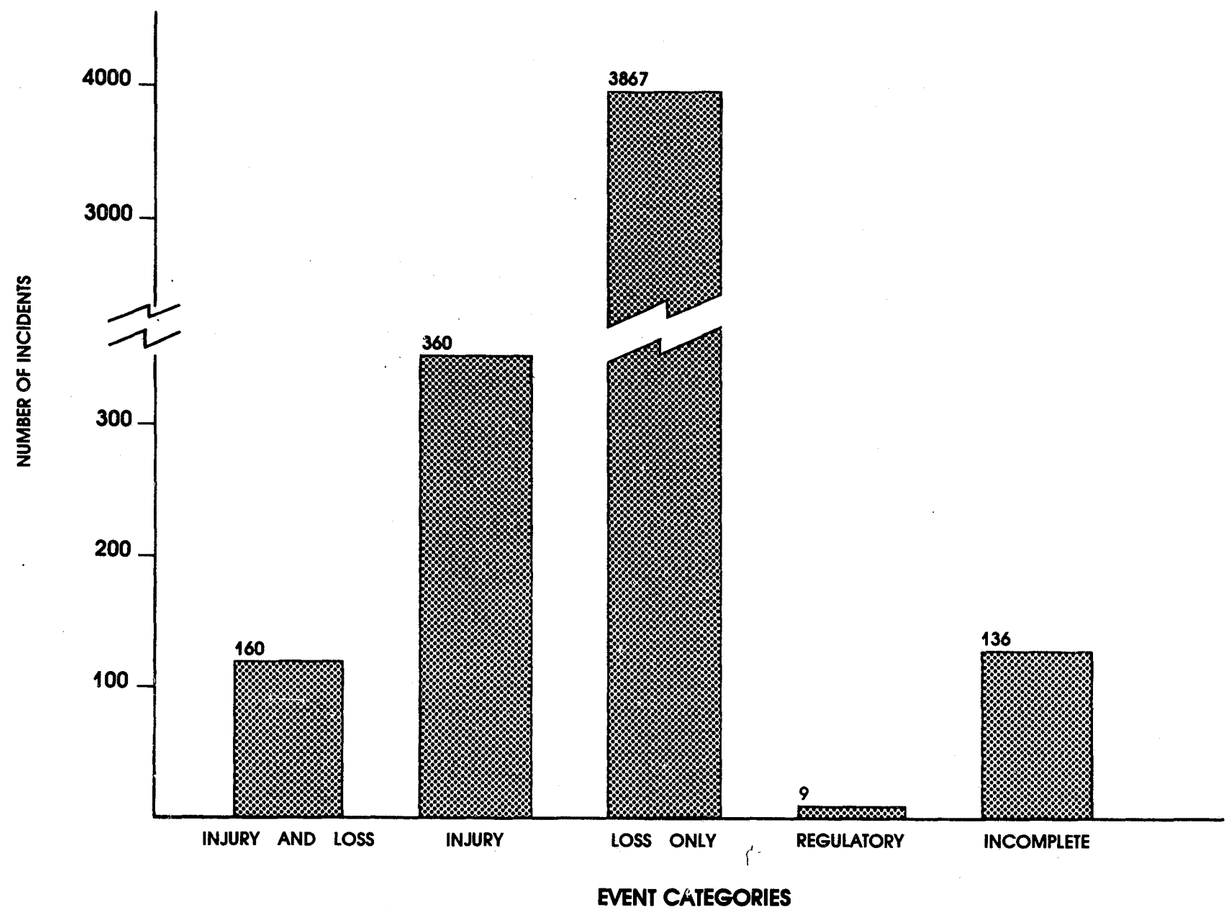
A good example of how specific rates can be utilized for both public understanding and police planning can be seen in the chart of "Victimization Rates by Event Category for various types of Commercial Premises." There were a total (eighth column) of 119 victimizations at gas stations, 70 victimizations at hotels and motels, and 68 victimizations at convenience stores in Colorado Springs during the three month period. Based on the volume data it appears that gas stations are a larger problem as places of occurrence than are hotels and motels or convenience stores. In order to find out if this is true, we need to know the number of premises for each of these commercial places of occurrence in Colorado Springs.

The first column of the chart contains the number of each type of premises, gas stations, hotels and motels, and convenience stores. The last column combines the known number of premises with the volume data in a rate per 100 premises. The highest rate is for convenience stores (151.1 victimizations per 100 premises) followed by gas stations (27.6 victimizations per hundred premises) and the lowest of the three was hotels and

motels (19.6 per hundred). When standardized by the number of premises of each type of premises in Colorado Springs, it is clear that of the three types of places of occurrence analyzed, convenience stores, although they have the smallest total number of victimizations (volume), also have the highest average number of victimizations for the number of premises (rate).

The third level of information in a reporting system is trend. Trend data represents the percentage change between a current reporting period and similar periods in the past. Trends may be calculated for both volume information, i.e., is the number of crimes reported this year higher or lower than last year; and for rate information, i.e., is the rate of crimes per 100 population increasing or decreasing compared to a prior period? Because the CCS report presented here represents an entirely new effort, there is no prior data that would be comparable so as to allow a trend analysis. In Phase II of CCS, now underway, there will be at least three types of trend information presented. The first will be multi-year comparisons for all five event categories for the city as a whole. This is the single best overall summary for public understanding. In addition to this broad multi-year comparison, the current detailed report formats for each reporting period will contain the equivalent information from a prior single reporting period, i.e., same period as last year. Because a great deal of the rate level information is based on detailed census characteristics of the city, a complete revisison and comparison of the rates will be prepared every time there is significant revision of the population and/or commercial characteristics of the city. When new population figures become available, a complete new set of baseline rates will be prepared.

CRIME REPORTED TO THE POLICE



Crime Reported

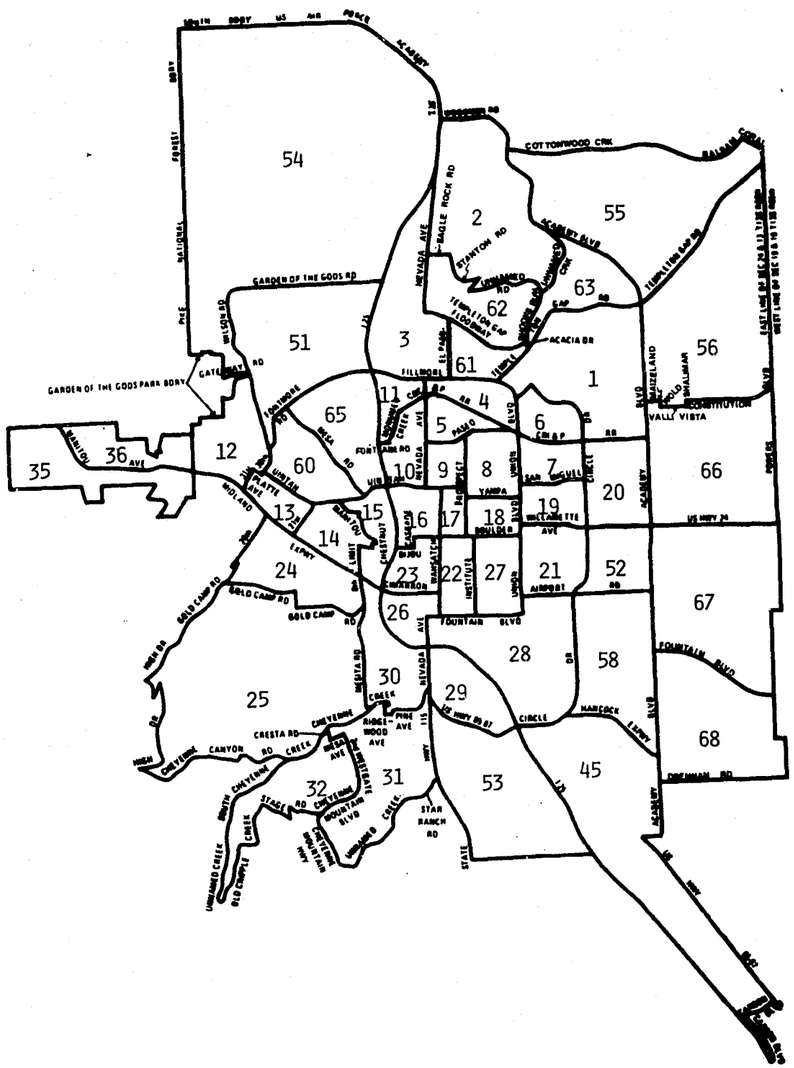
This first chart is a simple frequency distribution of all the incidents reported to the Colorado Springs police as having occurred between January 1, and March 31, 1980. These incidents are separated into the five event categories.

Geographic Distribution of Crime

The following four pages consist of two maps and two matching charts that report crime in each of the five event categories for geocode and grid areas in Colorado Springs. The "geocode areas" are identical to the 1980 census tracts for Colorado Springs. The first chart of geocode areas contains an entry for "Geocode Area 99." This is included to account for 21 incidents that could not be successfully coded from incident reports and does not represent an actual geographic area.

The second table and map are for the Colorado Springs grid areas. The "grid areas" are aggregations of the underlying geocode areas (census tracts) and represent police patrol and command areas of the Colorado Springs Police Department. This table contains all the incidents that were coded correctly to a valid geocode area; i.e., all the incidents in the previous table less those incidents in row "99."

COLORADO SPRINGS GEOCODE AREAS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51
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1
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4
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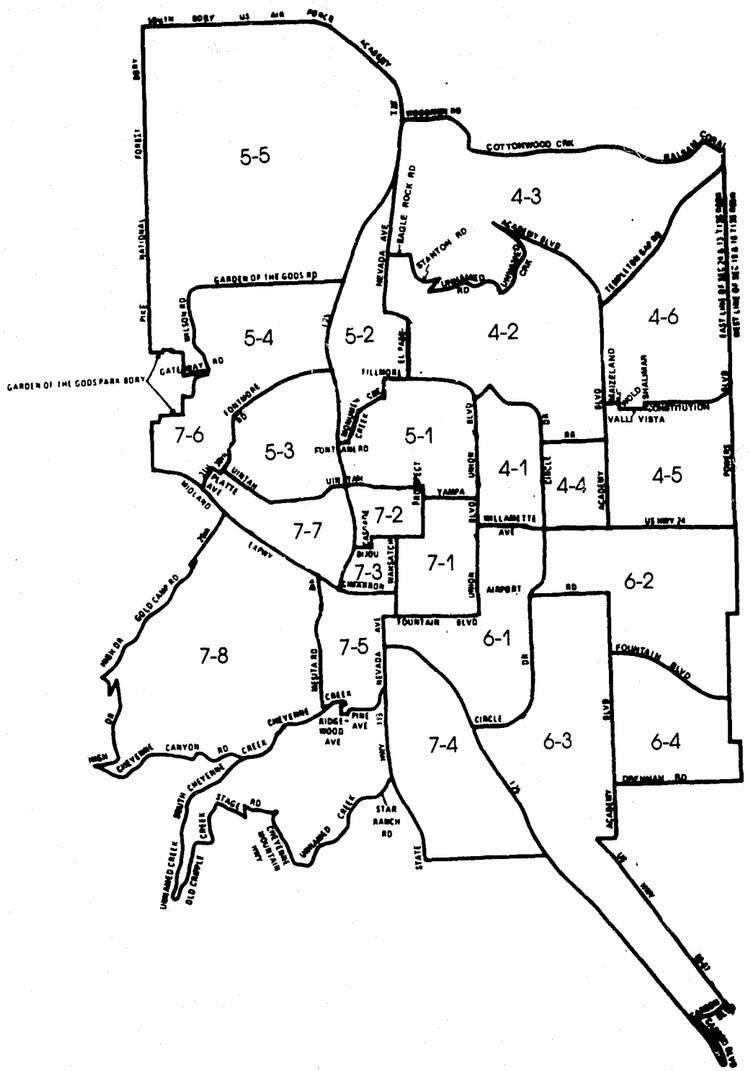
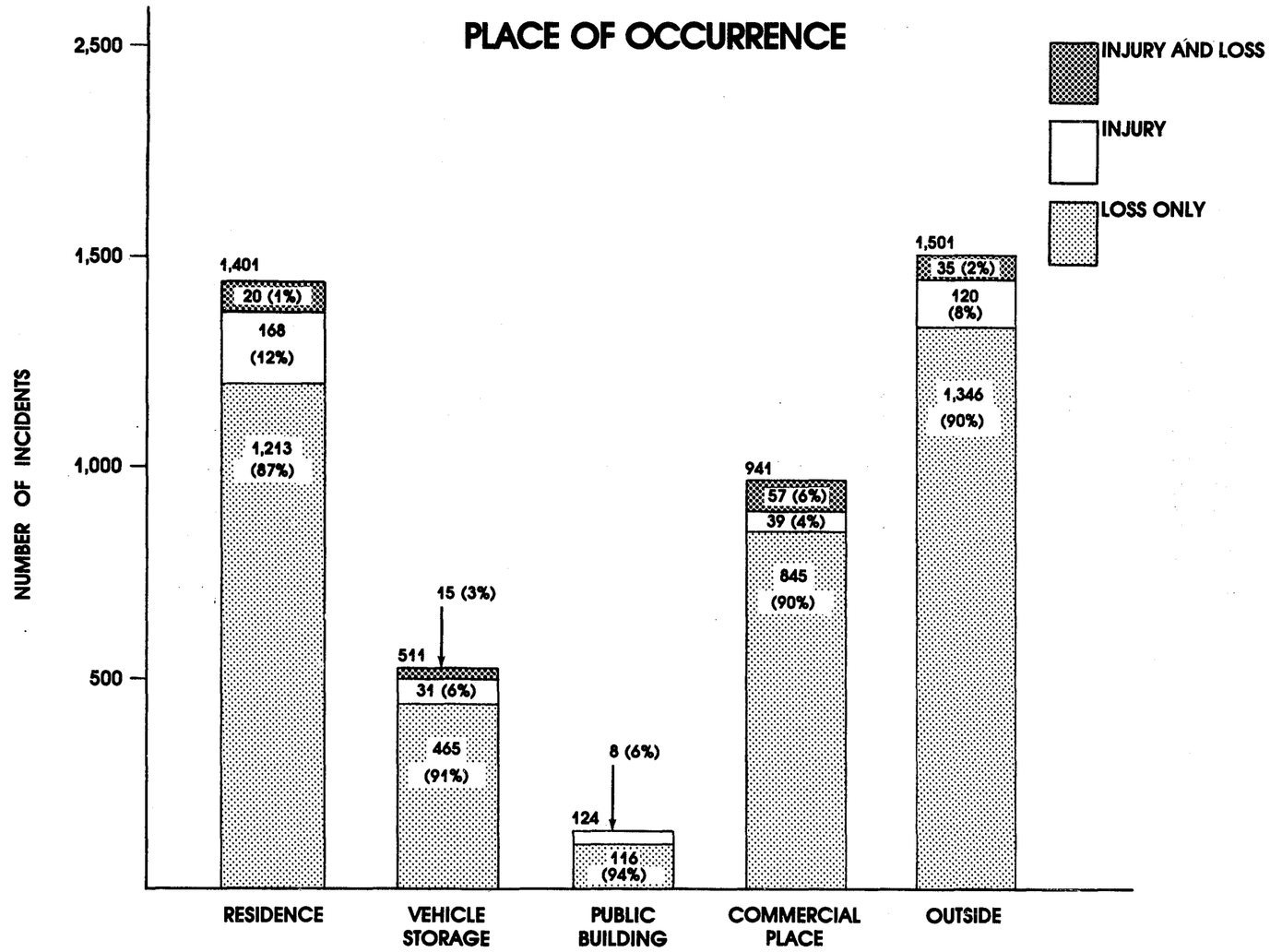
53
45
COTTONWOOD CRK
GARDEN OF THE GODS RD
GARDEN OF THE GODS PARK BDRY
FILLMORE
ACACIA DR
VALLEY VISTA
FORT CARSON RD
VIRGINIA
YAMPA
BOULDER
WALLACE
LAKEWOOD
CHEYENNE
FOUNTAIN BLVD
AIRPORT
HANCOCK
GOLD CAMP RD
CRESTA RD
RIDGEWOOD AVE
PINE AVE
STAGE RD
STAR RANCH RD
US HWY 24
US HWY 85/87
US HWY 85
US HWY 87
I-25
I-25 BUS
I-25 BYP
I-25 BYP BUS
I-25 BYP BUS
I-25 BYP BUS

COLORADO SPRINGS
GRID AREAS



REPORTED CRIME BY POLICE GRID AREA
COLORADO SPRINGS

GRID AREA	INJURY & LOSS	INJURY	LOSS ONLY	REG.	INCOMP.	TOTAL
4-1	5	15	130	0	9	159
4-2	8	14	222	0	3	247
4-3	3	21	252	0	7	283
4-4	8	14	234	1	4	261
4-5	8	19	205	0	10	242
4-6	7	18	267	0	8	300
5-1	6	13	135	0	6	160
5-2	1	7	109	1	2	120
5-3	1	8	91	1	2	103
5-4	3	6	90	0	3	102
5-5	0	7	63	0	0	70
6-1	18	18	269	1	12	318
6-2	8	23	286	0	11	328
6-3	5	29	292	0	11	337
6-4	1	6	87	0	2	96
7-1	3	24	217	0	8	252
7-2	3	12	100	0	10	125
7-3	16	31	209	2	4	262
7-4	6	22	170	0	7	205
7-5	3	13	198	1	4	219
7-6	0	4	39	0	2	45
7-7	9	17	206	2	6	240
7-8	2	13	89	0	5	109
TOTAL	124	354	3960	9	136	4583


PLACE OF OCCURRENCE
INJURY AND LOSS
INJURY
LOSS ONLY
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS
2,500
1,500
1,000
500
1,401
20 (1%)
168
(12%)
1,213
(87%)
511
15 (3%)
31 (6%)
465
(91%)
124
8 (6%)
116
(94%)
941
57 (6%)
39 (4%)
845
(90%)
1,501
35 (2%)
120
(8%)
1,346
(90%)
RESIDENCE
VEHICLE STORAGE
PUBLIC BUILDING
COMMERCIAL PLACE
OUTSIDE

Place of Occurrence

This chart for Place of Occurrence looks at the location of each reported incident in five summary location types by CCS event category. The CCS data base contains the coding for one or more of the 50 different places of occurrence. The actual coding categories for each of the five summary categories are as follows.

Residential

Single family dwelling.
Private residence in multi-family dwelling.
Common area in multi-family dwelling
Private residence in public housing project.
Common area in public housing project.
Private room in dormitory, boarding house or institution.
Common area in dormitory, boarding house or institution.
Mobile home or houseboat.
Common enclosed area of mobile home park or marina.
Other residential.

Vehicle Storage

Attached private garage.
Detached private garage.
Enclosed common garage for residence.
Shopping mall parking structure.
Other commercial parking structure.
Business parking structure.
Public/government building parking structure.
Shopping mall parking lot
Other parking lot.

Public Building

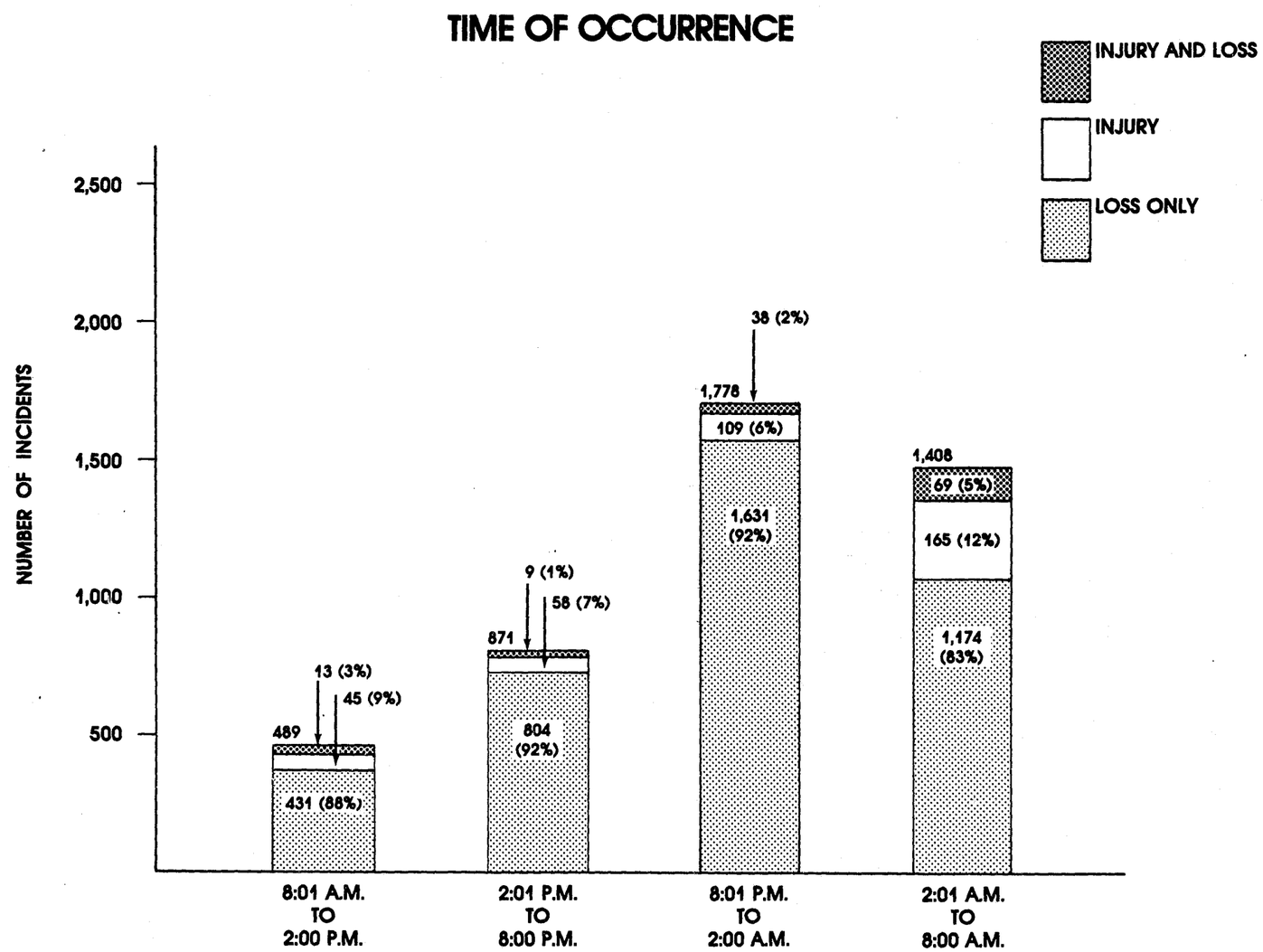
Public utility building.
Government office building.
Church.
School.
Other public building.

Commercial Place

Financial institution.
Jewelry store.
Liquor store.
Supermarket/grocery.
Convenience store.
Gas station.
Auto parts/auto service center.
Drugstore.
Laundry/dry cleaner.
Department store.
Bar/tavern/nightclub.
Hotel/motel.
Restaurant/diner/coffee shop.
Shopping mall.
Other retail location.
Real estate/insurance office.
Professional office.
Other business office.
Factory/plant.
Other business location.

Outside

Private property surrounding residence.
Property surrounding school.
Public park or playground.
Street, highway or alley.
Public transit vehicle.
Other outside location.


TIME OF OCCURRENCE
INJURY AND LOSS
INJURY
LOSS ONLY
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
489
13 (3%)
45 (9%)
431 (88%)
871
9 (1%)
58 (7%)
804
(92%)
1,778
38 (2%)
109 (6%)
1,631
(92%)
1,408
69 (5%)
165 (12%)
1,174
(83%)
8:01 A.M.
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TO
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Time of Occurrence

The following chart reports time of occurrence for the three "harm to victim" event categories. The four time periods selected were chosen to highlight the traditional "busy" and "slow" periods for crime occurrence. The CCS data base contains the actual hour of occurrence and can be organized, for reporting purposes, into any time periods that are appropriate to the local situation.

EVENT CATEGORY

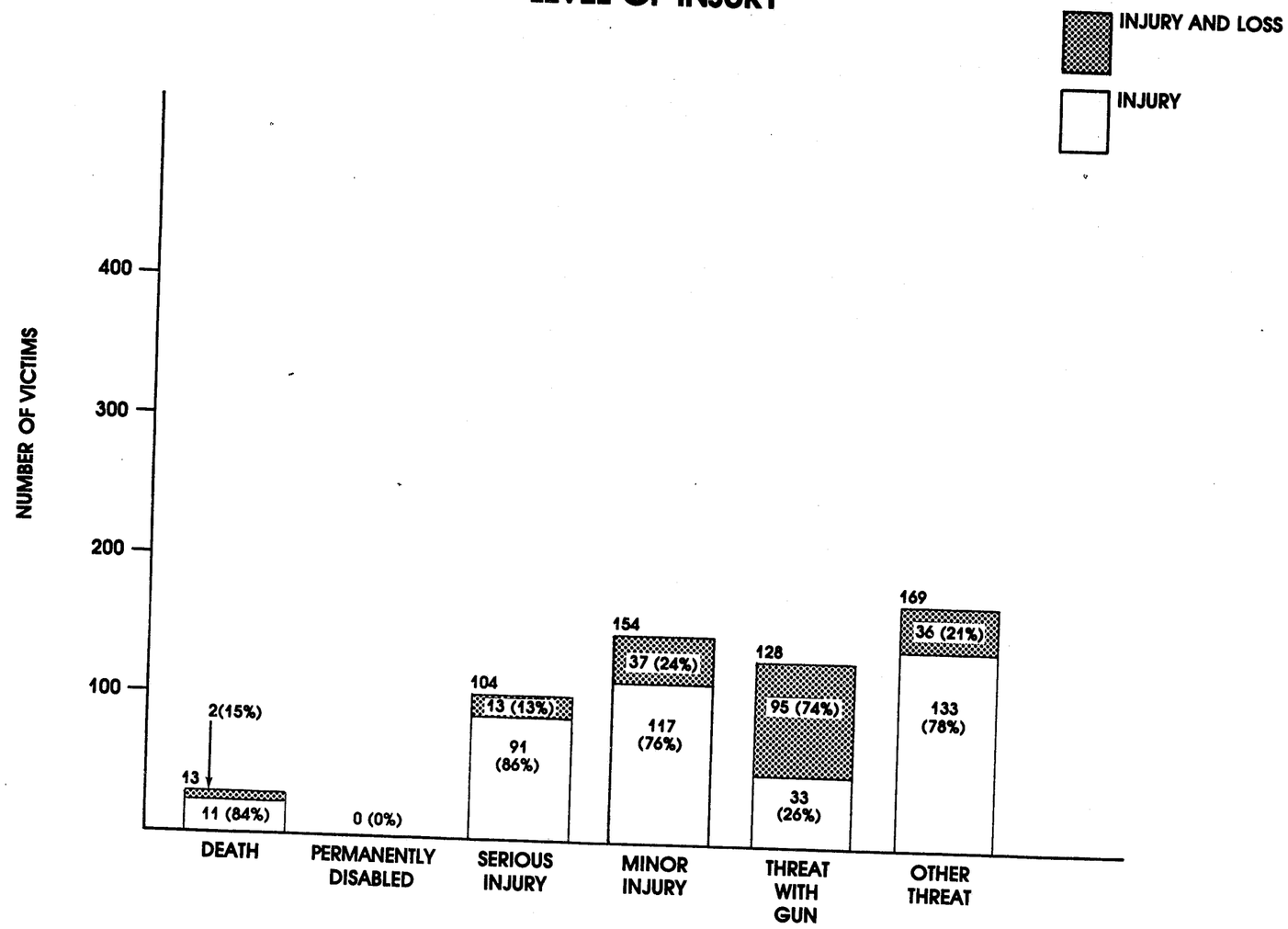
UCR CATEGORY	INJURY & LOSS	INJURY	LOSS ONLY	REGULA-TORY	INCOM-PLETE	TOTAL
1. CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	1	5	0	0	0	6
2. FORCIBLE RAPE	2	28	0	0	3	33
3. ROBBERY	135	9	0	0	5	149
4. AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	17	99	0	1	4	121
5. BURGLARY	7	3	1,122	0	73	1,205
6. LARCENY	2	1	1,724	0	18	1,745
7. MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	1	0	203	0	0	204
8. ARSON	1	0	14	0	0	15
9. OTHER ASSAULTS	4	96	0	0	2	102
10. OTHER SEX OFFENSES	0	33	0	3	2	38
11. OFFENSE AGAINST FAMILY AND CHILDREN	0	1	0	1	1	3
12. VANDALISM	3	0	732	0	3	738
13. WEAPONS	0	1	0	0	0	1
14. STOLEN PROPERTY	0	0	1	0	0	1
15. FRAUD	0	0	30	0	1	31
16. FORGERY AND COUNTERFEITING	0	0	23	0	3	26
17. EMBEZZLEMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
18. DRUG ABUSE	0	0	1	0	2	3
19. DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
20. PROSTITUTE AND VICE	0	0	0	0	0	0
21. DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1	71	4	0	13	89
22. DRUNKNESS	0	0	0	0	0	0
23. GAMBLING	0	0	0	0	0	0
24. LIQUOR LAW	0	0	0	0	0	0
25. ALL OTHER OFFENSES	1	13	3	4	6	27
26. VAGRANCY	0	0	0	0	0	0
27. CURFEW AND LOITERING (JUVENILE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. RUNAWAY (JUVENILE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
29. SUSPICION	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	127	360	3905	9	136	4537

UCR Category by Event Category

This table reports the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) designation and the CCS event category assigned to each incident by the Colorado Springs Police Department. The variability across event categories for some of the legal UCR designations like "disorderly conduct," highlights the utility of the CCS "harm to victims" approach to classifying crimes to improve public understanding.

It is also useful to note that the third largest of the UCR categories, "vandalism," which accounts for 16% of all crimes reported during the three-month period, is not included in the UCR Part I offenses.

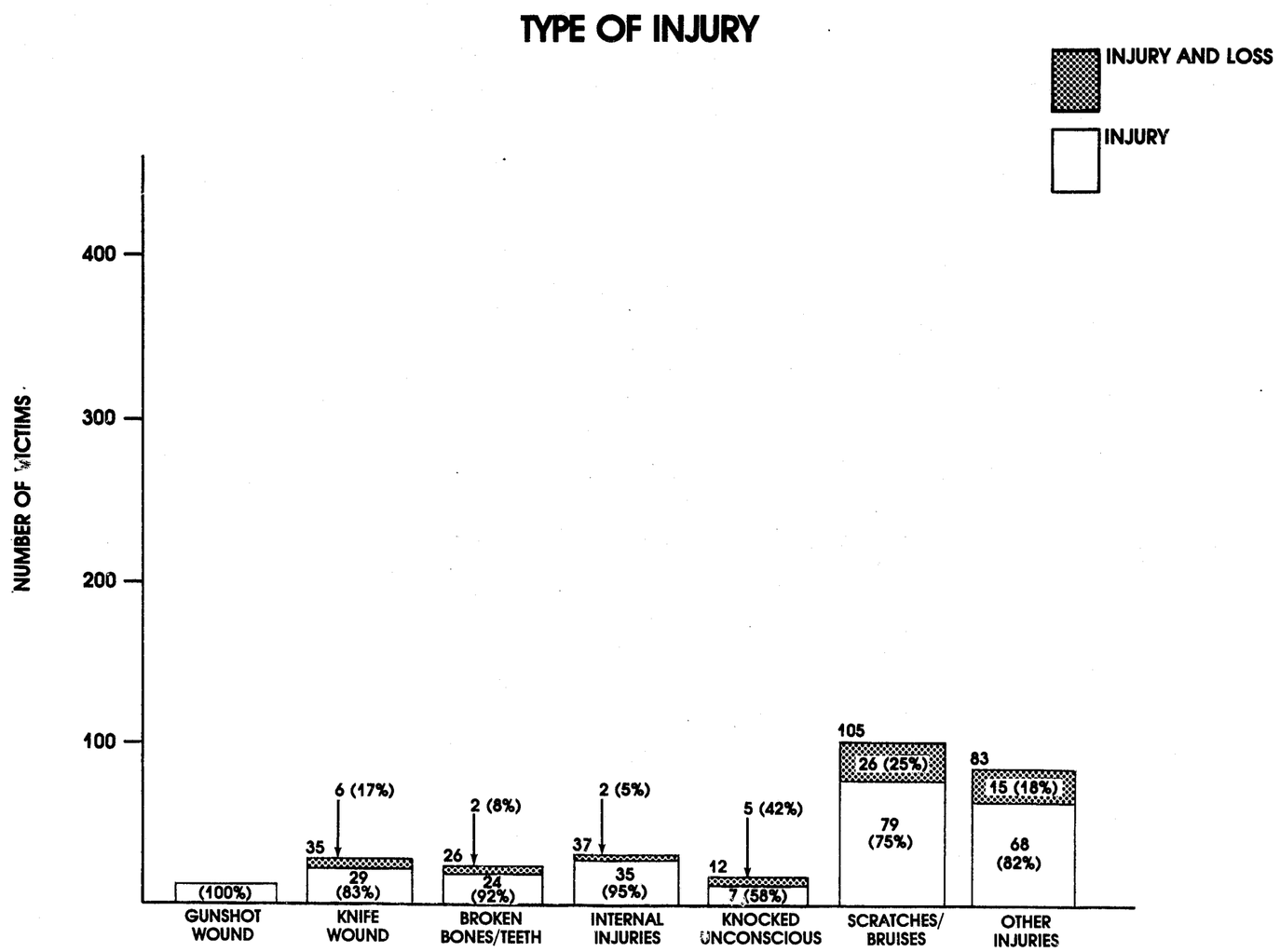
LEVEL OF INJURY



Level of Injury

The coding categories for Level of Injury combine the aspects of physical injury to the victim and threats of injury to the victim. The definition used in classifying the levels of injury of each victim are as follows:

- Death. The victim was killed by a perpetrator.
- Permanently Disabled or Disfigured. The victim suffered serious physical injuries, involving the loss or impairment of an arm or leg or other body part, or the burning or other serious disfigurement of any body part, and the injuries are of a type from which he or she will never completely recover.
- Serious Injury. The victim suffered an injury requiring more than simple first aid for treatment, but the injury did not involve the loss, impairment or disfigurement of any body part.
- Minor Injury. The victim suffered a physical injury of some kind, but there is no indication that the injury is serious. The injury requires only first aid treatment or does not require any immediate treatment at all.
- Gun Threat. The victim was not physically injured in the incident, but was confronted by one or more perpetrators armed with a firearm.
- Other Threat. The victim was not physically injured in the incident, but was confronted by one or more perpetrators armed with a weapon other than a firearm, or was confronted by one or more perpetrators who threatened to use, attempted to use, or used physical force against the victim without actually causing injury.

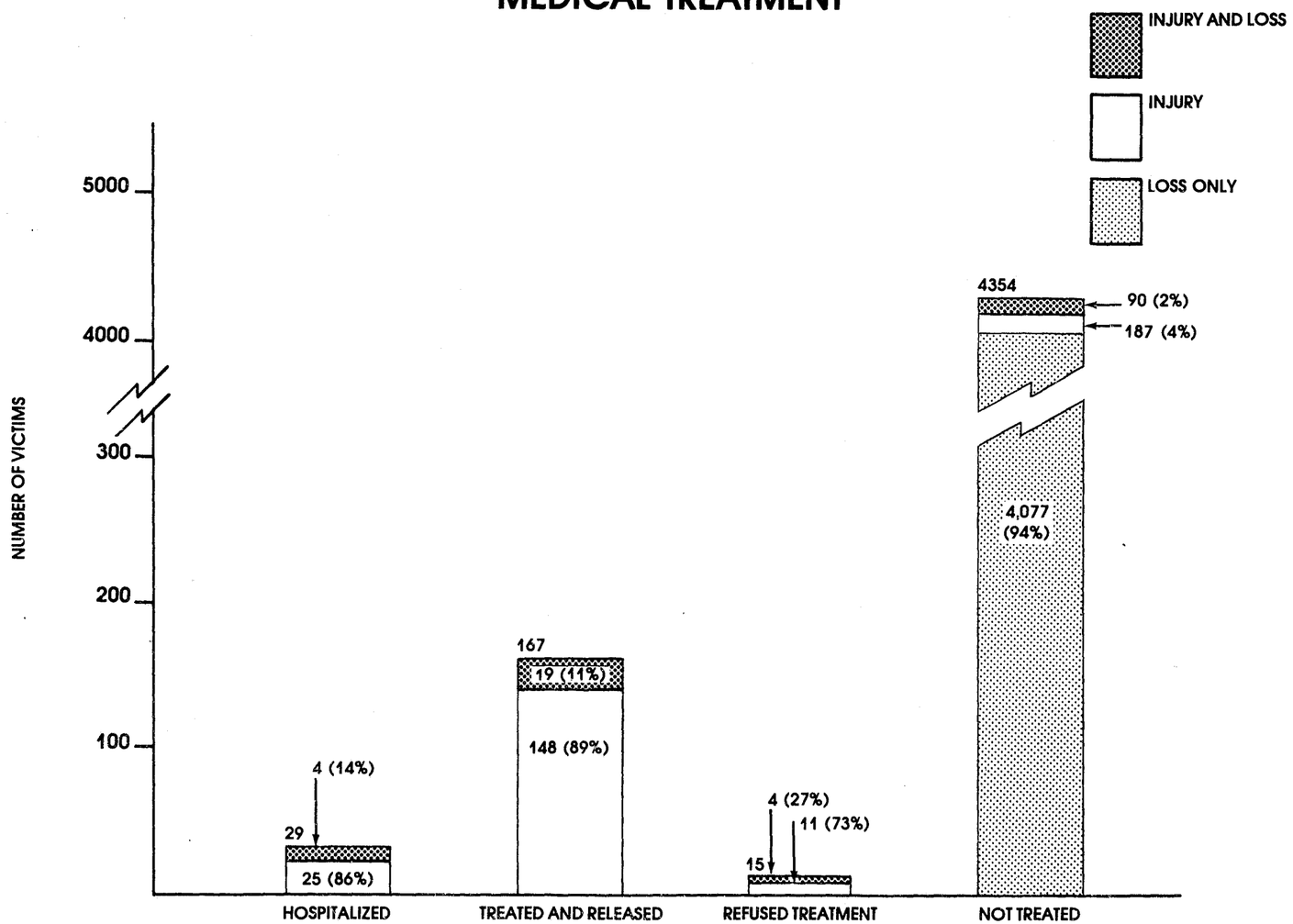

TYPE OF INJURY
INJURY AND LOSS
INJURY
NUMBER OF VICTIMS
400
300
200
100
(100%)
GUNSHOT WOUND
35
6 (17%)
29 (83%)
KNIFE WOUND
26
2 (8%)
24 (92%)
BROKEN BONES/TEETH
37
2 (5%)
35 (95%)
INTERNAL INJURIES
12
5 (42%)
7 (58%)
KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS
105
26 (25%)
79 (75%)
SCRATCHES/ BRUISES
83
15 (18%)
68 (82%)
OTHER INJURIES

Type of Injury

The CCS distinguishes injury to victims in two dimensions--Level of Injury (including threats) and Type of Injury. Both aspects are necessary to get a meaningful picture of the harm to victims. For example, the consequences of a "gunshot wound" (Type of Injury) can easily range from "death" to "minor injury" (Level of Injury). The definitions used in classifying each type of injury are as follows:

- Gunshot Wound. Any injury which resulted from the firing of a gun, including bullet wounds, powder burns and all similar injuries. An injury caused, for example, by a piece of concrete shot off by a bullet would also be included. Excluded are injuries resulting from a gun used as a clubbing instrument.
- Knife Wound. Any injury which resulted from the use of a knife or any other instrument to cut, stab or slash.
- Broken Bones/Teeth. Any injury involving broken bones or broken or lost teeth, except an injury resulting from the firing of a gun or use of a knife or cutting instrument.
- Internal Injuries. Any injury affecting the internal organs of the body (heart, lungs, stomach, liver, etc.) or affecting the body's central cavity, except an injury involving broken bones or caused by the firing of a gun or use of a knife or cutting instrument.
- Loss of Consciousness. The victim was found unconscious or reported having lost consciousness.
- Bruises/Scratches. Superficial injuries, including scratches and minor cuts, bruises, discolorations, bumps or swelling, except injuries caused by the firing of a gun or use of a knife or cutting instrument.
- Other Injury. Any physical injury described in the report which cannot be assigned to any of the above groups, for example, burns and chemical burns, muscle strains, etc.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

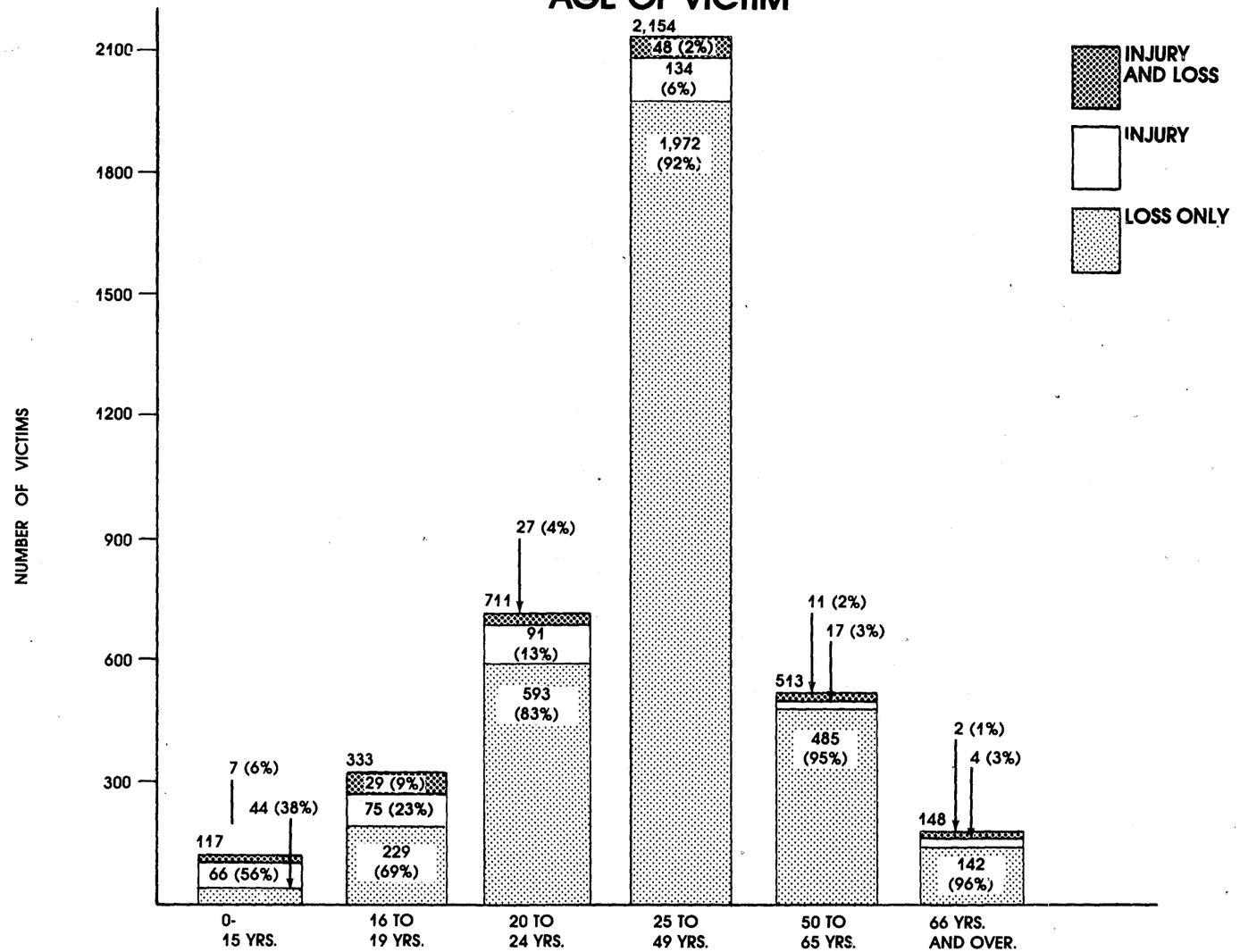


Medical Treatment

Information on the level of medical treatment given to a victim is frequently available from reported offenses. This information, along with "level of injury" and "type of injury" provide the public with a useful assessment of the physical harm associated with reported offenses. The definitions used in classifying the medical treatment of victims are as follows:

- Hospitalized. The victim was transported to a hospital for examination and treatment, and was formally admitted for an overnight stay.
- Treated and Released. The victim was transported to a hospital or other authorized treatment center, and was examined and given any emergency treatment needed, but was not admitted to a hospital for continued treatment.
- Refused Treatment. The victim was offered treatment, but declined to be transported to a hospital or once there refused to be examined or treated, either because the victim did not wish treatment or because he or she preferred to consult a private doctor.
- Not Treated. The report states that no attempt was made to offer medical treatment to the victim.

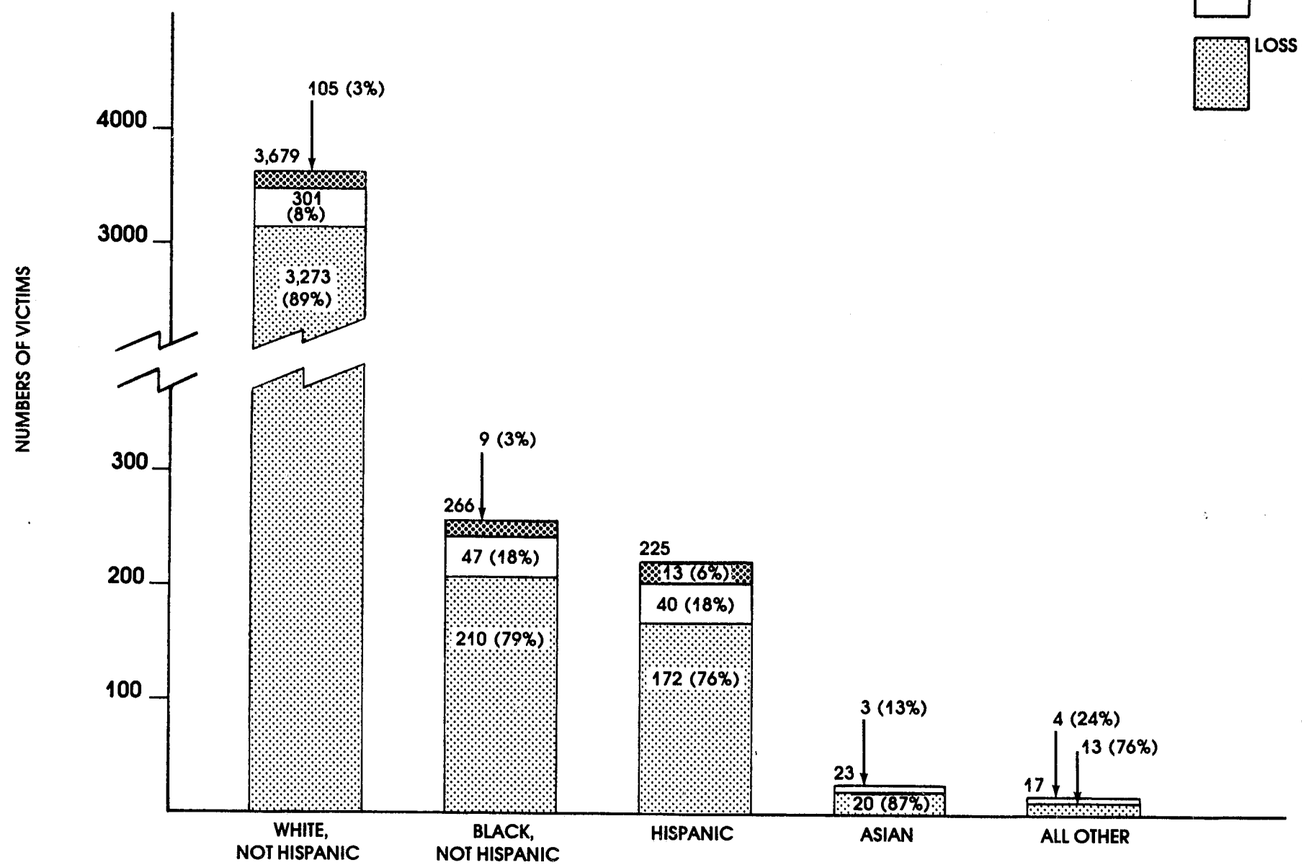
AGE OF VICTIM



Age of Victim

This chart reports the age of victims, broken down into six age ranges, by the event categories. Of note is the steady increase with age in the proportion of victims in the "loss only" categories; i.e., of those victims 0 to 15 years, 38 percent were victims of loss only incidents; for 16 to 19 years, the loss only proportion was 69 percent; for 20 to 24 years, 83 percent; 25 to 49 years, 92 percent; 50 to 65 years, 95 percent. For the final age group, 66 years and over, the proportion of victims from "loss only" events reached 96%.

RACE/ETHNICITY OF VICTIM

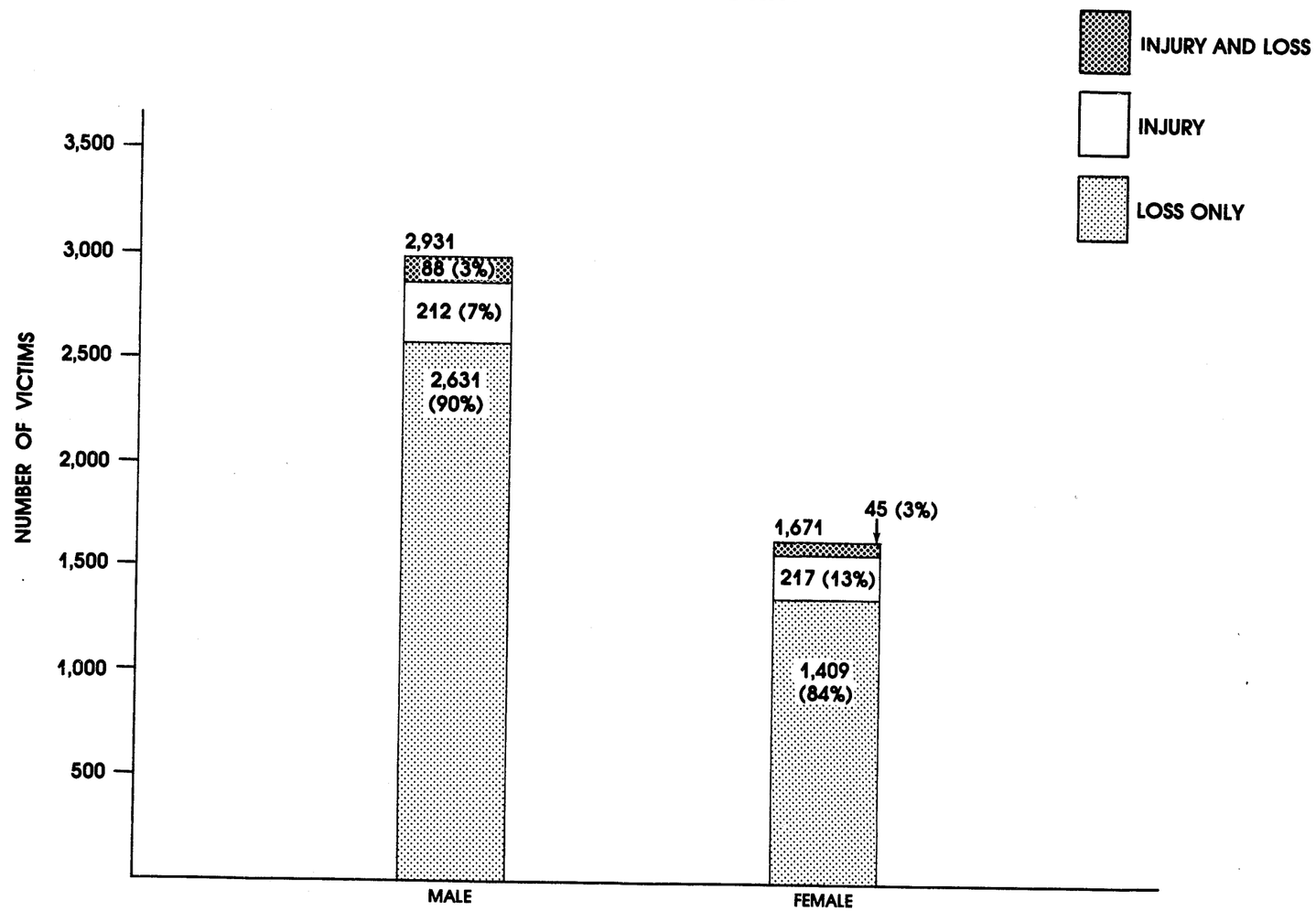


Race/Ethnicity of Victim

The definitions used in CCS for classifying the victim's race and ethnic origin are as follows:

- White, Not Hispanic. The victim is Caucasian, and is not of Latin American, Caribbean or other Hispanic ancestry.
- Black, Not Hispanic. The victim is Negro, and is not of Latin American, Caribbean or other Hispanic ancestry.
- Asian. The victim is of East Asian or Pacific Islands ancestry, including Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Indochinese, Philippine, Polynesian, etc.
- Hispanic. The victim is a member of a community of Hispanic culture or is of Hispanic ancestry, including Mexican, American Southwest, other Latin American, Hispanic Caribbean, South American and Spanish heritage.
- All Others. The race/ethnicity of the victim is different from any of those identified above, including South Asian, native Australian, Eskimo, Aleut and native American.

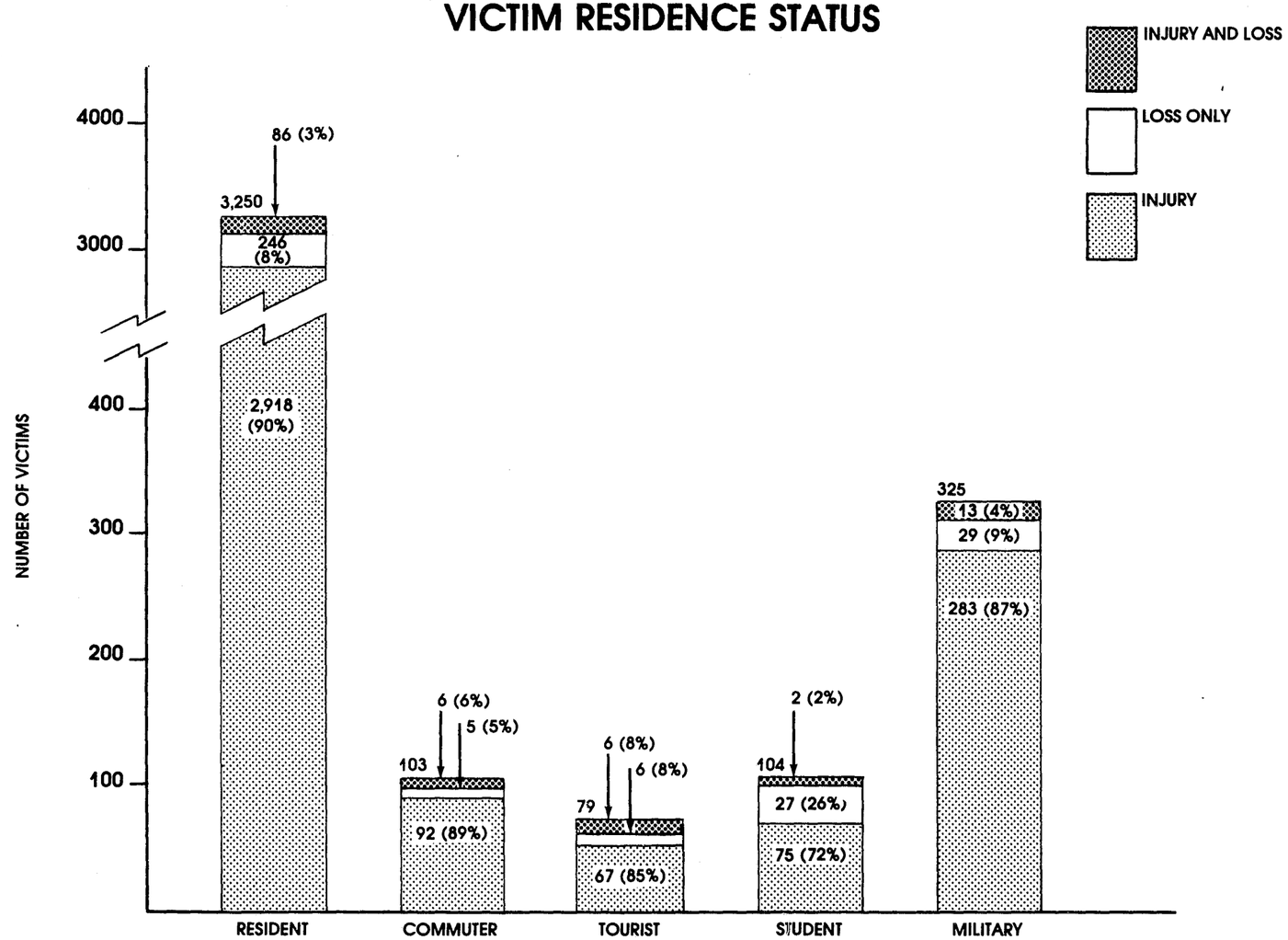
SEX OF VICTIM



Sex of Victim

This chart is self-explanatory.

VICTIM RESIDENCE STATUS

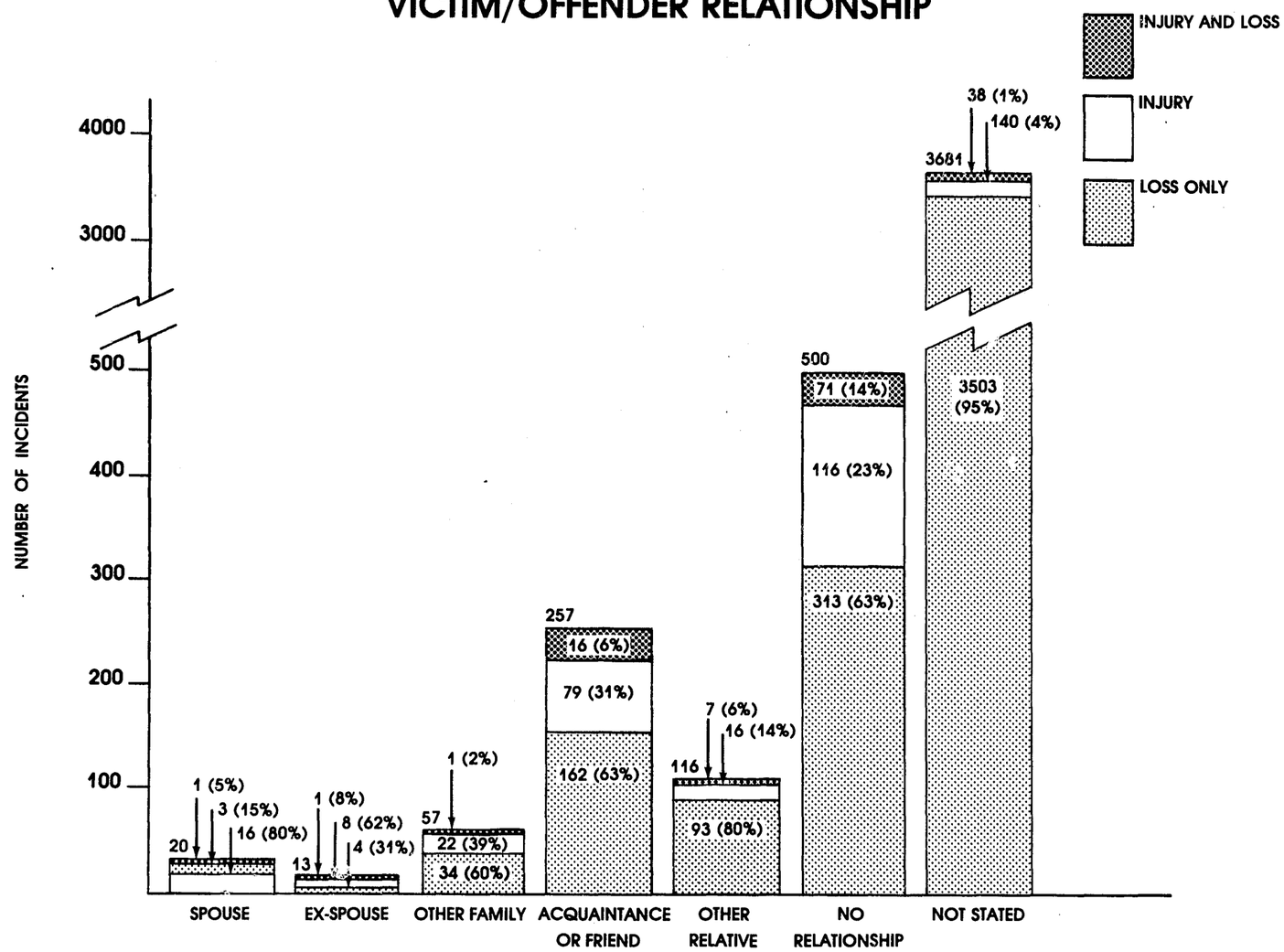


Resident Status

The chart of victim "Resident Status" in CCS looks at several possible classes of victims who can usually be identified in police offense reports. In some jurisdictions the number of victims in these classes may be important to a meaningful explanation of crime. The definitions used in classifying victims' residence status are as follows:

- Resident. The victim is a regular resident of the jurisdiction.
- Commuter. The victim is a commuter, living outside the jurisdiction but entering it on a regular basis to work.
- Tourist. The victim lives outside the jurisdiction and was visiting the jurisdiction on vacation "or for recreational purposes" at the time the incident occurred.
- Student Only. The victim attends school within the jurisdiction and either lives outside the jurisdiction, or has a residence in the jurisdiction only because of school attendance.
- Military Only. The victim is a member of the armed forces (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force) and lives in the area only in connection with his or her military assignment.

VICTIM/OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP



Victim/Offender Relationship

One of the most important and useful types of information about reported crime for public understanding is the relationship between the victim and the offender involved in a particular incident. The CCS information on victim/offender relationship is reported for each victim. In the case of multiple perpetrators the "strongest" or most intimate relationship is reported. For example, if a youth has his bicycle taken from him by two other youths, one of whom the victim recognizes from school and the other he has never seen before, the victim/offender relationship would be reported as "other relationship." The definitions used in CCS for classifying the victim/offender relationship are as follows:

- Spouse. The victim and perpetrator are legally married and living together or are living together in a common-law union. Persons living together on an informal basis are not to be considered spouses.
- Ex-Spouse. The victim and perpetrator are divorced or their marriage has been annulled, or though still legally married they are formally or informally separated and are living apart.
- Other Family Member. The victim and perpetrator have a recognized kinship tie, by blood, marriage or adoption, other than that of spouses. Other family members include parents and children, step-parents and step-children, adoptive parents and children, siblings, half-siblings, step-siblings, in-laws, etc.
- Friend or Acquaintance. The victim and perpetrator have no familial relation, but know one another on a casual or friendly basis.
- Other Relationship. The victim and perpetrator are related to one another in a way other than those described above. Other relationship would include landlord-tenant, neighbor, etc.
- No Relationship. The victim had no acquaintance with or knowledge of the perpetrator prior to the incident.
- Not Stated. The report does not contain enough information to determine whether there was any relationship between the victim and perpetrator.

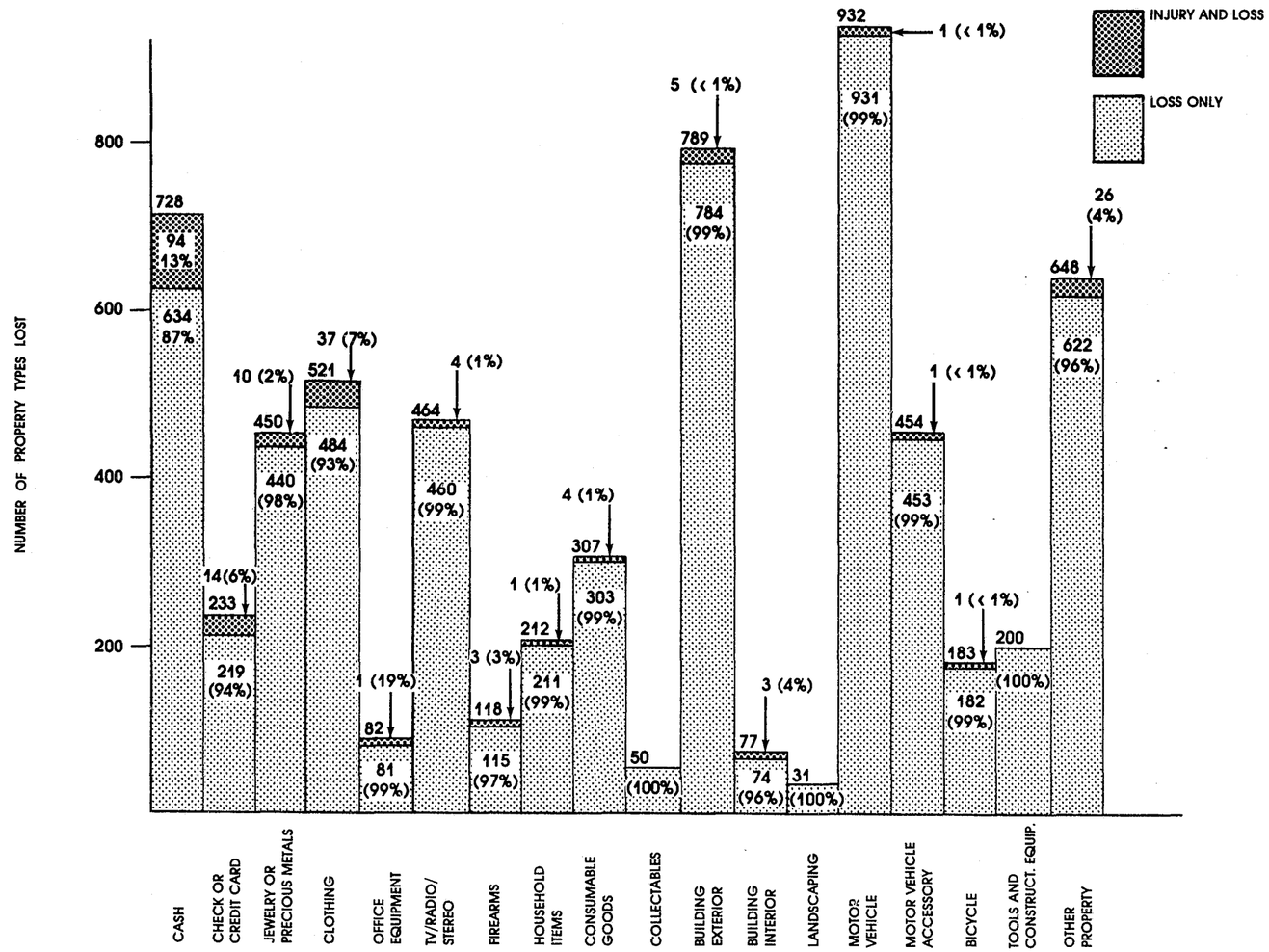
VICTIM/OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP AND INJURY TO VICTIM

	Spouse	Ex-Spouse	Other Family	Acquaint-ance	Other Relation-ship	No Relation-ship	Unknown	TOTAL
DEATH	0 (0%)	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	10 (84%)	12 (.2%)
PERMANENTLY DISABLED OR DISFIGURED	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
SERIOUS INJURY	8 (8%)	1 (1%)	6 (6%)	24 (23%)	3 (3%)	36 (34%)	27 (26%)	105 (2%)
MINOR INJURY	5 (3%)	0 (0%)	17 (11%)	31 (20%)	8 (5%)	58 (37%)	36 (23%)	155 (3%)
THREATENED WITH GUN	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	2 (1%)	13 (9%)	5 (4%)	62 (45%)	54 (39%)	138 (3%)
OTHER THREAT	1 (1%)	7 (4%)	8 (4%)	31 (16%)	8 (4%)	38 (20%)	96 (51%)	189 (4%)
NO INJURY	3 (.1%)	3 (.1%)	31 (1%)	164 (4%)	194 (5%)	340 (8%)	3552 (83%)	4287 (88%)
								4886 (100%)

Victim/Offender Relationship and Injury to Victim

The following table combines the elements of victim/offender relationship with the level of injury to highlight the connection between intimacy and violence. Of note is the fact that of all victims with physical injury (death, permanently disabled, serious and minor injury) 39 percent had some prior relationship (spouse, ex-spouse, other family, acquaintance or other relationship) with the perpetrator.

PROPERTY STOLEN DAMAGED OR DESTROYED

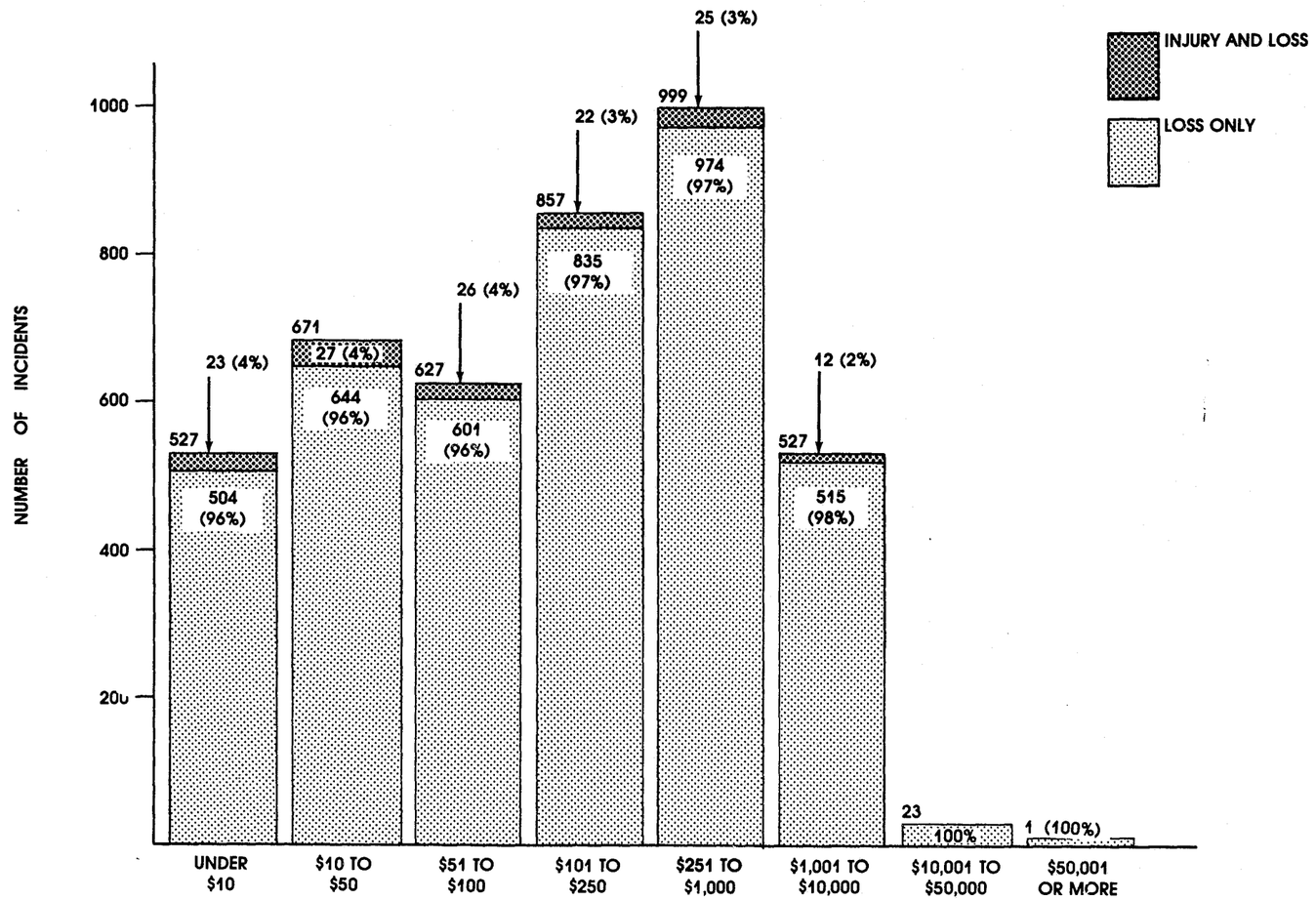


Types of Property Stolen, Damaged, or Destroyed

The types of property stolen, damaged or destroyed has been broadened from the more traditional definitions employed by the Uniform Crime Reports and the various crime analysis systems. For the purpose of the published CCS report, the property types have been collapsed into 19 different types. The definitions used in classifying property stolen, damaged or destroyed are as follows:

- Cash Money. United States or other currency, including both bills and coins, except money kept as part of a collection.
- Check or Credit Card. A negotiable check, meaning one which has been signed by the account holder and/or endorsed by the payee and can be cashed, or any other document which can be readily converted to cash, such as a bearer bond, or a card authorizing the person named to make purchases on credit.
- Jewelry/Precious Metals. Any object made of precious metals and/or precious or semi-precious stones which is worn for personal adornment, including bracelets, necklaces, watches, chains, earrings, and any object made of a precious metal (gold, silver, platinum, etc.), except coins, antiques and art objects.
- Clothing. Any article worn as body covering and/or body adornment, including furs, shoes, hats, belts, wallets and handbags, etc., but excluding jewelry.
- Office Equipment. Objects designed primarily for use in an office, including desks, filing cabinets and other office furniture, typewriters, photocopiers and other business machines, etc,
- TV/Radio/Stereo. All televisions, radios, stereos, tape-recorders, video-recorders, cameras and projectors including accessories to be used with each, except those designed to be used in vehicles.
- Firearm. Handguns, rifles, shotguns, and any other weapon designed to fire a projectile by means of an explosive charge.
- Household Item. Objects designed primarily for use in a residence, including household furniture and appliances, draperies, carpeting, etc.
- Consumable Goods. Items intended to be consumed including food, liquor, tobacco products, gas, oil, toiletries, drugs, etc.
- Collectables. Art objects, antiques, stamp/coin collections. Includes items like paintings, sculpture, heirloom silver, old furniture and any other object where value is determined by consideration of its age, rarity, and/or beauty.
- Building Exterior. The outside walls, doors, windows, roof, etc., of a building or structure.
- Building Interior. The interior walls, doors, floors, ceilings, etc., of a building or structure, not including furniture or other contents of the structure.
- Landscaping. Lawns, flowerbeds, rock gardens, trees, bushes, etc., which are part of a decorative arrangement surrounding a building or structure.
- Motor Vehicle. Any self-propelled, motorized vehicle designed to run on ground surface, including cars, trucks, buses, motorcycles, etc., and excluding trains, boats, airplanes, etc.
- Motor Vehicle Part or Accessory. Any object attached to the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle, including operating parts such as batteries, decorative parts such as hubcaps and hood ornaments, and such accessories as vehicle radios and tapedecks.
- Bicycle. Any bicycle, tricycle, unicycle, tandem bicycle or similar non-motorized wheeled vehicle.
- Tools, Construction Equipment. Any item designed for use as a tool in manufacturing or other industry, home repair, professional repair or maintenance, building trades, etc., except motorized vehicles.
- Other Property. All property which cannot be assigned to any of the preceding property type categories.

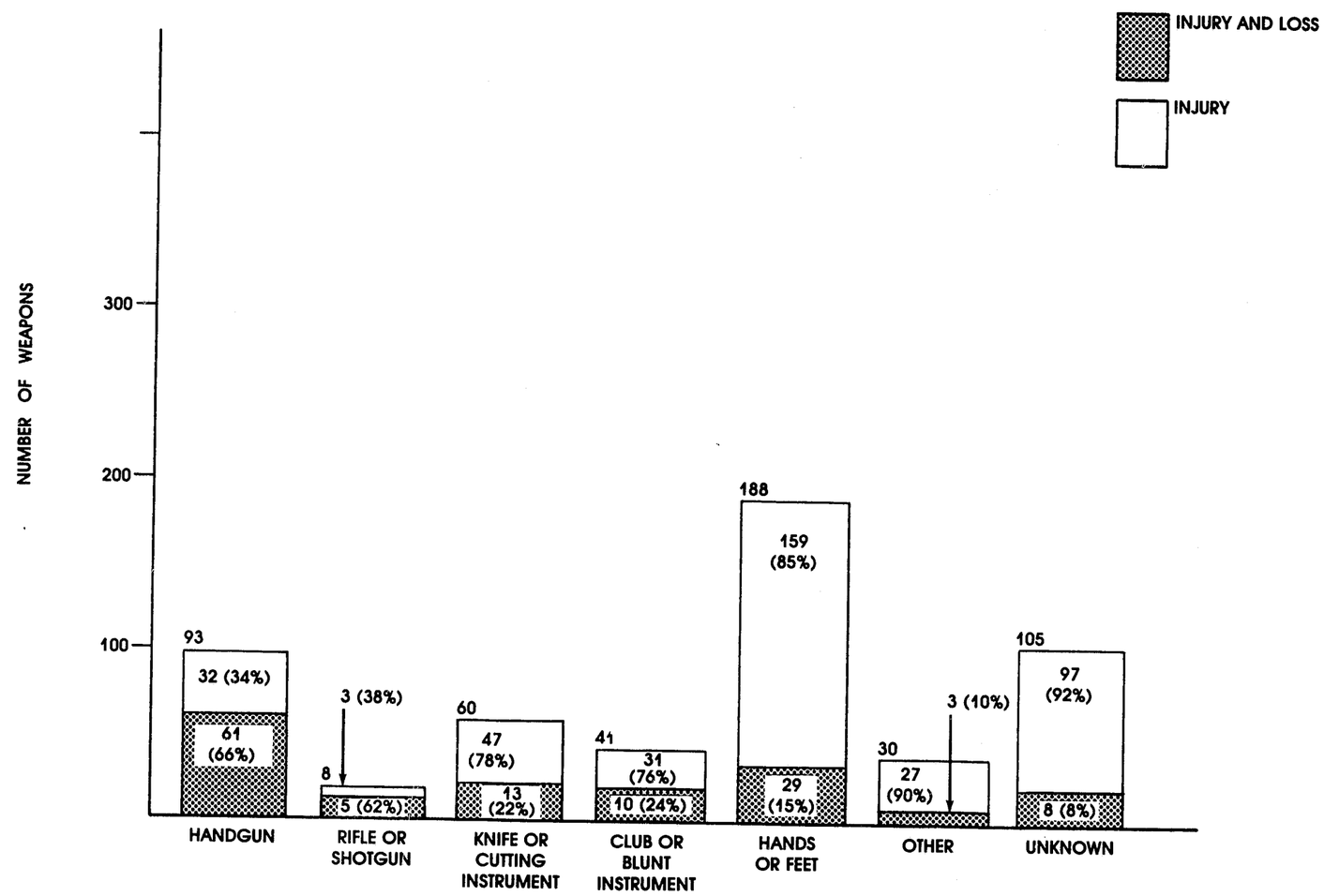
VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN, DAMAGED OR DESTROYED



Value of Property

The chart for "value of property stolen, damaged or destroyed," is based on the total reported value for each incident. The chart graphically illustrates the substantial proportion of incidents that result in relatively small losses. Sixty-three percent (2,682 of 4,232) of all "injury and loss" and "loss only" incidents did not exceeding $250 in value.

WEAPON USED


INJURY AND LOSS
INJURY
NUMBER OF WEAPONS
300
200
100
93
32 (34%)
61 (66%)
HANDGUN
8
3 (38%)
5 (62%)
RIFLE OR SHOTGUN
60
47 (78%)
13 (22%)
KNIFE OR CUTTING INSTRUMENT
41
31 (76%)
10 (24%)
CLUB OR BLUNT INSTRUMENT
188
159 (85%)
29 (15%)
HANDS OR FEET
30
27 (90%)
3 (10%)
OTHER
105
97 (92%)
8 (8%)
UNKNOWN

Weapon Used

This chart is self-explanatory.

WEAPON USED BY EXTENT OF FORCE

	USED	THREATENED	NOT INDICATED IN REPORT
HANDGUN	14 (6%)	110 (60%)	0 (0%)
RIFLE/SHOTGUN	0 (0%)	12 (7%)	0 (0%)
KNIFE/CUTTING INSTRUMENT	40 (16%)	24 (13%)	0 (0%)
CLUB/BLUNT INSTRUMENT	39 (15%)	3 (2%)	0 (0%)
HANDS AND/OR FEET	135 (53%)	6 (3%)	1 (50%)
OTHER	22 (9%)	8 (4%)	1 (50%)
UNKNOWN	3 (1%)	19 (10%)	0 (0%)
TOTAL	253 (100%)	182 (100%)	2 (100%)

Weapon Used by Extent of Force

The chart of Weapon Used by Extent of Force is included in CCS to provide supplemental information concerning the use or threat of use for various categories of weapons. This chart is based on victims, and so each item represents a victim who was either injured or threatened with a weapon. There is frequently limited information on the exact "extent of force" in relation to individual victims in complex events (e.g., more than one victim or perpetrator) which accounts for the number of victims in the column "not indicated in report."

Victimization Rates

The following two tables are reports of victimization rates for CCS. The first table provides the current populations and the specific rates for each of the three "harm to victim" event categories for adults (18 years and older), and children (17 years and younger).

The second table provides a set of victimization rates based on the number of each type of commercial premise.

VICTIMIZATION RATE BY EVENT CATEGORY FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF COMMERCIAL PREMISES

		INJURY		INJURY AND LOSS		LOSS ONLY		TOTAL	
PLACES	#OF PREMISES	#OF CRIMES	RATE PER 100	#OF CRIMES	RATE PER 100	#OF CRIMES	RATE PER 100	#OF CRIMES	RATE PER 100
MANUFACTURING	972	2	.21	0	0	4	.41	6	.62
FINANCIAL	486	1	.21	0	0	15	3.09	16	3.29
REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE	2,175	0	0	1	.05	13	.60	14	.64
PROFESSIONAL OFFICE	1,518	0	0	0	0	25	1.65	25	1.65
DEPARTMENT STORE	48	0	0	0	0	38	79.17	38	79.17
CONVENIENCE STORE	45	2	4.44	13	28.89	53	117.78	68	151.11
GROCERY STORE	291	2	.69	2	.69	57	19.59	61	20.96
JEWELRY STORE	99	0	0	0	0	4	4.04	4	4.04
LIQUOR STORE	207	0	0	5	2.42	12	5.80	17	8.21
OTHER RETAIL STORE	996	4	.40	4	.40	181	18.17	189	18.98
AUTO REPAIR	517	0	0	0	0	23	4.45	23	4.45
CLEANING & LAUNDRY	273	1	.37	2	.73	11	4.03	14	5.13
DRINKING PLACES	186	17	9.14	3	1.61	40	21.51	60	32.26
GAS STATIONS	432	1	.23	9	2.08	109	25.23	119	27.55
HOTEL AND MOTEL	357	4	1.12	4	1.12	62	17.37	70	19.61
RESTAURANT	384	3	.78	11	2.86	85	22.14	99	25.78
OTHER COMMERCIAL	12,957	2	.02	3	.02	103	.79	108	.83
TOTAL COMMERCIAL	21,943	39	.18	57	.26	835	3.81	931	4.24

SERIOUSNESS SCORE

	INJURY AND LOSS	INJURY	LOSS ONLY	TOTAL
TOTAL VICTIMIZATIONS	134	366	3983	4,483
TOTAL SERIOUSNESS	1,143	2,712	15,932	19,787
RANGE OF SERIOUSNESS	2-49	1-51	1-51	1-51
MEAN SERIOUSNESS SCORE	8.53	7.41	4.00	4.41
MEDIAN SERIOUSNESS SCORE	4.01	3.50	1.50	1.60
STANDARD DEVIATION	11.4	17.9	27.6	31.5

Seriousness Scores

The proceeding table presents the results of the analysis of seriousness scores for the reporting period in Colorado Springs. The seriousness scores are presented for each of these event categories that are based on harm to victims. The first row is the total number of victimization incidents. The second row is the total seriousness units for each event category, that is, the sum of the weighted score for all incidents in that event category. The third row is the range of scores within that event category--the least serious "injury and loss" crime reported during the period had a score of 2, the most serious had a score of 49. The mean seriousness score is the arithmetic average determined by dividing the total seriousness by the number of victimizations. For example, the mean score for Loss Only crimes is 4.00 (15,932 seriousness units divided by 3,983 victimizations). The median score is the interpolated "middle case," i.e., the incident that is exactly in the middle of the distribution of victimizations ranked in order of seriousness. The bottom part of the table is the standard deviation of the seriousness scores of each event category,. The standard deviation is a statistical measure of the dispersion of the scores in that category around the mean. The larger the standard deviation, the more "spread" there was in the distribution of seriousness scores around the mean.

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END