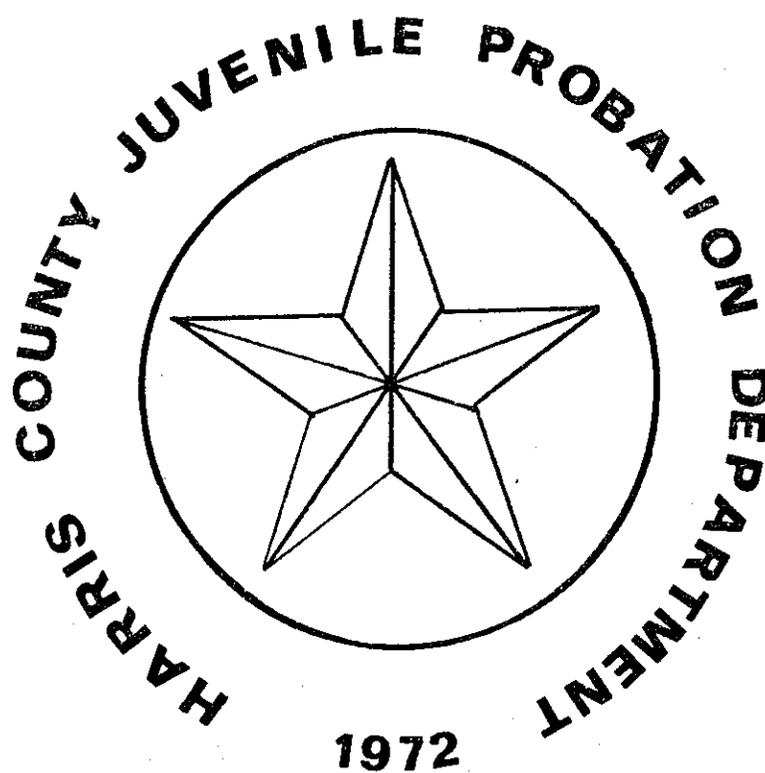


ANNUAL REPORT



R. O. D. SCHOENBACHER
CHIEF JUVENILE
PROBATION OFFICER



D. H. BAKER
ASST. CHIEF JUVENILE
PROBATION OFFICER

JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

3540 WEST DALLAS AVENUE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019

December 31, 1972

TO: ALL CITIZENS OF HOUSTON AND HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS' COURT
THE HONORABLE JUVENILE BOARD

The Statistical Report of the Juvenile Probation Department of Harris County, Texas for the calendar year of 1972 is herewith submitted.

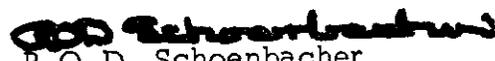
The whole picture of juvenile delinquency in our community cannot be seen in this report as it is only an indicator of problems and intended only to serve as a source of information.

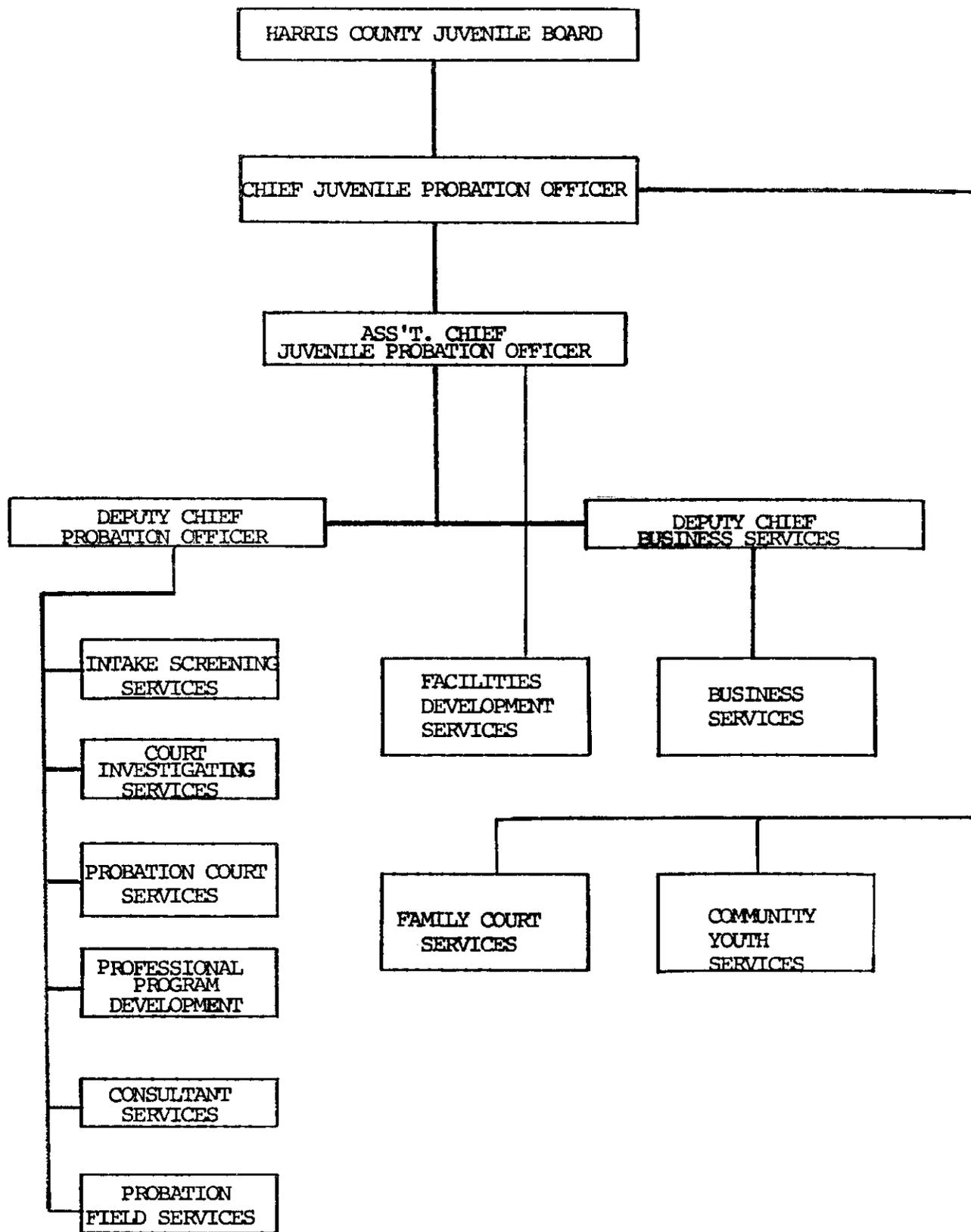
The past years data accentuates the fact that the growth of our Harris County community continues in record fashion. The additional fact that the number of youthful offenders referred to our department is not increasing proportionately gives hope that the efforts exerted in programs designed to preventing delinquency and redirecting youthful offenders has had some positive effect.

The combined efforts of citizens, law enforcement, and community agencies must continue developing meaningful programs which effect the young people of our County. The concern currently being exhibited by all of the community agencies and volunteer citizens are to be commended as those involved are dedicated to serve children and youth.

In this light, we invite every reader of this report to become personally involved toward this same purpose.

Respectfully submitted,


R.O.D. Schoenbacher
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer



Working Body
of the Juvenile Probation Department
and Institutions



HONORABLE BILL ELLIOTT, COUNTY JUDGE

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R.O.D. Schoenbacher,
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Honorable Criss Cole
Honorable Robert L. Lowry
Honorable John Compton (not present)

D. H. Baker,
Asst. Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Honorable William M. Hatten
Honorable W. H. Miller
L. P. Marshall,
Deputy Chief Business Services
Honorable Peter Solito (not present)

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department serves the Juvenile Courts of Harris County in cases involving juvenile delinquency, adoptions, child custody and assists in applying for admission to the state schools for the retarded.

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department works with youths who are residents of Harris County and are classified as juveniles under the Juvenile Court Act, Vernon's Texas Civil Statute, Article 2338.

INTAKE SCREENING

Review all offenses referred to Probation. Interview, counsel and/or refer to other agencies, court or close out. Take custody of all juveniles brought to the department by the authorities. Initiate action and decide on detention or release, contact parents and transport juveniles home, bus station, airport, and train station. Write court reports and take care of decline-to-file type situations. Supervise and train Junior League Volunteers, Interns and Intra-agency Programs. Handle mental health and mentally retarded applications, transportation and reports, all complaint calls and drop-ins. Handle all out-of-town inquiries by making home evaluations, and securing other information as requested. Supervise other projects such as: Teen Hot Line, Boy Scouts, screening for Gulf Coast Trade School, and Junction Project.

The number of referrals by age, sex and offense in the various groups of ten through seventeen years for 1968 was 8967 referrals in comparison to 9812 referrals in 1972 for boys; this is an increase of 8.6%.

The number of referrals for girls in the various age groups, ten through seventeen years for 1968 was 2583 referrals in comparison to 3628 referrals in 1972; this is an increase of 28%.

Referrals within the various religious groups and agencies for the years 1968 and 1972 may be seen by referring to Page 9.

Referrals within the various age groups and an itemized listing of the offenses committed, and number of each may be seen by referring to Page 8.

INTAKE COURT

Make investigations and prepare reports for the Juvenile Court, including dispositional alternatives after delinquency petition has been filed. Initiate action on all felonies in detention, including contacting parents, make initial decision as to either hold the child or release, secure information to give to the Assistant District Attorney and to prepare the court report, if the petition is filed upon.

PROBATION COURT SERVICES

The Court Administrator is a position which has been designed to cover all facets of Probation and to represent the Probation Department to the Juvenile Courts, not only to the judge, but also to the District Attorney, Defense Attorney, the parents and the juvenile.

The Court Administrator also acts in the capacity of a liaison officer between the Probation Department and the Courts, and from the Courts back to the Probation Department. Each Court Administrator dictates the adjudication on the cases he/she is responsible for and sees that these cases are processed through the proper channels by either being assigned, closed and committed to the Texas Youth Council and/or some other placement.

The number and types of disposition for the various categories was, Texas Youth Council withheld 293 cases, declared delinquent 609 cases, petitions denied 212 cases, petitions dismissed 1396 cases, cases passed or reset 1587 cases, and taken under advisement 1262 cases.

PROBATION FIELD SERVICE

The basic goals of Probation Field Services are prevention, treatment, and control of juvenile delinquency. The functions are: investigation to help the juvenile courts in determining dispositions of persons brought before them, supervision of children who have been placed on probation by the courts, securing suitable living arrangements for Juvenile Court Wards who are unable to remain in their own homes, and providing specialized services for the Court.

FAMILY COURT SERVICES

Services performed by Special Services Division are initiated by an order from the court in which a petition to adopt or a petition for custody or guardianship of minors has been filed. Complete adoption investigation and written reports are made for the Civil District Courts, Courts of Domestic Relations, and Juvenile Courts. Custody investigation reports are made in cases of disputed child custody for the Courts of Domestic Relations, Juvenile and County Courts. Family Services receives custody of some of the children in disputed custody cases and provides for them in foster homes. Casework supervision is provided for some families who are referred for supervision of the child in his home.

A total number of 1470 investigations were completed by this Division for 1972; with 112 being custody-type investigations and 1358 being adoption-type investigations.

BUSINESS SERVICES

The function of the Business Services Office is the administration of the fiscal affairs of the Juvenile Court and to act as advisor to the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in any matters pertaining to cost, incident to the operation of the Juvenile Department. Advise other department heads in the preparation of their annual budgets. Approve requisition for purchases. Plan and assign and review the work of the supporting business office staff consisting of records, inventory control, microfilm, statistics and other related work efforts.

COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICES

Community Youth Services is a relatively new function with the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department. Since its innovation it has three active staff members assigned and a coordinating council has been tentatively formed. This is not just another agency, it is what happens when a small group of people get together and mobilize the neighborhoods and neighborhood agencies into one cohesive effort to prevent delinquency. It is structured in such a way to maximize the concern of the average citizen with professionalism of the child care agencies.

PROFESSIONAL AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Assists in the development of experienced and newly-appointed probation officers by conducting in-service training programs; coordinates and conducts training programs for volunteers; develops and administers library and in-community services and coordinates research on pertinent subject matter.

CONSULTANT SERVICES

This service is rendered to juveniles primarily for testing those who are to be considered by the court for proper placement and/or treatment. Psychological reports assist the judges, probation officers, parents and others in determining what services are most needed by the children in guiding their efforts to attain non-delinquent behavior.

Psychological services administered by Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences totals 115 intelligence tests, 64 comprehensive psychological assessment batteries, 27 psychological consultation interviews, 15 in-service training sessions, 98 director and caseworker conferences, and 136 cases presented for consultation.

JUVENILE FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT

The Facilities Development Division began in December, 1970 as a unit of the Special Services Division and became a separate division in May, 1972. The purpose of this division is to place delinquent children in substitute care by utilizing existing public and private facilities to the maximum extent possible, and to develop new foster homes and other facilities to meet the particular needs of the children that are served. The ultimate goal is to provide, not only quantitative, but qualitative service to the child in need of substitute care. In two years, the number of children in placement has increased more than three-fold. With the assistance of a discretionary grant through the L. E. A. A., steps have been taken to contract for additional services through existing facilities, develop one or more group care homes as alternatives to detention, and a half-way house for children released from the Harris County Village.

C O M M U N I T Y U N I T P R O B A T I O N S E R V I C E S

The Community Unit Probation Services is an experimental program of the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department with the aid of the Texas Criminal Justice Council, endeavoring to refine the service to the client and the Juvenile Court. This program is attempting to combine four concepts; which has never been tried before: (1) developing a community model for service; (2) the team approach to decision-making and delivery of service; (3) performing and operating in a decentralized, in-community module; and (4) with true community and youth advocacy philosophy. This program began in November, 1972 and will be confined to specific limited areas for purpose of program development and evaluation.

H A R R I S C O U N T Y D E T E N T I O N H O M E

Provides temporary custodial care for juvenile boys and girls who are placed, pending courtheating, when it is necessary to protect them from the community or to render treatment or diagnostic services. Juveniles remain in the Detention Home only for short periods of time.

The Detention Ward has a capacity of 84 boys and 24 girls. During 1972 there were 1534 white, 1162 black, and 601 Latin boys held. The average length of stay was 10.2 days, the average population was 85.9 boys.

There were 865 white, 254 black, and 122 Latin girls held during this same period. The average length of stay was 8.05 days, the average population was 27.2 girls.

H A R R I S C O U N T Y Y O U T H V I L L A G E

A home for delinquent boys, ages ten to fourteen, who are placed by the Juvenile Court. The program is designed to meet the needs of the individual boy from academic, recreational and environmental standpoints.

The Youth Village's population on the first day of the year was 69 boys. The number of boys received during this period of time was 127 and the number of boys released during the year was 129. The population of the facility on the last day of the year was 67 boys.

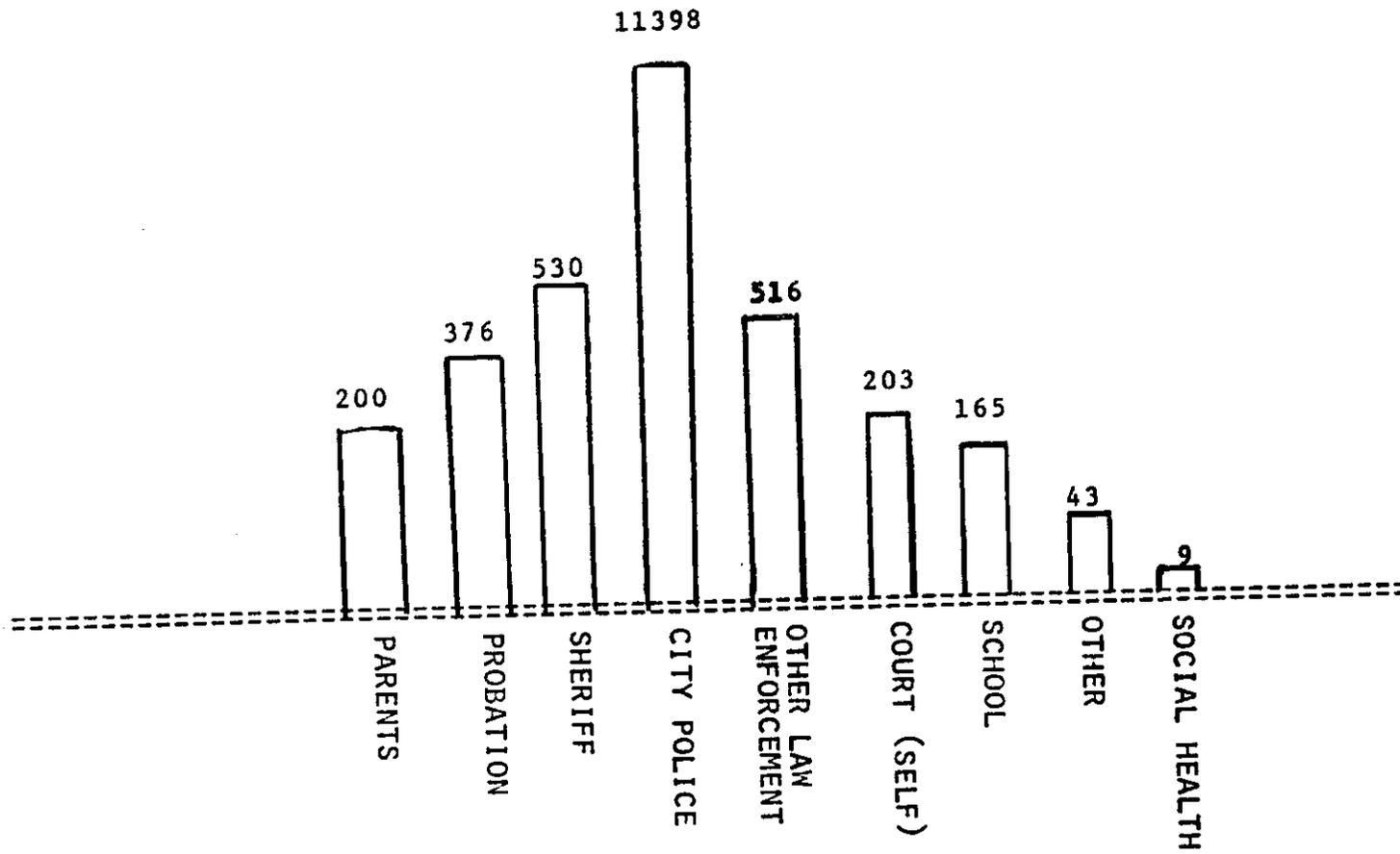
BURNETT-BAYLAND HOME

Operates as a temporary care institution for school-age children awaiting some type of permanent placement. The children live in an informal, home-like atmosphere and receive schooling similar to that available within the community.

The population of this institution on the first day of the year was 61 boys and 38 girls. The number of children received during the year was 101 boys and 93 girls. The number of children released during the year was 100 boys and 99 girls. The population on the last day of the year was 62 boys and 32 girls.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Volunteer Service Program provides the children with a feeling of love and care after their lives have brought them in contact with the Juvenile Court. This target is achieved by volunteers who devote endless hours, enormous energies and numerous talents to programs for young people. Community response and involvement has made us aware that people do care about the young people of today.



REFERRALS BY AGENCIES

REFERRALS BY AGE, SEX AND OFFENSE

AGE			% OF INCREASE OR DECREASE				% OF INCREASE OR DECREASE		
	1968 BOYS	1972 BOYS	1968 GIRLS	1972 GIRLS	1968 TOTAL	1972 TOTAL	1968 TOTAL	1972 TOTAL	
10	476	337	31	45	507	382		-24.7	
11	358	359	53	63	411	422		+ 2.6	
12	603	582	96	151	699	733		+ 4.6	
13	1,038	1,074	310	424	1,348	1,498		+10.6	
14	1,628	1,836	530	678	2,158	2,514		+14.0	
15	2,308	2,580	656	987	2,964	3,567		+16.9	
16	2,556	3,044	55	866	3,112	3,910		+20.4	
17	--	--	351	414	351	414		+15.2	
	<u>8,967</u>	<u>9,812</u>	<u>+8.6</u>	<u>2,583</u>	<u>3,628</u>	<u>+28.8</u>	<u>11,550</u>	<u>13,440</u>	<u>+14.0</u>

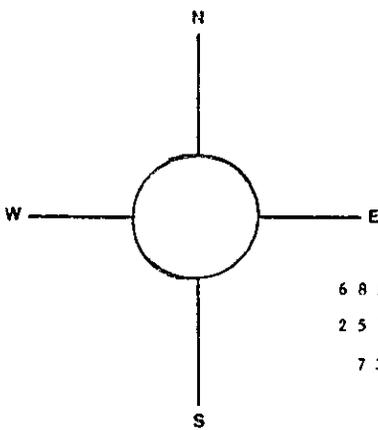
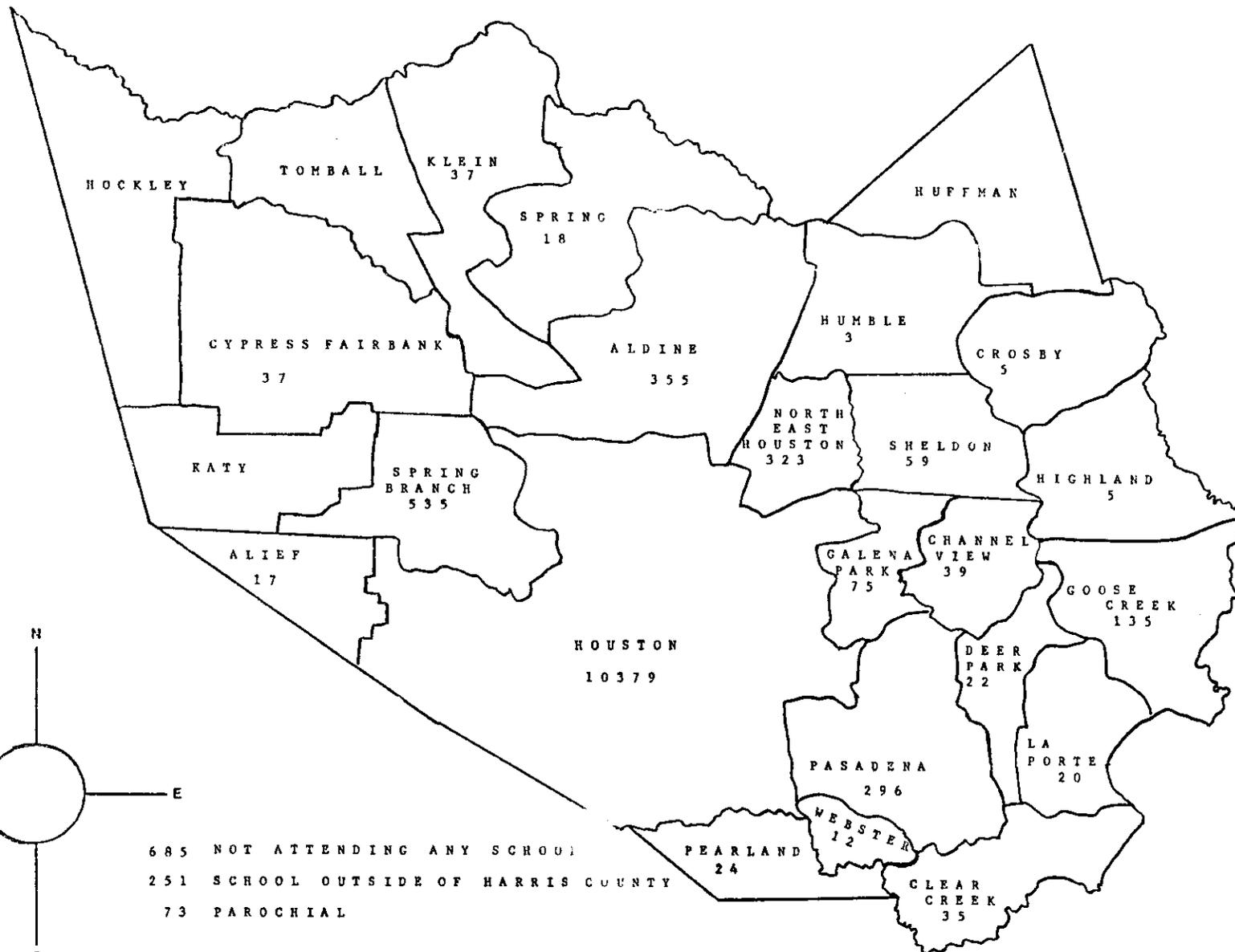
OFFENSES	1968	1972	% OF INCREASE OR DECREASE
ABUSIVE LANGUAGE	46	26	-45.0
AFFRAY	41	30	-26.8
ARSON	50	173	+71.0
ASSAULT & INJURY TO PERSON	303	298	- 1.6
ASSOCIATING WITH POLICE CHARACTERS	30	2	-93.0
ATTEMPTED SUICIDE	15	21	+28.5
AUTO THEFT/UNAUTHORIZED USE OF AUTO	840	508	-39.0
BREAKING & ENTERING COIN MACHINE	164	108	-34.0
BURGLARY/BREAKING AND ENTERING	1,262	1,379	+ 8.4
CARRYING PROHIBITIVE WEAPON	93	87	- 6.4
DISTURBING THE PEACE	290	14	-98.6
INTOXICATED/POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL	492	476	- 3.2
FORGERY & PASSING	51	32	-37.0
GAMBLING OR GAMING WITH DICE	28	29	+ 3.0
GLUE SNIFFING	83	23	-72.0
INCORRIGIBLE/UNGOVERNABLE	473	421	-10.9
LOITERING	76	40	-48.6
MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	416	443	+ 6.0
MURDER	23	41	+43.9
NARCOTICS/POSSESSION OF	217	1,417	+84.6
PURSE SNATCHING	14	10	-28.5
ROBBERY	92	175	+47.0
RUNAWAY	2,467	2,429	- 1.5
RUNAWAY, OUTSIDE HARRIS COUNTY	164	193	+15.0
RUNAWAY, OUTSIDE TEXAS	74	167	+55.6
SEX PLAY IMMORAL/PROSTITUTION/RAPE/SODOMY	106	99	- 6.6
SERIOUS THREAT TO TAKE LIFE	14	13	- 7.1
SHOPLIFTING	537	943	+43.0
THEFT	1,269	1,737	+26.9
TRAFFIC	117	196	+40.0
TRESPASSING	243	270	+10.0
TRUANT	267	430	+37.9
OTHER	1,193	1,210	+ 1.4
TOTAL	11,550	13,440	+14.0

REFERRALS BY RELIGION

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>Per Cent of Increase or Decrease</u>
BAPTIST	2,780	4,033	+31.0%
CATHOLIC	1,387	2,658	+47.8%
CHURCH OF CHRIST	110	115	+ 4.3%
CHURCH OF GOD	48	15	-68.7%
EPISCOPAL	108	139	+22.0%
HEBREW	9	14	+35.7%
LUTHERAN	107	128	+ 8.6%
METHODIST	321	442	+27.0%
PENECOSTAL	68	117	+58.0%
PRESBYTERIAN	91	103	+11.6%
OTHER RELIGIONS	243	958	+74.6%
NO RELIGION	6,278	545	-91.3%
UNKNOWN		4,173	

REFERRALS BY AGENCIES

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1972</u>
PARENTS	254	200
PROBATION	101	376
SHERIFF	617	530
CITY POLICE	9,976	11,398
OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT	426	516
COURT	16	203
SCHOOL	137	165
SOCIAL/HEALTH	9	9
OTHER	14	43



685 NOT ATTENDING ANY SCHOOL
 251 SCHOOL OUTSIDE OF HARRIS COUNTY
 73 PAROCHIAL

TEN YEAR COMPARISON OF REFERRALS

