Alaska Misdemeanor Sentences: 1981

December, 1983

alaska judicial council





Alaska Judicial Council

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ALASKA MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES: 1981

December, 1983

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents an analysis of sentences imposed by Alaskan judges and magistrates in misdemeanor cases during 1981. The purposes of the study were to determine whether sentencings varied by court or defendant, and to explain why such variations did (or did not) occur. The study was funded by the state's legislature as part of its continued monitoring of state sentencing patterns.

The study looked at two types of relationships:

- between defendant characteristics and sentence length; and
- 2) between community characteristics and sentence length.

Although we found that physical characteristics of the defendant such as age, race and sex did <u>not</u> affect sentences, the defendant's prior criminal history and past failure to complete treatment for alcohol problems had very significant effects. Financial status was also tied to sentence length, with less wealthy offenders receiving slightly longer sentences for vehicular and disorderly conduct offenses.

A second set of important findings related sentence length to community characteristics. The study found that for certain types of offenses committed sentences similarly-situated defendants varied somewhat from (Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau) to rural areas (Barrow, Bethel, Kodiak, Nome and Sitka). However, this factor did not play as large a role in sentence length as did the defendants' past histories of criminal behavior and alcohol treatment.

Specific findings include:

1) There is a direct relationship between alcohol abuse and a pattern of continuing criminal conduct. 86.6% of misdemeanor defendants with prior alcohol problems also had a record of prior convictions.

- In general, defendants with alcohol problems who had either not been referred to, or who had not completed alcohol treatment programs in the past, received substantially longer sentences for most types of offenses than defendants who alcohol problems or who had completed a treatment program. On the other hand, the data suggests that problems, those had defendants with prior alcohol who successfully completed prior alcohol treatment least likely to be recidivists.
- 3) Nearly two-thirds of misdemeanor offenders (65.2%) were sentenced to at least one day in jail. All persons convicted of driving while intoxicated spent at least 3 days in jail.
- 4) The effect of community characteristics was most noticeable for violent and vehicular offenses. Defendants convicted of violent misdemeanors in rural areas were more likely to go to jail and had longer sentences than those in urban areas. On the other hand, Anchorage and Fairbanks defendants convicted of vehicular misdemeanors tended to receive slightly longer jail sentences than those in smaller communities.

Fines appeared to follow a different pattern. For all types of offenses except vehicular, defendants in Bethel, Nome, and Barrow were considerably less likely to have a fine imposed than in the other communities studied. The fines required of defendants in these areas tended to be lesser amounts than those imposed on defendants in other communities, for all types of offenses.

(Interviews with judges, attorneys, and other criminal justice system personnel suggest that our findings of variation in sentencing by community are at least partially due to both consideration of community values and to the amount and type of justice system resources which were available in these areas during the period studied. Significant changes which have occurred during the intervening two years in both the level of resources available and community values could mean that the reasons for some 1981 variations may no longer exist.)

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Our conclusions from these findings are, first, that despite justice system changes, some patterns appear to be extremely stable, notably the relationship among problems, treatment, and criminal offenses. Second. combination of factors which do affect sentences considered in light of those which do not (such as race and sex) suggest that both the judiciary and other criminal justice system personnel are attempting to enforce the law in a manner which is both responsive to society's need for protection as well as to the differing cultural and administrative resources and needs among different areas of the state.

Based on our findings, we recommend that:

- 1) The judiciary, Department of Corrections, and other criminal justice agencies work together to assure uniform and duick access to alcohol treatment programs for convicted defendants, as a means of reducing recidivism. At the same time, the justice system must recognize that reduction of legal and administrative barriers to admission to alcohol treatment programs should be accompanied by the kinds of incentives which will motivate offenders to complete treatment.
- The effects of "local option" laws, increased 2) legislative sanctions for DWI, and other relevant attempts to reduce the incidence of alcohol-related crime which do not involve the treatment of offenders should be monitored and of their evaluated during the next two years in terms motivate cost-effectiveness, ability to offenders. effectiveness reducing recidivism. legislature. in The executive branch agencies administering these programs, and municipal governments need such evaluations as the basis of future policy decisions. In the long run, resources should be focussed on programs and practices which motivate offenders to change patterns of behavior.

Guidelines for misdemeanor sentences 3) recognize the value of incentives such as expungement of criminal records following the successful completion of alcohol treatment should be developed by the judiciary. Such guidelines should be flexible enough to permit judges to take legislative intent, community and defendant characteristics, treatment program alternatives capacity, and and consideration when sentence. Development imposing benefit these guidelines both the publication of would judiciary and the public by providing a clear statement of factors relevant to sentencing and consequences of conviction.

ALASKA MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES: 1981

PART I

Narrative Summary

I. INTRODUCTION

possible racial disparity in the Evidence of sentencing of misdemeanants was found in a study of state judicial sentencing patterns published by the Council in 1979. The legislature responded by directing the Council to continue monitoring misdemeanor sentencing patterns to determine the extent to which such disparities were persisting. studies of felony sentencing patterns had found evidence of racial and other disparities, although these patterns gradually decreased from 1974 through 1979, until a study of felonies showed no evidence of them.) However, even the 1980 felony study--as well as the present misdemeanor study--show continuing variation in sentencing patterns from community to community*, with the variations tending to emphasize a distinction between urban and rural areas of the state.

Based on the findings of the earlier studies, 1981 misdemeanor sentences were analyzed to determine to what extent variations which occurred were attributable to some combination of the following factors:

- Characteristics of the <u>defendants</u>, such as age, sex, race, income, alcohol use history, etc.;
- 2) Characteristics of the <u>offense</u>, such as harm to the victim, property damage, and type of offense; or
- 3) Characteristics of the judicial <u>process</u>, such as type of bail, type of attorney and judge, and whether state or municipal law was the basis for the charge.

^{*} Variations also continue to occur by offense types as they have in past studies, with some factors being statistically significant for one set of offenses but unimportant in determining sentence length for other types of crime. These differences are discussed in more detail throughout the report.

The report which follows provides a narrative summary and discussion of findings and preliminary recommendations. Detailed discussion of the data collection procedures, statistical methodologies, and results obtained from analysis can be found in Part II of this report. Part II also contains lists of variables, copies of coding forms and other documents, and additional descriptive and analytical tables.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Data Collection

During the second half of 1981, some state court magistrates participated in a court-sponsored judges and information about misdemeanor more obtain program to The program involved preparation of a "misdemeanor sentencing information sheet" containing brief questions about the defendant's race, alcohol use and treatment, and prior In 1983, Council staff used the court case criminal history. files and police reports for defendants sentenced during this period as the sources for data on 1,366 offenders convicted in The communities selected communities. studied Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak, Nome and From 21% (Anchorage and Fairbanks) to 95% (Barrow) of all the misdemeanor convictions in each community were analyzed to obtain suitable sample sizes.

The data collection form was similar to those employed in other Council studies. It included questions about the defendant. the offense, and the case Research assistants under the supervision of characteristics. senior Council staff spent between one and two hours with each case, using a series of double-coding and checking procedures designed to insure accuracy and objectivity. Finally, the data were key-punched, verified, and transferred to magnetic tape for analysis using the statistical programs on the University of Alaska's computer.

B. Analysis

Standard procedures for verifying the raw data were performed as the first step in analysis. Missing or apparently incorrect information was checked and corrected. Data which could not be used in its raw form was re-calculated.

Next, several analytical decisions were made. were analyzed by defendant, rather than by charge (as had been the case in earlier studies). About 85% of all defendants were convicted of only one offense. For the remaining 15%, details about the most serious charge were combined with an "aggregate" sentence for all of the charges to form a composite description of the offender's charge and sentencing. Then. offenses of all defendants were grouped into six general categories: violent; property; vehicular; disorderly conduct; alcohol or drug law offenses; and miscellaneous.* Finally, the were defined as net variables, or "outcomes", sentence length (or active jail time) and net fine. aspects of sentences, such as conditions imposed by the judge, variables which could independent treated as were influenced the severity of outcome penalty.

Multiple regression was used to examine the effect of "explanatory" variables on active jail sentences. Variation in jail sentence or fines may be due to differences in case processing, in defendant characteristics or past problems or in specifics of the offense. Multiple regression is able to account for all "explanatory" variables simultaneously, and estimate the independent (relative to other variables in the model) contribution of each of these factors to the outcome variable.

^{*} The last category included only 38 defendants who were convicted of gambling, prostitution-related, public indecency, and several other types of misdemeanors. None could be analyzed separately because of the small number of cases.

The analysis of the data required two major steps. The first set of multiple regression "runs" used the full set of independent variables. Some of the most significant factors affecting length of sentence (such as community and bail status) appeared, after further analysis, to be very strongly intercorrelated with other variables. As a result, two indices (described below, page 17) were constructed to summarize the interrelated variables, and a second set of multiple regression analyses were performed for each type of offense. Where they assist in explaining the study's findings, data from the first stage of analysis may be used. Otherwise, the results which follow are based on the second set of multiple regression analyses.

III. DISCUSSION

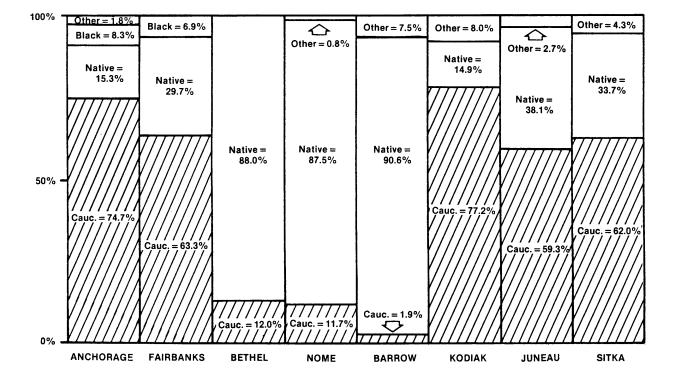
A. Defendants & Offenses

The typical misdemeanor defendant in 1981 could be described as a caucasian (56.8%) or native (36.7%) male. He was likely to be under the age of 31 (66.0%), and to have used alcohol at the time of his offense (73.2% used alcohol, drugs, or both, but the great majority used only alcohol). Over half (56.7%) of the defendants had a record of prior convictions, mostly misdemeanors. The percentage rose to 86.6% for defendants with a history of alcohol problems.

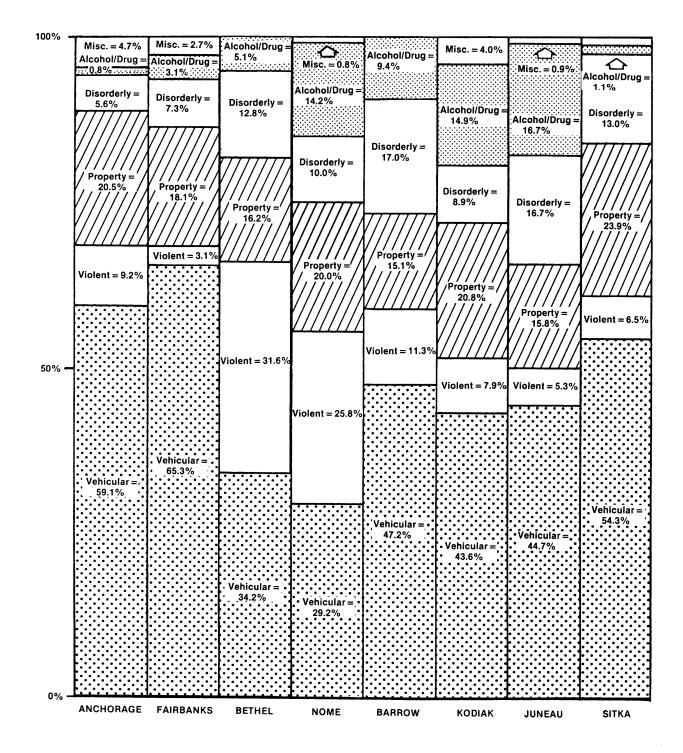
Individual communities showed some variations among defendants. Kodiak, for example, had the highest proportion of female defendants (17.8%), while Bethel, Barrow and Nome defendants tended to be native (over 85%). See Graph 1. Juneau had the most youthful defendants (40.2% under 22); Fairbanks had the oldest (45.5% over 30).

GRAPH 1

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences) DEFENDANT'S RACE BY COMMUNITY



GRAPH 2 (1981 Misdemeanor Sentences) DISTRIBUTION OF OFFENSES



Type of offense also differed by community*, although vehicular offenses were the most common offense in communities, ranging from 65% of the Fairbanks and 59% of the Anchorage convictions to about 29% in Nome (see Graph 2). Property offenses were the next most frequent offense in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kodiak and Sitka; however, convictions were the next most frequent group in Bethel (31.6%) and Nome (25.8%). In Barrow and Juneau, where vehicular offenses constituted nearly half of the convictions (47.3% and 44.7%, respectively), the remaining convictions were fairly evenly divided among the other four major offense types (disorderly conduct, alcohol-drug violations, property, and violent).

B. <u>Interactions Among Defendants</u>, <u>Offenses</u>, and <u>Case-Processing</u>

Communities differed noticeably in the ways in which the criminal justice process interacted with defendants and their offenses (see Graph 3). In Anchorage and Fairbanks, most cases were heard by district court judges, while most defendants were represented by an attorney and pled "not guilty" at arraignment. About 11% of convictions in these cities followed a trial; most, however, occurred when the defendant changed his plea some time between arraignment and trial. Most defendants (87%) were not in jail at the time of sentencing.

^{*} Whether the offense was charged under state law or municipal ordinance varied by community as well. For example, in Fairbanks, property offenses were generally charged under municipal ordinances, but vehicular offenses were almost always charged under state law. In Sitka and Anchorage, most vehicular offenses were municipal charges; in other areas, all types of offenses tended to be state charges. (Police and prosecutorial charging decisions thus appear in some communities to reflect the ability of the community to afford the costs of prosecuting offenses charged under municipal ordinances. In other areas, prosecutors may be charging one type of offense under municipal codes because of a local attempt to "crack-down" on specific types of crime.)

Nome similar to each other Bethel and were and Fairbanks. Cases in those different from Anchorage communities were heard by either magistrates (33% & 23%) or superior court judges, rather than by district court judges. one-third of the defendants represented themselves About without an attorney; about one-third (not necessarily the same group) pled quilty at the time of their arraignment. one-quarter of these defendants were in jail at the time of sentencina.

The four remaining communities, Juneau, Kodiak, Sitka, and Barrow--could not be as easily patterned. All four towns were different from either the urban areas or the western Alaska communities of Bethel and Nome. For example, while Juneau cases were primarily heard by a district court judge (85.1%), cases in the other three areas were handled magistrates over 90% of the time. In all of these courts. there was a much higher incidence of defendants representing themselves without an attorney, and all had a high rate of quilty pleas entered at arraignment. Juneau and Sitka had fairly low rates (around 20%) of defendants jailed at the time of sentencing, while Barrow and Kodiak had the highest (31% and 37%, respectively) rates among the communities studied.

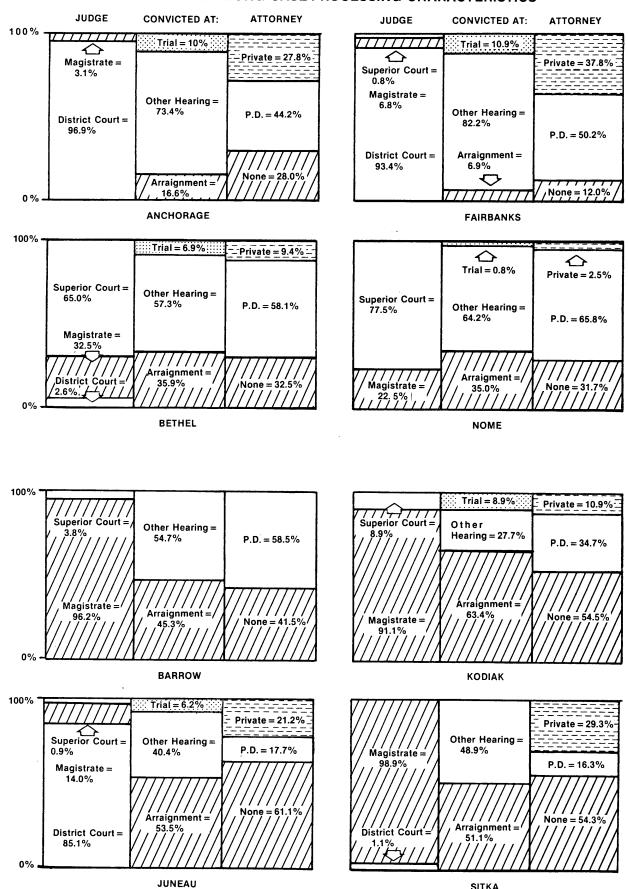
Nearly half of the convictions (49.3%) occurring before magistrates were of defendants not represented by counsel who entered a plea of guilty or no contest at the time of arraignment. Only 14.8% of convictions before all district court judges but one,* and 23.5% of those before superior court judges fell into this category. These strong relationships among type of plea, type of judge, and representation by an

^{*}The exception is Juneau. There, about 85% of convictions were handled by district court judges, but 53.5% of defendants pled guilty at arraignment. The great majority of these (93%) were not represented by counsel.

GRAPH 3

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

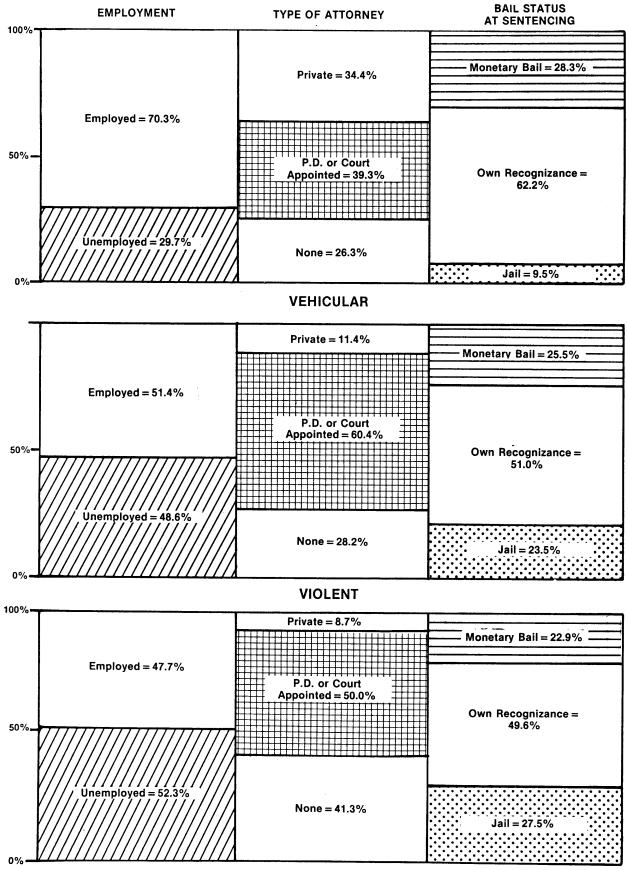
RELATIONSHIPS AMONG CASE-PROCESSING CHARACTERISTICS



NOTE: "P.D." on this graph refers to both defendents represented by a Public Defender and to those represented by a court-appointed private attorney.

GRAPH 4
(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

DEFENDANT AND CASE-PROCESSING INTERACTIONS



attorney (or lack thereof) did not appear to have direct effects on sentencing (except violent offenses—see page 17). However, they are worthy of note because they so clearly demonstrate the differences in the ways misdemeanors are handled in different communities.

One possible explanation for the distinctions would be that magistrates and judges heard different types of cases. However, an examination of offense types showed no significant differences in the types of misdemeanor cases assigned to the different levels of court. In several areas, notably Sitka, Kodiak, and Barrow, over 90% of all misdemeanor convictions, covering the same range of offense types as was found in the other areas, occurred before a magistrate. In Bethel (1/3) and (1/4)magistrates played a much smaller superior court judges handling the majority of the cases. again, no differences were found in the types of offenses handled by each level of court.

However, type of offense* was related to a defendant's general willingness to plead guilty at arraignment, as well as to a defendant's characteristics. Property offenders were by far the most likely to enter a guilty plea at this point; vehicular offenders were least likely to do so. The latter group tended to plead not guilty, to obtain counsel (from 92.7% in Fairbanks to 46% in Juneau and Sitka) even if they had to pay (nearly half of the Fairbanks offenders were represented by private attorneys, and about one-third of Anchorage, Juneau, and Sitka defendants), and to go to trial (10%) more frequently than for other types of offenses (violent 8.1%, property 4.6%).

^{*} For purposes of comparing defendants, we looked at the three largest groups of offenders: violent (assaults and weapon offenses); property (theft, fraud, trespass and mischief); and vehicular (driving while intoxicated, license violations, reckless or negligent driving, and failure to report accident).

Other characteristics of the defendant also appeared to be correlated with the type of offense. On a "financial" continuum, (Graph 4), defendants convicted of vehicular offenses had a greater likelihood of being employed and of represented by a private attorney than defendants convicted of other offenses. They were less likely to be in jail at the time of sentencing and slightly more likely to be released on their own recognizance (indicating sufficient community ties to assure the judge they would appear for trial). Property defendants were at the lower end of this Fewer than average were employed; many could not continuum. post bail, and remained in custody until their sentencing. About half of the violent offenders were employed, and their rates of own-recognizance release at the time of sentencing were about average when compared to the overall custody status rates for each area.

C. <u>Sentencing Factors</u>

Factors reflecting the defendant's economic status and personal problems, and those reflecting case processing differences from urban to rural communities directly affected sentence lengths for certain types of offenses. In general, however, variables related to defendant characteristics such as age*, race, and sex were not significantly correlated with sentences imposed for the misdemeanors studied. This finding, of lack of relationship between age, race, sex and sentence length, contrasts with two prior Council studies of

^{*} The one exception is a slight increase in sentence length for older defendants convicted of alcohol/drug offenses. See Graph 7.

misdemeanors, both of which found such disparities.* Another set of variables, those related to harm caused by the offense, also appeared to be unrelated to sentence length. While sentences did vary from one offense category to another, within those categories, variables such as property damage and harm to a victim did not have a statistically significant effect on sentences.

1) Court and Community Characteristics

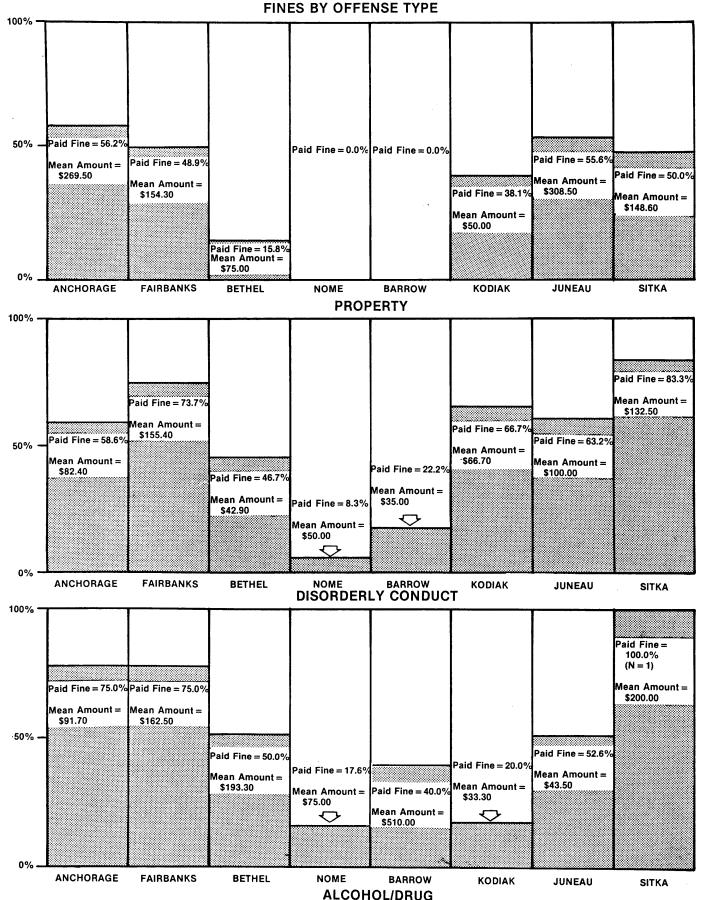
The importance of relationships among the defendant, the community and the case-processing characteristics which were discussed above in sections A and B is emphasized by the findings shown on Graphs 5, 6 and 7.

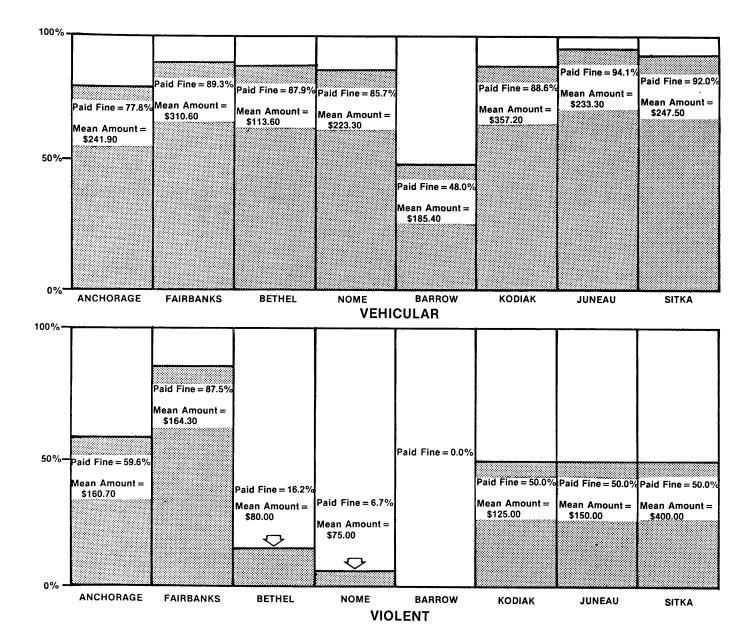
Graph 5 outlines the variations in net fines imposed by community for each of the five offense groups. Except for vehicular offenses, fines were required far less frequently of defendants in Bethel, Nome, and Barrow than in other areas. The actual fines paid also tended to be lower, even for vehicular offenses. However, Graph 6 indicates that defendants in Bethel and Nome were more likely to serve time in jail than defendants in the other communities.

Besides reviewing the likelihood that a defendant would pay a fine or go to jail, the analysis considered factors affecting the length of a jail sentence. The relationships between length of sentence and statistically significant factors are shown on Graph 7. These factors were especially noticeable in vehicular offenses. Defendants convicted after a jury trial of a vehicular offense served about 13.2 days extra

^{*} The studies were Statistical Analysis of Misdemeanor Sentences in Anchorage and Fairbanks (Aug. 15, 1974 - Aug. 14, 1976), published in 1979 which found large sentence increases for Native and Black defendants, and Alaska Fish and Game Sentences: 1980-1981, which found that women and defendants under the age of 21 received smaller fines for commercial fishing misdemeanors than those imposed on other similarly-situated defendants.

GRAPH 5
(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

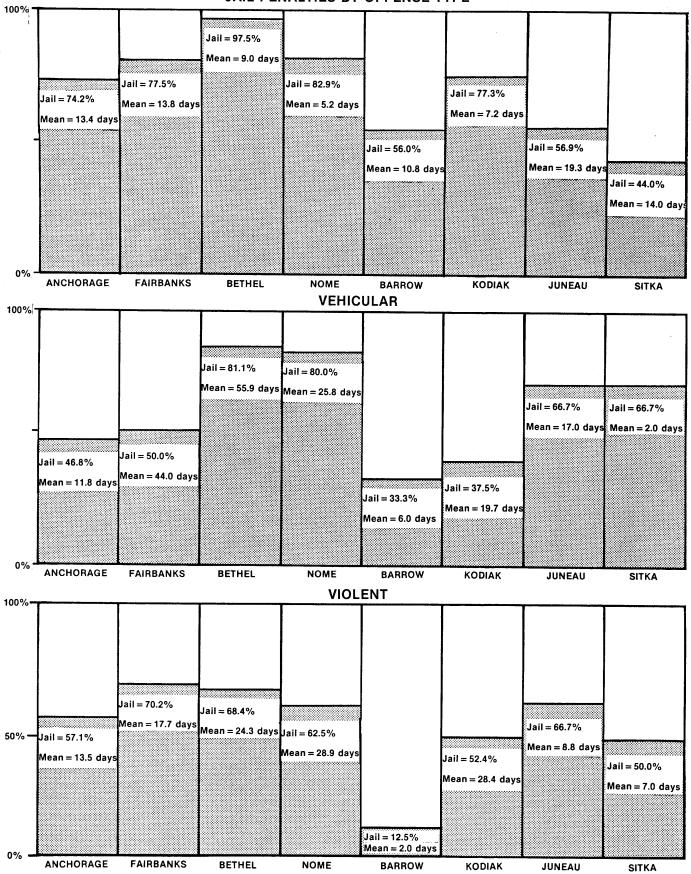


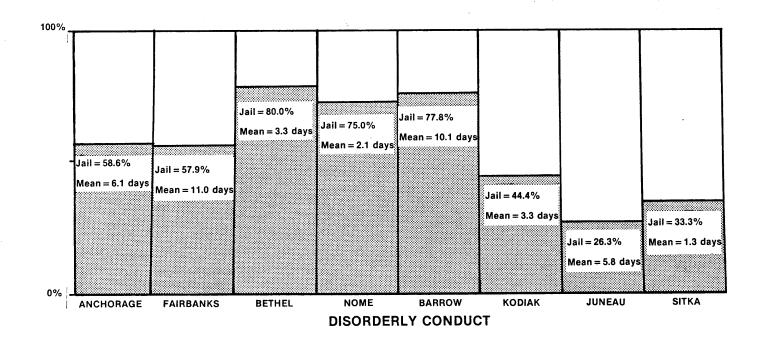


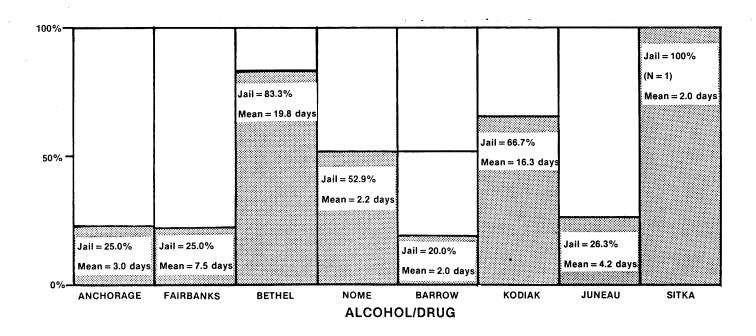
GRAPH 6

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

JAIL PENALTIES BY OFFENSE TYPE







GRAPH 7

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

FACTORS AFFECTING LENGTH OF SENTENCE

	VEHICULAR	VIOLENT	PROPERTY	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	ALCOHOL/DRUG
COURT AND COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS					
Case Description Index	+ 0.9 days**	– 2.3 days***			– 0.5 days*
Proceeding at which Convicted					
1) Other than Arraignment		+ 12.1 days**			
2) Jury Trial	+ 13.2 days***				
Concurrent Counts	+ 15.5 days***				
Specific Offense (if DWI)	+ 10.8 days***				
Additional Cond. on Sentence		– 11.1 days**	,		
Net Fine (Increase or decrease in days served, per dollar of fine paid)	– 0.01 days*	-	,	+ 0.04 days***	+ 0.03 days***
DEFENDANT CHARACTERISTICS					i
Age					+ 0.1 days* ⁺
Financial Index	+ 1.3 days**			+ 1.6 days***	
Prior Felonies		+ 22.4 days***	+ 58.7 days***		
Prior Misdemeanors				+ 3.2 days**	
Alcohol Treatment					
1) Never Referred			+ 21.3 days**		
2) Referred, no Attendance	+ 10.0 days***				+ 7.0 days***
3) Attended, no Completion	+ 49.0 days***	+ 24.6 days*** `			
4) Currently in Treatment	+ 20.4 days***	,			

⁺ Asterisks represent the degree of significance of each coefficient. The smaller the P, the less likelihood that this effect is due to chance or random variation.

^{* = 0.10&}gt;P≥0.05

^{** = 0.05&}gt;P≥0.01

as a result. If the defendant was convicted of more than one offense, sentence length was increased (by 15.5 days for each additional charge). If convicted of DWI rather than "operator action" or another vehicular offense, sentence length increased by 10.8 days. However, there was a trade-off: for every dollar of fine the defendant was required to pay for this type of offense, the jail sentence decreased by 0.01 days.

Case-processing characteristics remained important for offenses other than vehicular, although they appeared less frequently. Fines were correlated with the length of sentences imposed on disorderly conduct and alcohol/drug offenses. every additional dollar of fine paid, the defendant also served 0.04 days (disorderly conduct) or 0.03 another (alcohol/drug) in jail. Violent offenders were sentenced to an average of 12.1 days more if they pled guilty at a proceeding other than arraignment. However, if additional conditions (besides jail and/or fine) were imposed, they spent 11.1 days less in jail.

Specific reference needs to be made at this point to "Case Descriptor Index*" noted on Graph 7, the essentially assigned "points" to more rural (0 to -6 points) or An urban defendant more urban (0 to +6 points) defendants. convicted of a vehicular offense received a sentence of 0.9 days more per index point (up to 5.4 days); a rural defendant, by comparison, received .9 days less per index point. Thus, a defendant at the most "urban" end of the index scale received 10.8 days more for a vehicular offense than a defendant at the most "rural" end of the scale.

^{*} The case-descriptor index summarizes information about several inter-related variables, including the defendant's race, the community in which the case was processed, the type of judge hearing the case, and whether the offense was charged under state or munincipal laws. For a detailed description of the construction of the index, see part II, pp. 38-46.

2) Defendant Characteristics

of defendant characteristics played types important determining the length of roles in sentence: financial status,* prior criminal history, and prior or current treatment for alcohol or drug problems. (See Graph 7) Less wealthy defendants tended to receive longer sentences for vehicular (1.3 days additional for each point increase on the financial index) and disorderly conduct (1.6 days per index point) offenses. The defendant's financial status did not affect sentences imposed for violent, property or alcohol/drug offenses.

Prior criminal history and treatment for alcohol or drug problems, however, contributed more to sentence length than did financial status. Over half of the defendants studied Defendants charged had been convicted at least once before. with violent crimes were least likely to have had a prior record (only 44.3%); those convicted of vehicular offenses were most likely (62.8%) to be repeat offenders. Most defendants with prior offenses had committed misdemeanors in the past; of all defendants had been convicted of 5% prior Those few, however, received considerably longer sentences if convicted of a violent or property offense. presence of prior felonies added 22.4 days to a violent offense sentence and 58.7 days to a property sentence.

The other defendant characteristic closely associated with sentence length was a history of referral to, or treatment

^{*} Financial status was also measured by an index, which included information about the type of attorney representing the defendant, his employment status, and his bail or custody status at the time of sentencing. The index assigned "points" to more $(0\ to\ -3)$ or less $(0\ to\ +3)$ financially able defendants. For more detailed information, see Part II, page 46.

in, alcohol programs.* Alcohol use at the time of the offense or a history of alcohol problems were not associated with sentence lengths, although these variables were correlated with additional conditions of sentence such as the requirement of alcohol treatment. Rather, judges appeared to be taking into account what the defendant had done (or not done) in the past to solve his problems.

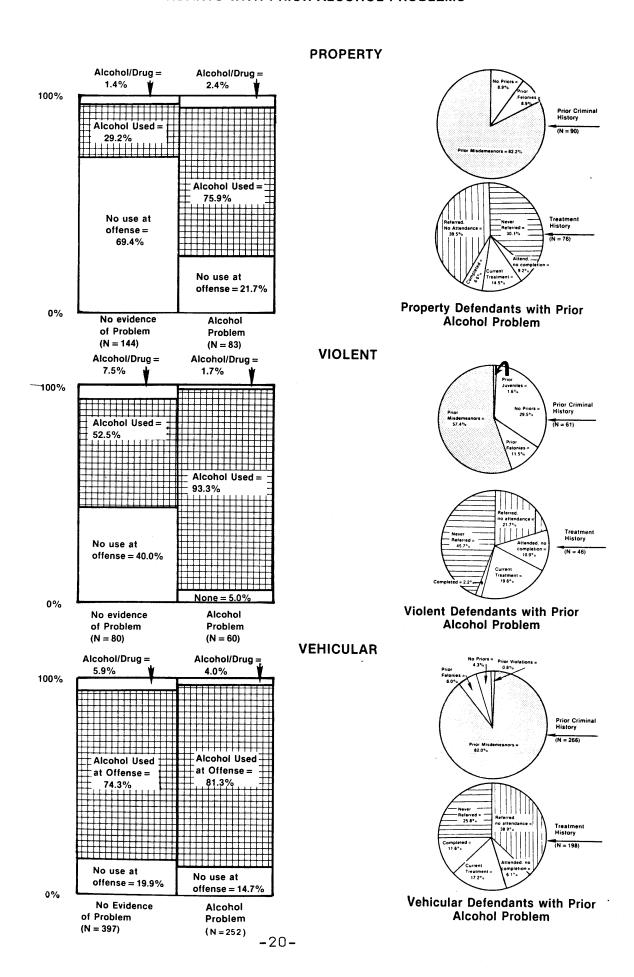
Because of the very high correlation between a history of alcohol problems and a history of prior convictions, especially for misdemeanors (see Graph 8), we hypothesize that much of the prior treatment may have been a condition of an earlier sentence. Thus, when a judge saw that a defendant had been referred for alcohol treatment, but had not attended the program (or attended, but did not complete it), he may have concluded that the defendant had not complied with previous court orders. Whatever the reason, these defendants received significantly longer jail sentences for violent (24.6 days), vehicular (49.0 days), and alcohol/drug (7.0 days) offenses.

Two caveats about this variable are in order. The first is that data regarding a defendant's referrals or treatments was usually available only if the judge had been participating in the special court program for misdemeanor sentencings in the second half of 1981. The information sheets used in this program were present less frequently in Anchorage case files than in other areas. Thus, our data may underestimate the effects of this variable. Second, even when information was available, the judge's or clerk's notes tended to be quite We know only that defendants had a history of alcohol brief. problems, and that they were referred to, attended or completed alcohol treatment programs. Data about the types of programs, reasons for non-attendance, or past sanctions by the court for failure comply with treatment requirements available consistently enough to record for our Although such data is routinely collected by the Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP) that data was not integrated into the formal court files, and thus was not available for use in this study.

GRAPH 8

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

DEFENDANTS WITH PRIOR ALCOHOL PROBLEMS



Defendants with alcohol problems who had never been referred to a treatment program (at least as far as the court records showed) received longer sentences (21.3 days) for property offenses, and those who were in a treatment program at the time of sentencing were required to spend more time in jail for vehicular offenses (20.4 days).

many defendants Graph 8 shows how with problems in each of the three major offense groups (vehicular, violent, and property) actually had completed alcohol treatment in the past. The largest group (11.6%) is found in vehicular offenses: smaller proportions of violent (2.2%) and property (6.6%) offenders with alcohol problems had finished an alcohol treatment program. Overall, only 31 defendants (2.2%) of the 1,366 studied had completed alcohol treatment. When compared with the numbers reported to have an alcohol problem (370, or 27.0% of 1,366), the data suggest* that completion of treatment may have resulted in a dramatically lower rate of recidivism. by the courts that a defendant complete Thus, insistence treatment for alcohol problems may be more effective reducing recidivism than increasing lengths of sentences or imposition of other sanctions for repeat offenders. findings point to a need for further analysis on which policy decisions by courts, state agencies and the legislature could be firmly based.

^{*} We cannot compare convicted defendants who have been referred to, or who have completed, alcohol treatment with \underline{all} persons referred to (or completing) treatment programs, so our finding is suggestive rather than conclusory.

D. Sanctions Imposed

The preceding discussion of the factors which affect sentence length provides the basis for a brief review of the sentences actually imposed. To summarize: the defendant's prior convictions or history of unsuccessful treatment for alcohol problems had the largest effect on sentence length. His community and case-processing factors played significant roles as well, but characteristics such as age (except the small effect for alcohol/drug offenses), sex, and race did not lengthen or decrease his sentence.

1) Jail and Fines

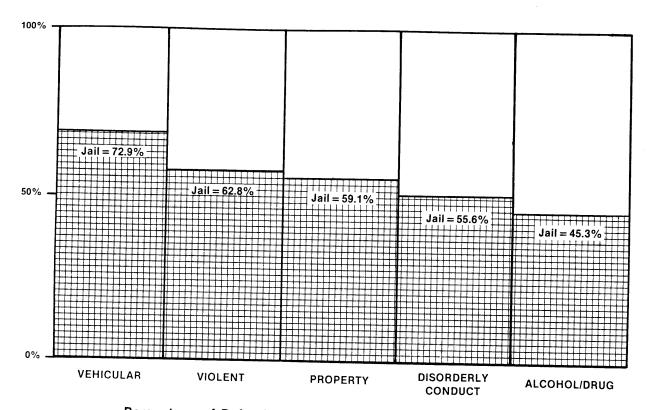
Both length of sentence and likelihood of receiving a jail or fine sentence varied by the type of crime as well as by community. Graphs 5 and 6 showed the differences by area; Graphs 9 and 10 show them by type of crime.

The mean (average) sentences for those who served at least one day in jail ranged from 31.0 days for violent offenses to 16.9 days for property convictions, 12.6 days for 9.6 vehicular offenses and (alcohol/drug) or 5.8 (disorderly conduct) for less serious offenses. The likelihood that a misdemeanant would go to jail rather than receive probation or a wholly-suspended sentence also varied by the type of offense. All offenders convicted of drunk driving spent at least three days in jail. Over half of most other offense types received jail sentences, ranging from 62.8% for violent offenses to 55.6% for disorderly conduct convictions. Only alcohol/drug offenders had a better-than-even chance of probation (45.3% went to jail for at least one day).

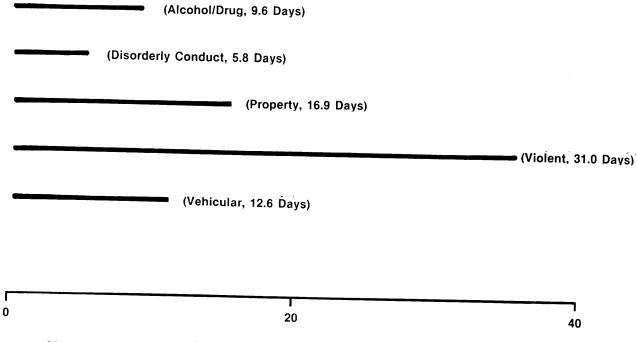
Fines were imposed in addition to, and occasionally in lieu of jail time, for all offense types. Fines were imposed for over half of the defendants committing vehicular and disorderly conduct misdemeanors. The highest rate (83.2%) and amount (\$259.90), not surprisingly, was for vehicular offenses. Next highest in amount were fines for property

GRAPH 9
(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

JAIL SENTENCES BY OFFENSE TYPE

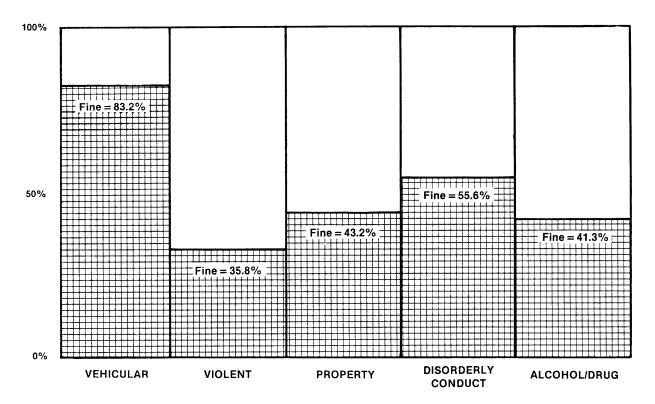


Percentage of Defendants Sentenced to at Least One Day in Jail

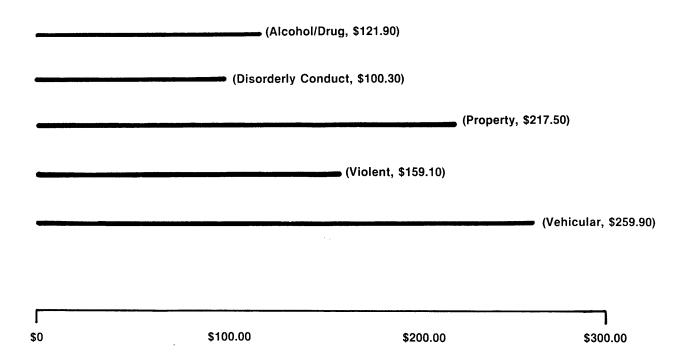


Mean Sentences, in DAYS, for Defendants Serving at Least One Day in Jail

GRAPH 10
(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)
LIKELIHOOD OF FINES BY OFFENSE TYPE



Percentage of Defendants Paying at Least \$1.00 Fine



Mean Fines, in DOLLARS, for Defendants Fined at Least \$1.00

(\$217.50) and violent (\$159.10) offenses. However, only 43.2% of property offenses and 35.8% of violent defendants received a fine.

2) Other Conditions

Besides imposing fines and jail terms,* judges conditions. additional These required defendants to meet included receiving treatment ΟΓ counseling for problems, getting and holding a job, and forfeiture of a weapon. two-thirds (66.4%) of all violent offenders had such conditions imposed. Through multiple regression analysis, the use of such conditions was associated with a decrease of 11.1 days in the sentence length for violent offenses. Most Nome (93.5%) and Bethel (75.7%) defendants in this category were required to meet conditions such as forfeiture of a weapon, no use of alcohol, and alcohol treatment. Fewer Anchorage defendants (only 44.7%) were required to comply with imposed conditions as part of their sentence.

Vehicular offenders--who were the most likely to spend time in jail and the most likely to be fined-- also had a high rate of imposition of additional conditions. 58.1% of them were required to receive drug or alcohol treatment, education, or some combination of various conditions. Such conditions were least likely to be used in Barrow, Juneau and Sitka, and were most frequently employed by judges in Nome and Bethel.

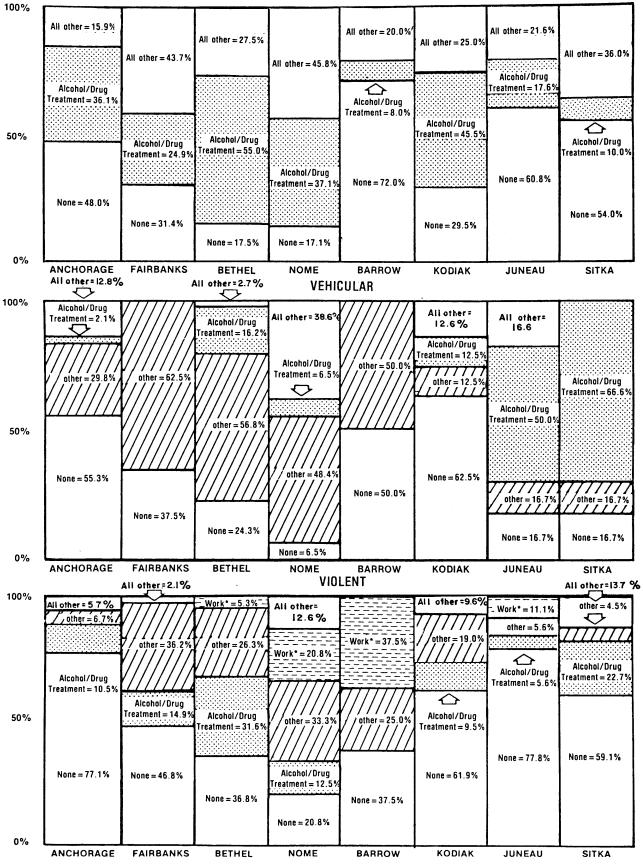
While use of alcohol at the time of offense did not appear to affect either the length of a sentence or the jail, it likelihood of aoina to correlated closely with (66.9%)additional Two-thirds of conditions imposed. condition defendants using alcohol were assigned some combination of

^{*} Restitution was required in less than 14% of all cases, and was not significantly related to any offense type or community.

GRAPH 11

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences)

CONDITIONS ON SENTENCE BY OFFENSE TYPE



PROPERTY

requirements. These included alcohol treatment, education (a requirement to obtain a G.E.D. or attend classes other than alcohol information), and "other" conditions such as no use of alcohol or restrictions on contact with certain persons or places. By contrast, over three-quarters (76.9%) of defendants who did not use alcohol at the time of their offenses were not required to comply with additional conditions of a sentence.

E. Final Notes: Follow-up Interviews

The findings reported in this study are indicators of reasons for variations in sentencing patterns. Statistical analysis is useful for reporting specific facts such as sentence lengths, and for determining factors—such as alcohol treatment—which are significantly associated with sentencing decisions. However, it cannot account for all of the variation in sentences. In this study, the data collected from court case files and police reports explained about 25-30% of the differences among sentences.

These percentages are fairly typical for multiple regression analyses of this type of data. The remaining variation may be due to chance or to information that was not included in case files or not recorded for the study. In an effort to account for some of the remaining variation, and to explain the findings related to community and type of judge, we interviewed several judges and attorneys.

Both a consideration of community values and the availability of justice system resources were stressed during the discussions of the study's findings. Judges said that violent offenses in rural ares, even relatively minor offenses, were considered to be serious by members of the communities in which they occurred. Thus, following the Supreme Court guidelines set out in Chaney*, the judges in these areas tended

^{*} State v. Chaney, 477 P.2d 441 (1970) and other Alaska Supreme court cases cite "community condemnation" of the offender or of certain types of crime as one of the criteria to be used by judges in imposing sentence.

to impose fairly lengthy sentences. Their decisions were also affected by the availability of treatment programs. For example, the Nome alcohol treatment program made its own decisions about who could enter the program. If a defendant was not acceptable, the judge was forced to consider other sentencing alternatives.

Such factors pervaded every decision made about case-processing and sentences imposed in the urban and rural areas of the state. A lack of public defender attorneys in areas such as and Sitka in 1981 was one Barrow, Kodiak, explanation given for the high rates of guilty pleas entered at arraignments in those areas*. In Fairbanks and Anchorage, a public defender attorney is typically present at misdemeanor arraignments, perhaps making it simpler for judges to encourage the defendant to consult with an attorney before entering a guilty plea.

Those interviewed also emphasized the changes which have occurred in community resources since 1981 which may have affected misdemeanor sentencing patterns. Rapid technological advances--such as the widespread presence of telephones villages which may have had only one village 1981--allow better communication for iudaes in small communities. This allow mav more frequent contact defendants, opening up more options for alternatives to jail A new community service program is being tested in for Anchorage sentenced misdemeanants. Superior judgeships have been created in Barrow, Palmer, Wrangell, and

^{*} However, this fact cannot adequately explain the situation, since Graph 3 indicates that the Public Defender represented 58.5% of the Barrow defendants, and 34.7% of Kodiak defendants. By contrast, Juneau defendants were represented by the Public Defender or a court-appointed attorney only 17.7% of the time, despite the fact that the community had a full-time assistant public defender.

Valdez which may alter sentencing patterns. Public defenders are available in Barrow and Kodiak in 1983, but were not easily accessible in 1981. The very rapid rate of change in laws, court resources, and general technological and economic factors suggest that caution should be used in generalizing from 1981 misdemeanor sentences to future years.

ALASKA MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES: 1981

PART II

Detailed Methodology, Findings, & Tables

I. STATISTICAL METHODOLOGY

A. Data Collection

1) Sample

The Judicial Council's data base consisted of a sample of misdemeanor offenses committed by defendants who were sentenced during the last 6 months of 1981 in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak, Nome and Sitka. The Alaska Court system provided Council with computer lists of misdemeanor cases which came within the time criteria for each community. From the various lists, a sequential sample by court file number was drawn. Cases were excluded if they came under the following categories:

- no statutory jail penalty for offense
- involved a juvenile
- deferred prosecution cases
- dismissed offenses
- diverted offenses
- defendants convicted but not yet sentenced
- original court charge was known to be a felony
- Fish and Game offenses
- failure to satisfy, pay fine, or answer bench warrant
- probation or parole violation

For Anchorage (500 cases) and Fairbanks (250 cases), sample sizes were predetermined. In other communities, all misdemeanor cases were coded except those which were excluded by the restrictions listed above.

The selected cases represented 21% to 95% of the total number (Table 1) of convicted defendants from the eight study areas during that time frame.

2) Data Coding Instrument

Development of the data coding instrument began in October 1982. Many variables used in the Council's 1974/76 Anchorage and Fairbanks Misdemeanor Study were also used in the present study. However, to ensure that the maximum amount of information was collected, 1981 Anchorage misdemeanor case files and police department reports were thoroughly reviewed to identify additional variables.

Based upon the review of misdemeanor case files and police department reports, a defendant and charge questionnaire was constructed by the end of November, 1982, and was ready for pre-test. In conjunction with development of the defendant and charge questionnaire, a coding manual was constructed.

During November and December, 1982, Council research staff submitted the questionnaire and manual to a rigorous pre-test. This test involved the actual coding of 100 Anchorage misdemeanor cases, and resulted in changes to both questionnaire and manuals. Finally, by the end of December, 1982, the operational questionnaire (Appendix A) was ready for use.

3) Data Sources

The data for the misdemeanor study was collected from three sources, misdemeanor case files, police reports, and Department of Public Safety reports. If a case could not be coded completely using the misdemeanor case file, the corresponding police report was then used. If, after using these two sources, the questionnaires still contained missing information, such as race or prior criminal record, Department of Public Safety finger print files were used to complete the coding.

The three data sources were used to ensure accuracy of information gathered. The misdemeanor case file was useful in obtaining approximately 85% of the information coded on both

defendant and charge questionnaires, the remaining 15% was obtained using secondary sources. The following were some basic problems which occurred with use of misdemeanor case files:

- -files lacked log notes
- -log notes (original copies) illegible
- -judgment forms missing
- -sentence inconsistencies between log notes and judgment forms
- -statute violation number did not correspond with actual charge
- -variations in a single case file as to a defendant's birthdate, race, prior criminal history

One source of information which was not consistently available in the misdemeanor case file was the Misdemeanor Sentencing Information Sheet* (MSIS). Use of the MSIS varied from community to community. Most communities failed to use the form or information present on the form conflicted with misdemeanor case file log notes. Of the eight areas, one location did use the form correctly and consistently.

4) Coding

Four coders were utilized for data collection in this study. Three of the coders had been involved in previous Judicial Council research projects, and were familiar with data collection procedures.

^{*} During the last six months of 1981 many of the state's judges magistrates participated in a special court program designed to obtain more information about misdemeanants at the time of sentencing. A Misdemeanor Sentencing Information Sheet was developed by Council personnel in order to collect data which previously has been difficult to gather information on the defendant's race, alcohol use at offense, history of alcohol treatment and previous criminal history). The MSIS, as it was called, was designed to measure the judge's perceptions of the defendant at the time of sentencing. Following a two-week period of pretesting in March and April 1981, the operational MSIS (Appendix B) was to be completed by judges and included in the misdemeanor case file for cases sentenced during the last six months of 1981 to facilitate coding for the present study.

To insure uniform and accurate coding of misdemeanor case files, the Council research staff underwent four weeks of intensive training in the use of the defendant and charge questionnaire. Time was also spent with court personnel, who explained the various forms and language used in misdemeanor case files. Similar attention was given to the Anchorage Police Department report material.

Coding for the study was conducted between December, 1982, and April, 1983. The average time involved in coding was approximately twenty minutes per case. This did not include double coding, the checking process, or gathering police department information, which added another 40 minutes per case.

The actual process of coding a misdemeanor case centered around establishing a minimal error rate. In order to accomplish this, the following procedure was used for each case. If the case met the established criteria for selection, the case was coded. Once the case was initially coded, it was then independently coded by another coder. Finally, a third coder would check both sets of coded questionnaires for discrepancies. If any discrepancies were found, the person checking would review the misdemeanor case file to determine the correct code. In addition, the coding supervisor would randomly select coded cases and check for accuracy of the coding and checking process.

Because of the nature of the data source, coders were often required to use discretionary judgement in coding, which led to coding differences in a single case. When this occurred, the on-site supervisor would resolve the question. If a disagreement in coding surfaced, which in the view of the on-site coding supervisor would have had a significant impact upon the study, a senior Council analyst in Anchorage would be immediately contacted.

The final phase of data collection was to assign each coded case an identification number. The numbers were used to insure maximum confidentiality of the defendants in the cases coded.

5) Keypunching and Verification

Data was keypunched, verified and transferred to magnetic tape for analysis by statistical programs available on the University of Alaska's Computer Network. Missing or apparently incorrect information was checked against the original forms and corrected.

B. Definitions

The 1,366 selected defendents were convicted on a of 1,655 counts. Unlike previous Judicial studies, the unit of analysis in this study is the defendant and the aggregate penalty received. This approach eliminated some potential statistical problems (e.g., lack of independence of sample units) which could arise when a "count" is used as the unit of analysis. However, in order to capture some of the effects of being sentenced on more than one charge, penalties were aggregated. This aggregate penalty is defined as the total penalty assigned for all counts against one defendant. For consecutive sentences, the aggregate penalty is the sum of sentences imposed on all pertinent counts. When sentences were required to be served concurrently, which is the far more typical situation, the most serious charge (defined as the one with the most severe sentence) was used to characterize all of the charges against the defendant.

Data was divided into six broad misdemeanor categories (i.e., violent misdemeanors, property offenses, vehicular offenses, drunk and disorderly convictions, alcohol/drug law

TABLE 1 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Sample Composition of Misdemeanor Data

Community	Total Number of Cases	Cases in Study	Percent of Total	Counts in Study
Anchorage	2402	511	21.3	658
Barrow	56	53	94.6	56
Bethel	148	117	79.1	134
Fairbanks	1222	258	21.1	294
Juneau	491	114	23.2	147
Kodiak	270	101	37.4	120
Nome	138	120	87.0	146
Sitka	174	92	52.9	103
Total	4901	1366	27.8	1655

TABLE 2 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Description of Misdemeanor Offense Categories and Sub-Categories

Violent

Assault:

Assault and battery; assault and battery upon police officer; assault; assault 4°; assault 3°; child abuse

Weapons: Discharge of firearm in public; carrying concealed weapon; misconduct with weapons 20; misconduct with weapons 30; possessing firearm while under the influence.

<u>Property</u>

Trespass: Criminal trespass; criminal trespass 1°; criminal trespass 2°; trespass; unauthorized entry.

Mischief: Criminal mischief; criminal mischief 30; criminal mischief 40; malicious mischief; malicious destruction of property; damaging property of other; tampering with vehicle.

Theft: Larceny; shoplifting; theft 20; theft 30; theft 40; theft of vehicle; joyriding.

Fraud: Theft by receiving; false statement for unemployment; issuing bad checks; forgery 30; defrauding an innkeeper.

Vehicular

<u>DWI</u>: DWI; OMVI; operating watercraft while intoxicated; operating vehicle while in possession of marijuana; DWI and another substance; operating vehicle and possession of hallucinogenic.

Reckless: Reckless driving; negligent driving.

License: Driving while license suspended; operation of vehicle, no license; permitting unlicensed operator to operate; unlawful use of operator's license.

TABLE 2 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Description of Misdemeanor Offense Categories and Sub-Categories (Continued)

Vehicular (cont.)

Operator Action: Immediate notification of accident; action of operator after accident; failure to remain at scene; duty upon striking fixture; leaving scene of property damage; failure to notify-unattended motor vehicle accident; leaving scene involving unattended vehicle; failure to stop at non-injury accident; duty to stop; failure to yield; leaving scene; operating motor vehicle in closed area; fleeing or attempt to elude; false info; false reports.

Alcohol/Drug Law Violations

Intoxicating liquor to minor; possession/ consumption under age; consumption restrictions; access of intoxicated person to licensed establishment; access of person under 19; license or permit required; sale of alcohol without license; contributing to delinquency of minor; prohibited contraband in 2nd; possession of hallucinogenic; possession of amphetamines.

Disorderly Conduct

Disorderly conduct; resisting arrest; drunk on roadway; consuming liquor in public place.

Miscellaneous

Obtain false ID; indecent exposure; public indecency; urinating in public; soliciting for prostitution; remaining in place of prostitution; loitering for prostitution; assignation; advancing gambling activities; harrassment; official misconduct; interfering with police officer; hindering prosecution 20; failure to provide info; contempt of court; minor curfew; unauthorized animals; discharge of sewage on land.

violations and miscellaneous offenses*). As noted above, it was necessary to select one charge to characterize each defendant. Since approximately 85% of all defendants were convicted of only one offense, the selection process was used for only a small proportion of misdemeanants. For those defendants convicted of more than one misdemeanor, the most serious charge against the defendant was chosen. In a separate process, the total sentence imposed on the defendant was determined, as described above. Thus, the combination of charge and sentence for a defendant convicted of more than one offense represents a composite of the information available.

Examples as to offenses in each misdemeanor category are presented in Table 2. For the purposes of regression analysis, violent, property and vehicular offenses were further divided into subcategories in order to analyze the effect of charge subcategories on sentence length.

The primary dependent or outcome variables analyzed in this study are sentences, defined as active** jail sentence and net fine. Suspended monies were subtracted from gross fines to determine "net" fine. If the entire sentence was suspended or if no fine or jail time was imposed, the net fine amount or active jail length were treated as zero.

C. Geographic Relationships

For this data set, many variables were highly related. For example, if the data is divided on a urban (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau) and rural basis (Barrow, Bethel, Kodiak, Nome, Sitka) there is a strong relationship between the

^{*} The category "miscellaneous" included only 38 defendants who were convicted of gambling, prostitution-related, public indecency, and several other types of misdemeanors. None could be analyzed separately because of the small number of cases.

^{** &}quot;Active" jail time is that amount that the defendant must served as of the time of sentencing. The number of days suspended is subtracted from the total sentence imposed, giving the net or active jail time.

geographic distinction and type of judge presiding over the case, race of the defendant, type of offense (state municipal) and presence or absence of a negotiated plea. The majority of urban defendants were caucasian (70%), tried by District Court judges (94%) and charged with municipal offenses rural defendants were typically native (58%): (Indian Eskimo) (64%), tried by magistrates (62%) or Superior Court judges (37%) and charged with state offenses (84%). addition, 89% of the negotiated pleas occured in urban areas. With the high multicollinearity among these variables, it is possible that, for example, the presence of a "District Court judge" could be significantly related to the outcome penalty in a regression model for one class of misdemeanor offenses, and "urban defendant" in a regression model for another class of offenses. In actuality, it is impossible to distinguish the "causal" factor among those variables that are so highly correlated.

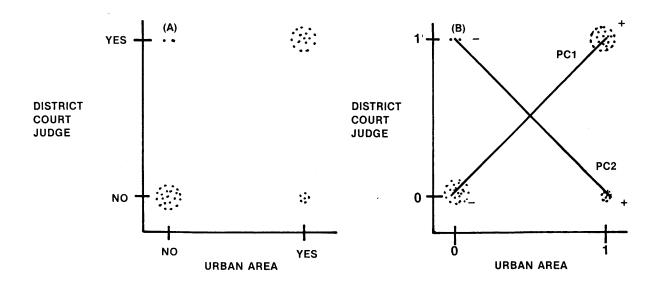
To overcome this problem, a "case descriptor" index (CDI) was created to account for the underlying relationships among these factors. The CDI is the first "principal component" (a statistical measure) for all these variables. Factors that entered into computation of the index included (Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau) or rural (Barrow, Bethel, Sitka) community, judge type (magistrate, Nome, District or Superior Court judge), offense type (state or municipal), presence or absence of negotiated plea and race (caucasian, native-indian, black).

For any set of variables, there are the same number of principal components. Each component is a linear combination of the original variables, such that decreasing amounts of variation (measured in "n-dimensional" space, where "n" is the number of variables) are explained by each component, and the information (or variation) contained in each component is unrelated to any other.

For example, Graph 12A represents a cross-categorization of cases by judge type (district court judge or not a district court judge (i.e., a magistrate or superior court judge)) and community (urban or not urban (i.e.,

GRAPH 12

EXAMPLE OF CROSS-CATEGORIZATION (A) AND PRINCIPLE COMPONENT ANALYSIS (B) OF MISDEMEANOR DATA



rural)).* Each dot represents a case with the attributes of the cross-categorization. As noted above, the majority of "urban" cases were tried before a district court judge; the majority of "rural" cases were tried by a magistrate or superior court judge. However, a few urban cases were tried by a magistrate or superior court judge, and a few rural cases were tried by a district court judge.

The method of principal components calculates components (i.e., new reference axes) that encompass decreasing amounts of variation, and each component is unrelated to any For this example (Graph 12B), the first principal other. component (PCl) "measures" differences between defendants from urban areas tried before district court judges and defendants from rural areas not tried before district court judges. (Note that a "yes" answer for an attribute received a "score" of l (one), and a "no" answer received a score of O (zero) on each variable.) A second, minor component (PC2) measures differences between defendants not measured on PCl.

Additional variables may be analyzed, but the alignment of the principal component axes is more difficult to perceptualize. However, the computational aspects remain the same. First, each case's score on a variable must be "standardized" (i.e., the mean value for that variable is subtracted from the "raw score," and the resulting difference is divided by the standard deviation of the variable). This

^{*} Nominal variables must be separated into a series of dichotomous factors (i.e., the case does or does not have the attributes of the factor). For variables with three "named" levels (e.g., "A," "B," "C"), two dichotomous factors are created. The first factor indicates whether a case has the attributes of level A. The second factor indicates whether a case has the attributes of level B. If a case has the attributes of level C, it is noted by having null scores on the first and second factors. The procedure is similar for variables with four or more "levels."

standardized score is multiplied by a "factor loading," which is analogous to transforming a score from one of the original axes to a score on the principal component. The procedure is repeated for each variable of the index, and the sum of the "transformed" scores for each variable equals the index score.

Means, standard deviations and factor loadings for each variable that constituted the CDI are presented in Table 3. For a rural defendant who was native, who did not plea bargain, who was convicted of a state offense and who was tried before a superior court judge, the CDI was -5.6023. The computation is as follows:

```
INDEX = SUM ([(LOADING)*(SCORE-MEAN)/(SD)])

CDI = [(-0.88605)*(1-0.3536)/(0.4783)] ("RURAL")

+ [(-0.58060)*(1-0.3661)/(0.4819)] ("NATIVE")

+ [( 0.24302)*(0-0.0470)/(0.2116)] (not "BLACK")

+ [( 0.42247)*(0-0.1614)/(0.3680)] (no "PLEA BARGAIN")

+ [( 0.63181)*(0-0.4307)/(0.4954)] (not "MUNICIPAL OFFENSE")

+ [(-0.69142)*(1-0.1343)/(0.3411)] ("SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE")

+ [( 0.87336)*(0-0.6126)/(0.4873)] (not "DISTRICT COURT JUDGE")

= -5.6023
```

In effect, the use of principal components is an attempt to summarize information contained in many variables into a few components, which then may be used as indices. The chosen principal component measured the maximum amount of information contained in the set of variables that had been used to form the index.

TABLE 3 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means, Standard Deviations (SD) and Factor Loadings for Variables Used in Computing the Case Descriptor Index

CASE DESCRIPTOR INDEX (N=1363)

	MEAN	SD	LOADING					
Community (REF=URBA	N)							
Rural	0.3536	0.4783	-0.88605					
Race (REF=CAUCASIAN)							
Native	0.3661	0.4819	-0.58060					
Black	0.0470	0.2116	0.24302					
Plea Bargain (REF=NO)								
Yes	0.1614	0.3680	0.42247					
Offense Type (REF=STATE OFFENSE)								
Munincipal	0.4307	0.4954	0.63181					
Judge Type (REF=MAG	ISTRATE)							
Superior C	. 0.1343	0.3411	-0.69142					
District C	. 0.6126	0.4873	0.87336					

TABLE 4 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means, Standard Deviations (SD) and Factor Loadings for Variables Used in Computing the Financial Index

FINANCIAL INDEX (N=1363)

		MEAN	SD	LOADING
Lawyer t	type (RE	F=NONE)		
	PD	0.4531	0.4980	0.75133
	PA	0.2374	0.4256	-0.81446
Custody	Status	(REF=OR-3RD	PARTY)	
	Bail	0.2574	0.4374	-0.19967
	Jail	0.1732	0.3786	0.36841
Employme	ent Stat	us (REF=EMPL	OYED)	
	Unempl	oyed 0.3913	0.4882	0.59678

TABLE 5 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Interpretation of Scores on Case Descriptor & Financial Indices

A. Case Descriptor Index

(-6) Lower Scor			Higher Scores (+6)
Community: Rui	ral (Ba, Be, Ko, No, Si		Urban (An, Fa, Ju)
Race:	Native		Caucasian, Black
Offense:	State		Municipal
Piea Bargain:	No		Yes
Judge Type:	Superior Court	Magistrate	District Court

B. Financial Index

	D. I THOUCTOT	TIMEX	
(-3) Lower Score	es		Higher Scores (+3)
Attorney Type:	Private Attorney	None	PD, Crt–Appointed, Private Attorney
Custody Status at Sentencing:	Monetary Bail	OR/3rd Party	Jail
Employment Status:	Employed		Unemployed

The first principal component of the above factors accounted for 42.9% of the variation contained in all the variables (Table 5A). Cases tried in a rural community, with a native defendant, without a negotiated plea, charged as a state offense and tried by a Superior Court judge or magistrate would have a lower score on the index; cases tried in an urban community, with a white or black defendant, with a negotiated plea, charged as a municipal offense and tried by a District Court judge would have a higher score on the index. Index scores ranged from -6 to +6.

D. Financial Relationships

Similarly, a financial index was created (Table 5B). This index attempts to measure the financial well-being of the defendant. Factors that are included in the index are the defendant's employment status (employed, unemployed), type of legal representation (no counsel, public defender or court appointed private attorney, private attorney) and custody status at sentencing (own recognizance or released to a third party (OR/3rd party), monetary bail, jail). Means, standard deviations and factor loadings for these variables are shown in Table 4.

The index captures 35.2% of the variation contained in the set of variables. Defendants who were employed, represented by a private attorney and released on monetary bail received low scores on the index; defendants who were unemployed, represented by the public defender or a court appointed private attorney and in jail custody status (at the time of sentencing) received high scores on the index. Defendants not represented by counsel or who were released OR/3rd party at time of sentencing would have intermediate scores on the index. Index scores ranged from -3 to +3.

E. Analytical Methods

Multiple regression was used to examine the effect of "explanatory" variables on active jail sentences. Variation in jail sentence or fines may be due to differences in case processing, in defendant characteristics or past problems or in specifics of the offense. Multiple regression is able to account for all "explanatory" variables simultaneously, and estimate the independent (relative to other variables in the model) contribution of each of these factors to the outcome variable.

In order to carry out this task. categorical explanatory variables were transformed into a series of "dummy" or "indicator" variables. Under this procedure, each category nominal variable (that is, one made up of information, rather than numerical or ordinal information) is treated as a separate factor by assigning the value of one (1) or zero (0) for each case, depending on whether or not it belongs in that category. Thus, prior record is effectively divided into five separate prior record variables. The categories are prior felonies, prior misdemeanors, prior juvenile offenses and prior violations, all of which can be compared to a "reference" category, no prior record. advantage of this approach is that it allows the regression coefficients or "effect" of the explanatory variables to be interpreted in units of the dependent variable, such as days of jail imposed.

Regression models were created in three steps. First, only those levels (e.g., male, female) of nominal variables (e.g., sex) for which there were suitable sample sizes were selected for a "preliminary" regression model. Second, the preliminary regression model was created and the independent significance of each of the explantory variables was tested relative to all variables under consideration. Those variables

that contained at least one level significant at the 0.20 level were selected for entry into a "reduced" model. Finally, a "reduced" model was created and analyzed to detect factors which were related to active jail sentence at the 0.05 level of significance.

Cautions that should be made about regression analysis include:

- (1) Regression models only used cases for which a full complement of explanatory and dependent variables were present. Therefore, each multiple regression was based on a subset of the original data. As the regression model changed from a preliminary to a reduced model, the number of cases analyzed could increase because the smaller number of variables being considered meant that more cases had all the necessary information.
- (2) Estimation of regression coefficients is dependent on other variables in the model. Therefore, the numerical value of the coefficient may change from the preliminary to reduced model. Coefficients that do not change may indicate that the "information" contained in the pertinent variable is unrelated to the information contained in any other variables.
- (3) Regression coefficients are estimates precise values. Coefficients that were statistically different from zero (i.e., a "significant" effect) noted. Emphasis should be placed on this signficance and not the numeric value οf the coefficient.
- (4) Coefficients of determination (\mathbb{R}^2) define the amount of variation in the dependent variable that can

be explained by the model. The amount of variation that was explained was often less than the portion that was not explained. Explanations for this "lack of fit" include errors of measurement in the variables used, failure (or inability) to identify and include other important variables and purely random variation that must be expected.

Distributional characteristics of variables and associations between variables were analyzed with contingency tables. When test assumptions concerning expected cell values could not be met (e.g., no more than 20% of the expected cell frequencies have a value less than 5.0), a constant was added to each cell in order to meet the minimum requirement. This procedure tends to make the significance test slightly conservative (i.e., the null hypothesis, "no difference," will be unduly supported).

Statistical significance for contingency tables and other analyses was set at the 0.05 level. That is, an inference was made with at least 95% certainty that observed differences were not due to chance variation.

II. OVERALL FINDINGS FROM THE DATA

A. Offense Types

Table 6 displays the distribution of the 1,366 defendants by most serious offense and community. Vehicular is the most frequent offense category from each community. The proportion of defendants with vehicular offenses range from about 30% (in Nome) to 65% (in Fairbanks).

The next most frequent misdemeanor category varies by community. In Bethel (32%) and Nome (26%), violent misdemeanors were the next most common. In other areas, fewer than 11% of the defendants had a violent misdemeanor as their most serious offense. Property, disorderly conduct or alcohol/drug law violations were more common in these areas.

TABLE 6 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Defendants by Most Serious Offense Category and Community

								Disc	orderly		lc/Drug		
	Total	V:	iolent	Pro	operty	Vet	nicular	Co	onduct	Vio	olations	Misce.	llaneous
	N	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Anchorage	511	47	(9.2)	105	(20.5)	302	(59.1)	29	(5.6)	4	(0.8)	24	(4.7)
Barrow	53	6	(11.3)	8	(15.1)	25	(47.2)	9	(17.0)	5	(9.4)	0	
Bethel	117	37	(31.6)	19	(16.2)	40	(34.2)	15	(12.8)	6	(5.1)	0	
Fairbanks	258	8	(3.1)	47	(18.1)	169	(65.3)	19	(7.3)	8	(3.1)	7	(2.7)
Juneau	114	6	(5.3)	18	(15.8)	51	(44.7)	19	(16.7)	19	(16.7)	1	(0.9)
Kodiak	101	8	(7.9)	21	(20.8)	44	(43.6)	9	(8.9)	15	(14.9)	4	(4.0)
Nome	120	31	(25.8)	24	(20.0)	35	(29.2)	12	(10.0)	17	(14.2)	1	(0.8)
Sitka	92	6	(6.5)	22	(23.9)	50	(54.3)	12	(13.0)	1	(1.1)	1	(1.1)
Total	1366	149	(10.9)	264	(19.3)	716	(52.4)	124	(9.1)	75	(5.5)	38	(2.9)

TABLE 7 (1981 Misdemeanors) Demographic Characteristics of Defendants by Community

	Anchorage n (%)	Barrow n (%)	Bethel n (%)	Fairbanks n (%)	Juneau n (%)	Kodiak n (%)	Nome n (%)	Sitka n (%)	Totai n (%)
RACE									
Caucasian	380 (74.7)	1 (1.9)	14 (12.0)	164 (63.6) 67 (59.3)	67 (59.3)	78 (77.2)	78 (77.2) 14 (11.7)	57 (62.0)	775 (56.8)
Native-Indian	78 (15.3)	78 (15.3) 48 (90.6)	103 (88.0)	76 (29.5)	76 (29.5) 43 (38.1)	15 (14.9)	105 (87.5)	31 (33.7)	(9.96) (6.6)
Black	42 (8.3)	0	0	18 (7.0)	0	3 (3.0)	1 (0.8)	0	(4.7)
Other	9 (1.8)	4 (7.5)	0	0	3 (2.7)	5 (5.0)	0	4 (4.3)	25 (1.8)
SEX									
Male	447 (87.5)	48 (90.6)	447 (87.5) 48 (90.6) 113 (97.4) 219 (84.6) 98 (86.7)	219 (84.6)	(2.98) 86	83 (82.2)	83 (82.2) 104 (86.7)	80 (87.0)	80 (87.0) 1192 (87.3)
Female	64 (12.5)	5 (9.4)	3 (2.6)	40 (15.4) 15 (13.3)	15 (13.3)	18 (17.8)	16 (13.3)	12 (13.0)	12 (13.0) 173 (12.7)
AGE (YRS)									
18-21	155 (30.3)	17 (32.1)	31 (26.5)	42 (16.3)	42 (16.3) 45 (40.2)	22 (21.8)	36 (30.0)	30 (32.6)	378 (27.8)
22-25	98 (19.2)	9 (17.0)	23 (19.7)	54 (20.9)	54 (20.9) 20 (17.9)	24 (23.8)	27 (22.5)	21 (22.8)	276 (20.2)
26-30	89 (17.4)	11 (20.8)	26 (22.2)	44 (17.1)	44 (17.1) 16 (14.3)	24 (23.8)	26 (21.7)	10 (10.9)	246 (18.0)
31-45	126 (24.7) 11 (20.8)	11 (20.8)	29 (24.8)	77 (29.8)	77 (29.8) 21 (18.8)	20 (19.8)	16 (13.3)	25 (27.2)	325 (23.8)
45	43 (8.4)	5 (9.4)	8 (6.8)	41 (15.9)	41 (15.9) 10 (8.9)	11 (10.9)	15 (12.5)	(6.5)	139 (10.2)
EMPLOYER STATUS									
Employed	381 (61.9)	381 (61.9) 23 (74.2)	65 (59.1)	65 (59.1) 142 (56.6) 66 (60.6)	(9.09) 99	72 (72.0)	62 (54.4)	51 (63.0)	51 (63.0) 761 (60.9)
Unemployed	173 (38.1)	8 (25.8)	45 (40.9)	45 (40.9) 109 (43.4) 43 (39.4)	43 (39.4)	28 (28.0)	52 (45.6)	30 (37.0)	30 (37.0) 488 (39.1)

B. <u>Demographic Characteristics of the Defendants</u>

Several of the demographic characteristics of the defendants differed significantly between communities (Table 7). The majority of defendants in Anchorage (74.7%), Fairbanks (63.6%), Juneau (59.3%), Kodiak (77.2%) and Sitka (62.0%) were caucasian; the majority of defendants in Barrow (90.6%), Bethel (88.0%), and Nome (87.5%) were native. A significant number of black defendants was found only in Anchorage (42 defendants) and Fairbanks (18 defendants).

The majority of defendants in each community were male (87.3% of the total number of cases). Bethel (97.4%) had the highest proportion of defendants who were male; Kodiak (17.8%) had the highest proportion of female defendants.

The most likely age-class was 18-21 years (27.8%). 20.2% of the defendants were between 22 and 25 years old, 18.0% between 26 and 30, 23.8% between 31 and 45 and 10.2% over 45 years of age. 45.7% of Fairbanks defendants were older than 31 years of age. In other communities less than 34% of the defendants were older than 31 years. 40.2% of Juneau defendants were between 18 and 21 years old; the proportions of defendants in this age group from other areas was 30% or less.

Employment status of defendants did not significantly (P=0.09) differ between communities; 60.9% of the total number of defendants were employed at the time the offense was committed.

Thus, the typical defendant in most communities was an employed, caucasian male under 26 years old. In Juneau, he was likely to be somewhat younger than average; in Fairbanks, he was more likely to be over 30 years old. In the three western-Alaska communities of Bethel, Barrow and Nome, he was probably native rather than caucasian.

C. Alcohol Use and Prior Criminal History

three-fourths (73.2%)of the convicted defendants in this study had used alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both at the time of their offense. Statewide, 68.2% of the convicted defendants used alcohol at offense, 26.8% did not use alcohol or drugs and the remaining 5.0% used drugs, drugs and alcohol or drugs/alcohol, not specified. A breakdown by community of alcohol and/or drug use at offense is presented in Table 8. The proportion of defendants who used alcohol at offense differed significantly (P=0.05) between communities. Anchorage defendants used alcohol (52.5%) less frequently than the other communities (77.0% combined). which were not significantly different from each other. The highest rates of alcohol use at offense occured in Barrow (86.0%), Bethel (88.5%) and Nome (87.2%).

These figures indicate that alcohol and drug use are as frequent among persons committing misdemeanors as those convicted of felonies. For example, the Council's study of felony convictions from mid-1976 through mid-1979 found that nearly half of the "urban" (Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau) offenses had occurred while the defendant was under the influence of alcohol or drugs. As in our present study of misdemeanors, the proportion of felonies committed in rural areas while under the influence of intoxicants was even higher. The Council's study of 1980 felonies made the same findings.

Defendants who used alcohol at offense were more likely to have prior alcohol problems (45.5% of them did) than defendants who did not use alcohol at offense (20.0%). However, the alcohol treatment backgrounds (i.e., contact with treatment programs) of defendants with prior alcohol problems did not significantly (P=0.14)differ between defendants alcohol at offense and those that did not (Table 9). Nearly one third (30.0%) of the defendants with prior alcohol problems (N=320)had no previous contact with alcohol treatment programs, 7.8% had completed treatment and 17.3% were currently

TABLE 8 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Breakdown by Community of Alcohol and/or Drug Use at Offense

	No					A1	cohol	Alc/	Drugs
Evi	dence	Al	cohol	Dı	Drugs		Drugs	(Not Spec.)	
n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	c	(%)	n	(%)
Anch. 193	(42.2)	240	(52.5)	2	(0.4)	13	(2.8)	9	(2.0)
Barrow 5	(10.0)	43	(86.0)	0		2	(4.0)	0	
Bethel 12	(10.6)	100	(88.5)	1	(0.9)	0		0	
Fair. 55	(21.7)	177	(70.0)	3	(1.2)	12	(4.7)	6	(2.4)
Juneau 22	(21.6)	74	(72.5)	0		6	(5.9)	0	
Kodiak 21	(21.6)	72	(74.2)	1	(1.0)	3	(3.1)	0	
Nome 13	(11.1)	102	(87.2)	0		2	(1.7)	0	
Sitka 21	(23.6)	64	(71.9)	1	(1.1)	2	(2.2)	1	(1.1)
Total 342	(26.8)	872	(68.2)	8	(0.6)	40	(3.1)	16	(1.3)

TABLE 9
(1981 Misdemeanors)

Breakdown of Alcohol Use at Offense by Prior Alcohol Treatment History

Alcohol Use at Offense Alcohol Alcohol Sub Treatment History Not Usea Alcohol Used Total Total* $\overline{\mathsf{N}}$ (%) (%) (%) (%) Never Referred 12 (22.2) 102 (33.4) 114 (31.8) 120 (30.0) Referred, No Attend Attend, No Complete (43.0)160 (44.6) 150 (45.0) (53.7)131 Current (13.0)54 (17.7)61 (17.0) 69 (17.3) Completed 6 (11.1) 18 (5.9)24 (6.7) 31 (7.8)

^{*} Information about alcohol use at offense missing; information about alcohol treatment available.

undergoing treatment. The largest portion (45.0%) of defendants with alcohol problems had been previously referred to, but did not attend (or attended, but did not complete) an alcohol treatment program.

A low number (31) of defendants with prior alcohol problems who had completed а treatment program subsequently convicted of a misdemeanor. This may suggest that completion of a program significantly reduces the likelihood that a person with an alcohol problem will commit an offense. not have sufficient data to compare the treatment histories of convicted and non-convicted persons who completed alcohol treatment programs. Thus, we cannot say for sure that treatment alone reduces recidivism, or results in a lower likelihood of criminal behavior. However, the comparison of actual numbers of defendants with alcohol problems who have completed programs (31) with all those who have a prior problem suggests that this may be the case. In addition, on all people referred to alcohol lack data although we programs (which would include those not convicted of crimes), it appears that a very high proportion (45%) are not actually complying with requirement of the treatment programs.

A third set of relationships of interest are those between prior alcohol problems and prior criminal convictions. The Council's earlier felony studies also found a close relationship between these two factors. The same extremely strong relationship is found in the present study.

Table 10 provides a breakdown of cases bγ criminal history and alcohol use at offense. Statewide, 56.7% of the defendants had prior criminal convictions, primarily defendants). misdemeanors (45.0% οf all There was significant (P=0.39) relationship between prior criminal history and alcohol use at offense. However, there significant (P=0.000) relationship between prior criminal history and a prior alcohol problem (Table 11). Defendants without an alcohol problem were more likely (62.5%) to have no

TABLE 10 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Breakdown of Prior Criminal Record by Alcohol Use at Offense

Prior Criminal	Alc	ohol Use	at Of	fense			
Record	N	0	Υ	ES		TOTAL	
	Λ	(%)	n	(%)	N	(%)	
None	148	(44.4)	370	(43.0)	518	(43.3)	
Violations	27	(8.1)	47	(5.5)	74	(6.2)	
Juvenile Offenses	2	(0.6)	5	(0.6)	7	(0.6)	
Misdemeanors	143	(42.9)	394	(45.8)	537	(45.0)	
Felonies	13	(3.9)	45	(5.2)	58	(4.9)	

TABLE 11 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Breakdown of Prior Criminal Record By Prior Alcohol Problem

Prior Criminal	Pr	ior Alcot	nol Pr	oblem		
Record	N	0	ΥE	S	T	OTAL
	n	(%)	n	(%)	N	(%)
None	504	(62.5)	67	(13.4)	571	(43.7)
Violations	79	(9.8)	3	(0.6)	82	(6.3)
Juvenile Offenses	5	(0.6)	3	(0.6)	8	(0.6)
Misdemeanors	191	(23.7)	392	(78.2)	583	(44.6)
Felonies	27	(3.3)	36	(7.2)	63	(4.8)

prior criminal record than defendants with a problem (13.4%). When they did have a record, it tended to include minor violations, rather than more serious misdemeanors or felonies. Defendants with an alcohol problem were more likely to have committed misdemeanors (78.2%) and felonies (7.2%) than defendants with no problem (23.7% and 3.3%, respectively). The combination of these three findings about alcohol and criminal behavior suggests that successful treatment of alcohol problems could significantly reduce recidivism.

D. Sentencing for "Time Served"

Table 12 presents a breakdown by community of the proportion of defendants that were assigned a jail term of at least one day and sentenced to "time served". Typically, this situation occurs when a defendant has spent time in jail prior to entering a quilty plea or being convicted after trial. The defendant receives credit for the number of days he has already spent against any jail sentence imposed. If the sentence imposed equalled the days already served, it was considered a sentence to "time served."

Overall, 13.4% of the defendants were sentenced to However, there served. were significant (P=0.0002)time differences between communities in the rates at defendants were sentencea to time served. 40.0% defendants in Barrow were sentenced to time served. This was significantly (P=0.05) higher than the proportion of defendants sentenced to time served in Anchorage (10.1%) or Juneau (3.6%). The proportion of defendants in Bethel (13.1%), Fairbanks (13.6%), Kodiak (19.0%), Nome (20.9%) and Sitka (11.9%) that were sentenced to time served did not differ significantly from either extreme.

TABLE 12 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Breakdown by Community of Defendants Who Served at Least 1 Day in Jail and Were Sentenced to "Time Served"

Sentenced to	_							Community	<u>τ</u>									
Time Served Anchorage	Anci	orage	Be	Barrow	B	Bethel	Fair	Fairbanks Juneau	Jun	ean	K	Kodiak	N	Nome	Sitka	tka	Total	tal
	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)
No	301	(89.9)	15	(60.0)	98	(86.9)	159	(86.4)	51	(96.4)	51	86 (86.9) 159 (86.4) 51 (96.4) 51 (81.0) 68 (79.1) 37 (88.1) 770 (86.6)	89	(1.64)	37	(88.1)	770	(9.98)
Yes	34	34 (10.1)	10	10 (40.0)	13	(13.1)	25	(13.6)	2	(3.6)	12	13 (13.1) 25 (13.6) 2 (3.6) 12 (19.0) 18 (20.9) 5 (11.9) 119 (13.4)	18	(20.9)	7	(11.9)	119	(13.4)

E. Use of Additional Sentencing Conditions

Table 13 presents a breakdown of additional sentencing conditions by alcohol use at offense and community. There is a strong relationship between alcohol-related offenses and presence of additional conditions. 76.3% of the defendants who did not use alcohol at offense also did not receive additional conditions; 66.9% of the defendants who used alcohol also received additional conditions as a part of sentencing.

For misdemeanants who did not use alcohol and received additional conditions, the most likely condition was "other," which included forfeiture of weapons, movement restrictions or some other requirement tailored to the defendant or the offense. Each of the remaining types of additional conditions was used in less than 3% of the cases.

Defendants who did use alcohol were referred to alcohol treatment programs in 31.3% of the cases and to "educational" programs in another 10.8% of the cases. 16.3% of these cases were assigned "other" conditions, and an additional 5.3% to a combination of several conditions.

Among communities, Anchorage defendants who usea alcohol were most likely to be assigned to an alcohol treatment or educational (13.3%) program. In Bethel (39.0%). Fairbanks (37.9%), Juneau (32.4%), Kodiak (48.6%), and Sitka (35.9%) over one third of the defendants who used alcohol at offense were assigned to an alcohol treatment or educational program. Nome defendants who used alcohol were most likely to be assigned some other condition (24.5%) or a combination of two conditions (22.5%). The majority (62.8%) of defendants who used alcohol were not assigned any additional sentencing conditions.

TABLE 13 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Breakdown of Additional Sentencing Conditions by Alcohol Use at Offense and Community

Additional Conditions

	z	193 240	5 43	12	177	22 74) 21	13	21 64) 342) 872
Combination	(%)	(0.5)	(4.7)		(1.1)	(2.7)	(1.4)	(15.4)	(15.6)	(0.9)
Comb	С	7	20	0	7	0	O Ţ	2 23	001	3 46
Other	(%	(12.4) (3.3)	(20.9)	(33.3)	(34.5)	(4.1)	(4.8) (13.9)	(23.1) (24.5)	(9.5)	(15.5)
ŏ	c	24 8	06	37	19	30	1 10	3 25	1	53 142
Community Service	(%)	(0.5)			(0.6)	(1.4)				(0.3)
Co. S.	c	1	00	00	0 7	0 -	00	00	00	7.5
Education	(%)	(i.6) (i3.3)	(2.3)	(3.0)	(1.8)	(13.5)	(13.9)	(7.7)	(15.6)	(10.8)
Educ	c	32	0 -1	0 %	1 23	09	09	~ v	01	94
Work	(%)			(2.0)		(9.1)	(2.8)	(7.7)	(1.6)	(0.9)
3	c	00	00	0 7	00	24	0 7	~ 9	0-1	2 F
Psych Treatment	(%)	(2.6)	(40.0)				(4.8)			(2.3)
Ps Trea	c	200	22	00	00	00		00	00	0 0
Alc/Drug Treatment	(%)	(1.0)	(4.7)	(8.3)	(5.5)	(18.9)	(34.7)	(19.6)	(9.5)	(2.3)
Alc	c	2 119	20	36	44	0	0 25	20 0	13	8 273
Nooe	(%)	(81.3)	(60.0) (62.8)	(58.3) (22.0)	(58.2) (32.8)	(90.9) (54.1)	(90.5) (31.9)	(46.2) (18.6)	(81.0) (45.3)	(76.3)
Ž	c	157	3	7 22	32 58	604	19	9	17 29	261 289
	Location	Anchorage No Alc. Alc usea	Barrow No Alc. Alc used	Bethel No Alc. Alc used	Fairbanks No Alc Alc used	Juneau No Alc Alc used	Kodiak No Alc Alc used	Nome No Alc Alc used	Sitka No Alc Alc used	Totals No Alc Alc used

III. ANALYSIS of DIFFERENT OFFENSE TYPES

A. Violent Offenses

1) Community Sentencing Patterns

Only three communities (Anchorage (47 defendants), Bethel (37) and Nome (31)) have sufficiently large sample sizes to make direct comparisons. A violent misdemeanor was the most serious charge against 9% of the defendants from Anchorage, 32% of those from Bethel and 26% of those from Nome.

Anchorage defendants (77%, 36 of 47) were convicted of assault-type offenses more often than were Bethel (51%, 19 of 37) or Nome (57%, 17 of 30) defendants. Defendants from the latter two areas had nearly equal numbers of assault- and weapon-type offenses. The mean number of counts at sentencing was 1.3 for Anchorage defendants, 1.2 for defendants from Bethel and 1.5 for those from Nome. The proportion of defendants with two or more concurrent counts was significantly greater (P=0.001) in Nome (48%) than Anchorage (11%) or Bethel (19%).

The varying sentencing patterns in the three areas are shown in Tables 14 and 15. In Bethel (81.1%) and Nome (80.0%) the most likely penalty was an active jail sentence. This was especially true for "weapon" offenses, where approximately 90% of the defendants in these areas spent at least one day in jail. The mean active jail sentence for defendants who were sentenced to at least one day in jail was 55.9 days in Bethel and 25.8 days in Nome. There was a low likelihood of receiving a net fine in either Bethel (16.2%) or Nome (6.7%).

In contrast, Anchorage defendants had a lower likelihood of going to jail (46.8%) and a greater chance of receiving a net fine (59.6%). The mean active jail sentence (11.8 days) for defendants sentenced to at least one day in jail was one-quarter to one-half that of a Bethel or Nome

TABLE 14 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Active Jail Sentences (Days)for Defendants Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail for Violent Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) Within Each Misdemeanor Sub-Category and the Number (n) and Proportion (% N) of Defendants who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail.

VIOLENT (DAYS)

			ASSA	ASSAULT				WEAPONS		•			TOTAL		
	Z	c	(% N)	Mean	SD	z	اء	(% N)	Mean	SD	z	c	(N %)	Mean	SO
Anch. 36	36	16	(44.4)	14.3	28.1	11	9	(54.5)	5.3	5.9	47	22	(46.8)	11.8	24.3
Barrow	М	T	(33.3)	2.0	0.0	٣	7	(33.3)	10.0	0.0	9	7	(33.3)	0.9	5.7
Bethel 19	19	14	(73.7)	42.6	69.2	18	16	(88.9)	67.4	97.8	37	30	(81.1)	55.9	85.2
Fair.	4	٣	(75.0)	53.7	48.0	4	٦	(25.0)	15.0	0.0	ω	4	(50.0)	44.0	43.7
Junean	9	4	(66.7)	17.0	21.3	0					9	4	(66.7)	17.0	21.3
Kodiak	4	2	(50.0)	18.5	12.0	7	-	(25.0)	22.0	0.0	ω	m	(37.5)	19.7	8.7
Nome	17	12	(9.07)	32.8	50.7	13	12	(92.3)	18.8	25.0	30	24	(80.0)	25.8	39.7
Sitka	ν.	٦	(0.09)	2.3	9.0	1	7	1 (100.0)	1.0	0.0	9	4	(66.7)	2.0	0.8
Total 94	94	55	(58.5)	27.2	47.3	54	38	38 (70.4)	36.4	69.4	148	93	(62.8)	31.0	57.1

TABLE 15 (1981 Misdemeanors) Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Net Fines (\$) for Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 for Violent Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) within Each Misdemeanor Sub-category and the Number (n) and proportion (% N) of Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 in Fines

VIOLENT (\$)

			ASSAULT					WEAPONS		•			Tot	Total	
	z	c	(N %)	Mean	SD	z	c	(% N)	Mean	S	z	c	(N %)	Mean	S
Anch. 36	36	20	(55.6)	165.0 101	101.4	11	80	(72.7)	0.031	112.6	47	28	(9.65)	160.7	102.8
Barrow	m	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	М	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	9	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0
Bethel 19	19	٣	(15.8)	66.7	28.9	18	~	(16.7)	93.3	60.3	37	9	(16.2)	80.0	44.7
Fair.	4	7	(100.0)	167.5	154.8	7	~	(75.0)	133.3	104.1	80	7	(87.5)	164.3	128.2
Junean	9	٣	(50.0)	150.0	50.0	0	1	1	ı	ı	9	К	(50.0)	150.0	50.0
Kodiak 4	4	2	(50.0)	150.0	141.4	4	2	(50.0)	100.0	0.0	80	7	(50.0)	125.0	96.6
Nome	17	2	(11.8)	75.0	35.4	13	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	30	7	(6.7)	75.0	35.4
Sitka	5	7	(40.0)	400.0 141	141.4	٦	-	1 (100.0)	400.0	0.0	9	3	(50.0)	400.0	100.0
Total 94	94	36	36 (38.3)	165.3 116.	116.4	54	17	17 (31.5)	145.9	110.5	148	53	(35.8)	159.1	113.8

TABLE 16 (1981 Miscemeanors)

Distribution of Active Jail Sentences (Days) For Violent Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For All Penalties.

VIOLENT

							(DAYS)								
CITY	z		0	ľ	-10	F	11-20		21-30	3	31-40		07	Mean	SO
		c	(%)	c	(%)	د	(%)	c	(%)	С	(%)	С	(%)		
Anchorage	47	22	(53.2)	71	(36.2)	М	(6.4)	0		0		7	(4.3)	5.5	17.5
Barrow	9	4	(66.7)	7	(33.3)	0		0		0		0		2.0	4.0
Bethel	37	7	(18.9)	10	(27.0)	7	(18.9)	4	(10.8)	0		9/	(24.3)	45.3	9.6
Fairbanks	ω	4	(50.0)	-	(12.5)	-	(12.5)	0		0		7	(25.0)	22.0	37.0
Juneau	9	2	(33.3)	7	(33.3)	· - 1	(16.7)	0		0		7	(16.7)	11.3	18.7
Kodiak	ω	2	(62.5)	-	(12.5)	0		7	(25.0)	0		0		7.4	11.2
Nome	30	9	(20.0)	13	(43.3)	М	(10.0)	М	(10.01)	-1	(3.3)	. 4	(13.3)	20.7	36.9
Sitka	9	2	(33.3)	4	(66.7)	0		0		0		0		1.3	1.2
Total	148	55	(37.2)	50	(33.8)	15	15 (10.1)	9	6.1)	ī	1 (0.7)	18	18 (12.2)	19.5	47.6

TABLE 17 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Net Fines (\$) For Violent Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For all Penalties.

VIOLENT

							(\$)								
>-	z		0	ľ	-100	101	101-200	201-300	-300	301-400	007		400	Mean	SD
		c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)		
Anchorage	47	19	(40.4)	12	(25.5)	10	10 (21.3)	2 (1	(9.01)	0		-	(2.1)	95.7	112.1
Barrow	9	9	(100.0)	0		0		0		0		0		0.0	0.0
Bethel	37	31	(83.8)	7	(13.5)	7	(2.7)	0		0		0		13.0	34.2
Fairbanks	80		(12.5)	4	(50.0)	-	(12.5)	7	(12.5)	;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;	(12.5)	0		143.8	132.1
Juneau	9	~	(50.0)	٦	(16.7)	2	(33.3)	0		0		0		75.0	88.0
Kodiak	ω	4	(20.0)	М	(37.5)	0		7	(12.5)	0		0		62.5	87.6
Nome	30	78	(93.3)	2	(6.7)	0		0		0		0		4.8	19.8
Sitka	9	~	(20.0)	0		0		7	(16.7)	1 (16.7)	6.7)	-	1 (16.7)	200.0	228.0
[ota]	148	95	(64.2)	27	(18.2)	14	14 (9.5)	8	(5.4)	2 ((1.4)	2	2 (1.4)	56.6	101.9

TABLE 18 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Regression Coefficients and Standard Errors (SE) for Equations Describing Variation in Active Jail Sentence Length (Days) for Violent Offenses. Also Given are Sample Sizes (N) and Coefficients of Determination (\mathbb{R}^2)

	Prelimi	nary	Reduc	ed
	N = 100		$_{0}N = 109$	
	$R^2 = 0.36$		$R^2 = 0.33$	
	Coefficient	(SE)	Coefficient	(SE)
Case Descriptor Index	-2.3°	(0.84)	-2.3***	(0.60)
Process		()		(3,20)
Guilty at:				
Arraignment	4		11	
Other hearing	14.90	(5.55)	12.1**	(4.72)
Jury Trial	-		_	
Bench Trial	-		_	
Concurrent Counts	8.80	(5.24)	7.1	(4.38)
<u>Offense</u>				
Charge Subcategory				
Weapons	1		_	
Assault	0.1	(10.03)	_	
Victim Status				
No Harm	4		_	
Harm	2.3	(9.63)	_	
Alconol Use at Offense				
No	1		_	
Yes	4.1	(6.36)	<u> </u>	
Defendant Problems				
Prior Record				
None	11		1	
Violation(s)	-		_	
Misdemeanor(s)	-0.4	(5.73)	-0.5	(4.85)
Felony(s)	27.8°	(9.74)	22.4***	(8.51)
Drug/Alcohol Treatment				
No Problem	4[1	
Never Referred	-3.3	(6.25)	-0.6	(5.68)
Referred, No Attendance			_	
Attended, No Completion			_	
Current Treatment	23.00	(9.55)	24.6***	(8.27)
Completed Treatment	_		-	
Defendant Characteristics			l	
Sex				
Male	1 _	(-	
Female	-7.3	(9.46)	-	
Age	0.002	(0.26)	_	
Financial Index	-1.3	(1.61)		
Other Factors	0 01	(0.00/1		
Net Fine	-0.01	(0.024)	12 100	() ()
Additional Conditions	-10.80	(5.45)	-11.1**	(4.67)
Constant (Intercept)	-12.1	(12.06)	-5.8	(7.27)
	Not onelya		* 0.10>P <u>></u>	0.05
- ¶	Not analyz Reference			
11 O	P ≼ 0.20	caredora	** 0.05 > P ≥ *** P < 0.01	. 0.01
·	50.20		~~~ F < U.U1	

defendant. The mean net fine for defendants paying at least \$1 was \$160.70.

The distributions of active jail sentences and net fines are displayed in Tables 16 and 17. In Anchorage and Nome, the majority of defendants who served time received a sentence between 1 and 10 days length. In Bethel, nearly equal numbers of defendants received sentences between 1 and 10 days and greater than 40 days. The majority of Anchorage defendants who were required to pay a fine paid between \$1 and \$100.

2) <u>Factors Associated with Sentences of Violent</u> Offenses

Results of the preliminary regression model for active jail sentences are shown in Table 18. For the 100 cases under consideration, 36% of the total variation in active sentence length could be "explained" by the full set of variables. Relatively significant (P \leq 0.20) factors included the case descriptor index (CDI), presence of additional sentencing conditions, the court proceeding at which disposition occurred, the defendant's prior record and prior alcohol treatment history, and the number of concurrent counts. Thus, these factors were entered into a "reduced" model.

The reduced model explained 33% of the total variation in active sentence length for 109 defendants. Defendants who had prior felony records (P=0.01), who were undergoing alcohol treatment (P=0.03) or who plead guilty or nolo at a proceeding other than arraignment (P=0.01) received significantly longer sentences than defendants with no prior record, no previous alcohol problem or who plead quilty or nolo at arraignment. Presence of additional sentencing conditions was related to significantly shorter (P=0.02) sentences. Also, defendants who scored lower (i.e., had more of the characteristics associated rural with areas) ٥n the CDI received longer sentences (P=0.0002) than defendants who scored higher.

In terms of magnitude of the coefficients, or estimated effect, prior criminal record and drug/alcohol

treatment history were most significant. Defendants who had committed prior felonies received sentences an estimated 22.4 days longer than defendants with no prior record; defendants who were currently undergoing drug/alcohol treatment received sentences an estimated 24.6 days longer than defendants with no previous alcohol or drug problem noted in the court's record.

B. <u>Property Offenses</u>

1) Community Sentencing Patterns

Seven of the eight areas (Anchorage (105 cases), Bethel (19), Fairbanks (47), Juneau (18), Kodiak (21), Nome (24) and Sitka (22)) have sufficient numbers of property offenses for direct comparison. Property offenses were 16%-24% of the data from these areas.

The categories of property offenses were trespass, mischief, theft and fraud. Theft was the most common property offense committed by defendants from Anchorage (45.7%), Fairbanks (70.2%), Juneau (44.4%), Kodiak (47.6%) and Nome (58.3%); mischief was the most common property offense type committed by Bethel (36.8%) and Sitka (31.8%) defendants.

Juneau (2.0), Anchorage (1.5) and Kodiak (1.4) defendants were convicted on a greater mean number of counts than defendants from the other areas (1.1 counts for each area), but the proportion of defendants with greater than one count (8% to 29%) did not differ significantly (P=0.53) between areas. One Anchorage defendant convicted of 19 counts and one Juneau defendant convicted of 17 counts greatly affected the mean number of counts for these areas.

The use of different sentence alternatives is shown in Tables 19 and 20. In each of the communities under consideration, 50% or more of the defendants convicted of a property offense spent at least 1 day in jail. The likelihood of receiving a jail sentence was greatest for defendants convicted of a theft offense (69.5%). The mean active jail

TABLE 19 (1981 Misdemeanors) Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Active Jail Sentences for Defendants Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail for Property Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) Within Each Miscemeanor Sub-Category and the Number (n) and Proportion (% N) of Defendants who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail.

PROPERTY (DAYS)

z	c	TRESPASS n (% N)		MEAN SD	z	c	MISCHIEF (% N)	HIEF N) MEAN SD	S	z	c	N n (% N)	MEAN	S	z	c	N N MEAN SD	MEAN	S		= -	N N (% N)	MEAN	S
8 (2	(2	9.6)	11.6	15.0	22	12	Anch. 27 8 (29.6) 11.6 15.0 22 12 (54.5) 10.4 13.1	10.4	13.1	ω	9	6 (75.0)	3.3	1.9	48	34	(70.8)	16.8	35.3	105	9	1.9 48 34 (70.8) 16.8 35.3 105 60 (57.1) 13.5 27.8	13.5	27.8
0		(0.0)	0.0 (0.0) 0.0	0.0	7	-	(25.0)	2.0	2.0 0.0	0	1	1	ı	1	m	0	0.0) 0	0.0	0.0	∞	7	0.0 0.0 8 1 (12.5) 2.0	2.0	0.0
3	$\overline{}$	(0.09	3 (60.0) 30.0 39.1	39.1	7	7	(100.0) 30.9	30.9	53.4	7		1 (100.0)	5.0	0.0	9	2	2 (33.3)	2.5	0.7	19	13	2.5 0.7 19 13 (68.4)	24.3	42.7
2	\sim	55.6)	9 5 (55.6) 16.6 11.8	11.8	٦	2	(40.0) 3.0 2.8	3.0	2.8	0	ı		ı	ı	33	26	33 26 (78.8)	19.0	26.3	47	33	19.0 26.3 47 33 (70.2)	17.7	23.9
7	_	(40.0)	2 (40.0) 3.5 2.1	2.1	N	М	(100.0)	11.7	2.9	2	-	2 1 (50.0)	15.0	0.0	80	9	8 6 (75.0)	8.2	11.7	81	12	8.2 11.7 18 12 (66.7) 8.8	8.8	8.7
3		6 3 (50.0) 37.3 39.5	37.3	39.5	~	2	(40.0) 12.5	12.5	3.5	0	ı	,	1	1	70	9	10 6 (60.0)	29.2	37.0	21	11	29.2 37.0 21 11 (52.4)	28.4	32.8
7		1 (25.0) 7.0 0.0	7.0	0.0	9	К	(50.0)	3.0	1.7	0	1		ı	•	14	77	(18.6)	38.0	107.1	24	15	14 11 (78.6) 38.0 107.1 24 15 (62.5)	28.9	91.9
М		6 3 (50.0) 11.0 14.7	11.0	14.7	7	4	(57.1)	2.5	1.7	W	0	0 (0.0)	0.0	0.0	9	4	(66.7)	8.5	13.0	22	11	0.0 6 4 (66.7) 8.5 13.0 22 11 (50.0) 7.0	7.0	10.4
25		(39.7)	17.0	21.7	59	34	Total 63 25 (39.7) 17.0 21.7 59 34 (57.6) 12.6 26.1 14 8 (57.1) 5.0 4.4 128 89 (69.5) 19.6 46.2 264 156 (59.1) 16.9 38.0	12.6	26.1	14	8	(57.1)	5.0	4.4	128	89	(69.5)	19.6	46.2	264	156	(59.1)	16.9	38.0

TABLE 20 (1981 Misdemeanors) Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Net Fines (\$) for Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 for Property Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) within Each Misdemeanor Sub-category and the Number (n) and proportion (% N) of Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 in Fines

PROPERTY (\$)

3 (37.5) 3266.7 5398.5 48 24 (50.0) 105.2 56.6 10 - - - - 3 0 (0.0) 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 13 - - - - - 33 16 (48.5) 182.8 153.5 4 2 (100.0) 1270.0 1088.9 8 7 (87.5) 63.6 27.2 18 - - - - 10 6 (60.0) 50.0 15.8 2 - - - - - 14 0 (0.0) 0.0 0.0 2 -	TRESPASS N n (% N) ME			A	MEAN SD	z	c	MISCHIEF (% N)	HEF N) MEAN SD	SS	z	c	FRAUD	MEAN	SS	z	THEFT %)	FT N N	MEAN	S	z	TOTAL 0 (%	(Z	MEAN SD	8
0 0.0	58.2 56.6 22 13 (59	(70.4) 58.2 56.6 22 13 (59.	58.2 56.6 22 13 (59.	56.6 22 13 (59.	22 13 (59.	13 (59.	(59.		188.5	19.3	1	m	(37.5)	3266.7	5398.5	48	24 (50.0)	105.2	56.6	105	29 ((56.2) 2	69.5 1	225.5
75.0 35.4 1 0 (0.0) 0.0 6 0 (0.0) 0.0 0.0 19 3 (15.8) 75.0 25.0 75.0 35.4 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 154.3 154.3 138.3 0.0 0.0 0 - - - - - 48.5) 182.8 153.5 47 23 (48.9) 154.3 138.3 0.0 0.0 2 2 (100.0) 1270.0 1088.9 8 7 (87.5) 63.6 27.2 18 10 (55.6) 308.5 623.8 50.0 0.0 0 -	Barrow 1 0 (0.0) 0.0 0.0 4 0 (0.	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0) 0	(0	6	0	0.0	0	1	ı	ı		2	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	80	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0
75.0 35.4 0 - </td <th>Bethel 5 1 (20.0) 75.0 0.0 7 2 (28.6</th> <td>7 2</td> <td>7 2</td> <td>7 2</td> <td>7 2 (28.6</td> <td>2 (28.6</td> <td>(28.6</td> <td><u> </u></td> <td>75.0</td> <td>35.4</td> <td>_</td> <td>0</td> <td>(0.0)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>9</td> <td>0</td> <td>(0.0)</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>19</td> <td>9</td> <td>(15.8)</td> <td></td> <td>25.0</td>	Bethel 5 1 (20.0) 75.0 0.0 7 2 (28.6	7 2	7 2	7 2	7 2 (28.6	2 (28.6	(28.6	<u> </u>	75.0	35.4	_	0	(0.0)			9	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	19	9	(15.8)		25.0
0.0 0.0 2 2 (100.0) 1270.0 1088.9 8 7 (87.5) 63.6 27.2 18 10 (55.6) 308.5 503.8	9 5 (55.6) 95.0 75.8 5 2 (40.0	5 2	5 2	5 2	5 2 (40.0	2 (40.0	(40.0	$\overline{}$	75.0	35.4	0	ı	ı	ı		33	91	(48.5)	182.8	53.5	47	23 ((48.9)		138.3
50.0 0.0 0 - - - - - - - - - - 13.4 0.0 0.0 0.0 0	Juneau 5 1 (20.0) 100.0 0.0 3 0 (0.0)	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0 (0.0)	0.0)	(0.0)		0.0	0.0	2	7	100.0)	1270.0	9.8801	ω) /	87.5)	63.6	27.2	18)0 ((55.6) 3	08.5	623.8
0.0 0	Kodiak 6 1 (16.7) 50.0 0.0 5 1 (20.0)	0.0 5 1	0.0 5 1	0.0 5 1	5 1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)	(20.0)		50.0	0.0	0	1		ı		윽	9	(0.09	50.0	15.8	21	8	(38.1)		13.4
225.0 106.1 3 2 (66.7) 80.0 99.0 6 5 (83.3) 175.0 182.0 22 11 (50.0) 148.6 137.9 162.5 113.4 14 7 (50.0) 1785.7 3474.0 128 58 (45.3) 121.9 110.8 264 114 (43.2) 217.5 901.8	4 0 (0.0) 0.0 0.0 6 0 (0.0)	0 9	0 9	0 9	0 9	0 (0.0)	(0.0)		0.0	0.0	0	1	ı	ı		14	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	24	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0
162.5 113.4 14 7 (50.0) 1785.7 3474.0 128 58 (45.3) 121.9 110.8 264 114 (43.2) 217.5 901.8	6 2 (33.3) 75.0 35.4 7 2 (28.6)	7 2	7 2	7 2	7 2	2 (28.6)	(28.6)		225.0	106.1	~	2	(66.7)	80.0	99.0	9	5	83.3)	175.0 1	82.0	22	=	(50.0)	48.6	137.9
	3 29 (46.0) 68.1 56.3 59 20 (33.9)	(46.0) 68.1 56.3 59 20 (33.9)	68.1 56.3 59 20 (33.9)	56.3 59 20 (33.9)	59 20 (33.9)	20 (33.9)	(33.9)		162.5	13.4	14	7	(50.0)	1785.7	3474.0	128	58	45.3)	21.9 1	10.8	264]	14	(43.2) 2	17.5	901.8

TABLE 21 (1981 Misdemeanors) Distribution of Active Jail Sentences (Days) For Property Offenses. Given are Means and Standard Deviations (SD) For All Penalties.

PROPERTY

	SD		22.0	0.7	36.8	21.6	8.2	27.3	73.0	8.0	30.3
	Mean		7.7	0.3	16.6	12.4	5.9	14.9	18.1	3.5	10.0
	40	(%)	(3.8)		(3.01)	(10.6)		(14.3)	(4.2)		15 (5.7)
		c	4	0	7	ĸ	0	. .	-	0	15
1	31-40	(%)	(1.9)			(2.1)					3 (1.1)
		c	2	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	5
	21-30	(%)	(3.8)		(5.3)	(2.1)	(5.6)	(4.8)	(4.2)		11 (4.2)
)		c	4	0	-	٦	٦	٦	7	0	11
(DAYS)	1-20	(%)	(3.8)		(5.3)	(10.6)	(16.7)	(6.5)		(6.1)	15 (5.7)
	1	c	4	0	7	7	М	7	0	2	15
	1-10	(%)	(43.8)	(12.5)	(47.4)	(44.7)	(44.4)	(23.8)	(54.2)	(40.9)	(42.4)
	-	c	94	٦	6	21	8	2	13	6	112
	0	(%)	(42.9)	(87.5)	(31.6)	(29.8)	(33.3)	(47.6)	(37.5)	(50.0)	108 (40.9)
		c	45	7	9	14	9	10	9/	11	108
	z		3 105	æ	19	5 47	18	21	24	22	264
	CITY		Anchorage 105	Barrow	Bethe1	Fairbanks	Juneau	Kodiak	Nome	Sitka	Total

TABLE 22 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Net Fines (\$) For Property Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For all Penalties.

PROPERTY (\$)

0 N	0	0			-100	101	101-200	20	201-300	301-400		400	Mean	SO
(%) U (%) U	U (%)	С		(%)	1	c	(%)	د	(%)	(%) U	c	(%)		
Anchorage 105 46 (43.8) 43 (41.0)	(43.8) 43	43		(41.0)		9/	(8.6)	Ŋ	(4.8)	0	2	(1.9)	151.4	925.0
8 8 (100.0) 0		(100.0) 0	0			0		0		0	0		0.0	0.0
19 16 (84.2) 3 (15.8)	(84.2) 3 ((84.2) 3 (3 (15.8)	(15.8)		0		0		0	0		11.8	29.3
Fairbanks 47 24 (51.1) 12 (25.5)	(51.1) 12	(51.1) 12		(25.5)		6	(19.1)	0		0	2	(4.3)	75.5	123.4
18 8 (44.4) 8 (44.4)	(44.4) 8 (8	Ŭ	(44.4)		0		0		0	7	(11.1)	171.4	480.5
21 13 (61.9) 8 (38.1)	(61.9)	ω		(38.1)		0		0		0	0		19.0	26.1
24 (100.0) 0			0			0		0		0	0		0.0	0.0
22 11 (50.0) 7 (31.8)	7	7	7 (31.8)	(31.8)		2	2 (9.1)	1	(4.5)	0	7	1 (4.5)	74.3	121.8
264 150 (56.8) 81 (30.7)	81	81		(30.7)		20	20 (7.6)	9	6 (2.3)	0	7	7 (2.7)	93.9	6.009

sentence for defendants who were in jail at least 1 day ranged from 7.0 (Sitka) to 28.9 (Nome) days; the overall mean was 16.9 days.

Approximately 50% of the convicted defendants were required to pay a fine in Anchorage (56.2%), Fairbanks (48.9%), Juneau (55.6%) and Sitka (50.0%) (Table 17). None of the 24 Nome defendants were required to pay a fine. For those communities where at least 10 defendants were required to pay a fine, the mean fines ranged between \$148.60 (Sitka) and \$308.50 (Juneau); the overall mean was \$217.50. The largest fines were associated with fraud offenses, which were committed by defendants who generally were convicted of more than one charge.

Tables 18 and 19 display distributions of active jail sentences and net fines for defendants convicted of property offenses. The majority of defendants who were required to spend at least 1 day in jail, were sentenced to terms of 1 to 10 days; the majority of defendants who were required to pay a fine, paid between \$1 and \$100.

2) Factors Associated with Sentences of Property Offenses

Results of the preliminary regression model for active jail sentences are shown in Table 23. For the 161 cases under consideration, only 23% of the total variation in active jail sentence length could be "explained" by the full set of variables. Relatively significant ($P \leq 0.20$) factors included the CDI and financial indices, the defendant's prior record and prior alcohol treatment history, and the number of concurrent counts. Thus, these factors were entered into a "reduced" model.

The reduced model explained the same proportion (23%) of variability in active jail sentence for a larger data set (n=177). Only prior criminal record and alcohol/drug treatment were relevant to the jail term imposed. Defendants who had committed prior felonies received significantly longer $(58.7 \, \text{days}, P=0.000)$ jail sentences than defendants with no prior record; defendants with an alcohol/drug problem who previously

TABLE 23 (1981 Misdemeanors

Regression Coefficients and Standard Errors (SE) for Equations Describing Variation in Active Jail Sentence Length (Days) for Property Offenses. Also Given are Sample Sizes (N) and Coefficients of Determination (\mathbb{R}^2)

	Prelimir	nary	Redu	cea
•	N = 161		N = 177	
	$R^2 = 0.23$		$R^2 = 0.23$	
	Coefficient	(SE)	Coefficient	(SE)
Once Description To 1		(0.54)		10.71
Case Descriptor Index	0.80	(0.56)	-0.4	(0.74)
Process Guilty at:				
Arraignment	1	ł		
Other hearing	2.4	(3.56)	_	
Jury Trial	2.4	(3.36)	_	
Bench Trial	_			
Concurrent Counts	2.40	(1.49)	0.7	(1.18)
Offense	2.7	(1.42)	0.7	(1.10)
Charge Subcategory				
Trespass	4		_	
Mischief	-2. 1	(4.76)	_	
Fraud	-2.1	(8.13)	_	
Theft	5.2	(4.32)	_	
Victim Status	7.2	(1002)		
No Harm	_		_	
Harm	_		_	
Alcohol Use at Offense				
No	4		_	
Yes	2.8	(4.00)	_	
Defendant Problems				
Prior Record	-	T	–	
None	4		9	
Violation(s)	_		_	
Misdemeanor(s)	0.6	(4.25)	1.7	(6.15)
Felony(s)	18.20	(8.08)	58.7***	(11.27)
Drug/Alcohol Treatment				
No Problem	4		4	
Never Referred	4.3	(5.91)	21.3**	(8.37)
Referred, No Attendance		(5.87)	5.8	(8.14)
Attended, No Completion			-	
Current Treatment	6.0	(7.50)	6.7	(10.38)
Completed Treatment	_		-	
Defendant Characteristics				
Sex				
Male	9	(1>	-	
Female	-4.9	(4.33)	-	
Age	-0.1	(0.15)	-	(2.6)
Financial Index	2.10	(1.18)	-0.05	(1.61)
Other Factors Net Fine	0.00%	(0.0077)		
	-0.004	(0.0036)	-	
Additional Conditions	0.4	(3.43)	7.00	(7 50)
Constant (Intercept)	-1.4	(5.50)	1.00	(3.59)
	Not opolyza		* 0.10\P>	0.05
- ¶	Not analyze Reference c		0.10/1 =	
11 O	PLU 30	acegory	** 0.05 > P;	∠ 0.01

*** P<0.01

P≤0.20

were never referred or treated for the problem, received significantly longer (21.3 days, P=0.01) sentences than defendants with no previous alcohol problem.

C. Vehicular Offenses

Community Sentencing Patterns

Vehicular is the most frequent offense category from each community. The proportion of defendants with vehicular offenses range from about 30% (Nome) to 65% (Fairbanks). Each of the communities (Anchorage (302 defendants), Barrow (25), Bethel (40), Fairbanks (169), Juneau (51), Kodiak (44), Nome (35) and Sitka (50)) have sufficiently large samples to make direct comparisons.

The mean number of counts per defendant was 1.2 in Anchorage, Bethel and Nome, 1.1 in Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak and Sitka, and 1.0 in Barrow. The proportion (15.1%) of defendants with two or more concurrent counts did not differ significantly (P=0.39) between communities. Most defendants (84.9%) in this misdemeanor category had only one charge against them.

Except for Barrow, DWI was the most common offense subcategory in each of the areas (Tables 24 and 25). 55.4% of all vehicular misdemeanors were DWI offenses. There were nearly equal numbers of license (122 offenses, 17.0%) (e.g., driving with license suspended) and reckless driving (136 offenses, 19.0%) convictions.

Over 70% of the defendants who committed a vehicular offense served at least 1 day in jail (Table 21). Defendants who were convicted of DWI offenses had the highest likelihood (99.2%) of going to jail*. However, the mean active sentence

^{*} Note that the offense subcategory "DWI" contains other than DWI offenses (Table 2). If only DWI/OMVI offenses are considered, 100% of those defendants served at least 3 days in jail.

TABLE 24 (1981 Misdemeanors) Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Active Jail Sentences (Days) for Defendants Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail for Venicular Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) Within Each Misdemeanor Sub-Category and the Number (n) and Proportion (% N) of Defendants Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail

VEHICULAR (DAYS)

		LICENSE	1.1			_	OPERATOR					RECKLESS	40			DWI				1	TOTAL		
	z	(N %) C	MEAN SD	S	z	c	(% %)	MEAN	S	z	c	N) WEAN SD N n (% N) MEAN SD N n (% N) MEAN SD N n (% N)	MEAN	SS	z	(X %)	MEAN	S	z	c	(% N)	MEAN SD	S
Anch.	84 55	(65.5)	14.7	13.4	44	16	Anch. 84 55 (65.5) 14.7 13.4 44 16 (36.4) 8.2 7.7 38 17 (44.7)	8.2	7.7	38	17	(44.7)	3.8	4.0	136 13	4.0 136 136 (100.0) 14.6 41.3 302 224 (74.2) 13.4 33.0) 14.6	41.3	302	224	(74.2)	13.4	33.0
Barrow	0				7	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	13	2	0.0 13 3 (23.1)	4.7	6.4	11 1	6.4 11 11 (100.0) 12.5 26.9 25 14 (56.0) 10.8) 12.5	26.9	25	14	(26.0)	10.8	23.9
Bethe]	3	Bethel 3 3 (100.0) 10.0 0.0	10.0	0.0	0					2	7	2 1 (50.0)	2.0	0.0	35 3	0.0 35 35 (100.0)		14.2	40	39	9.1 14.2 40 39 (97.5) 9.0 13.5	9.0	13.5
Fair.	19 15	Fair. 19 15 (78.9) 17.7 20.9	17.7	20.9	80	٦	(12.5)		0.0	53	М	1.0 0.0 29 3 (10.3)	6.3	3.5	113 11	3.5 113 112 (99.1) 13.6 26.0 169 131 (77.5) 13.8) 13.6	26.0	169	131	(77.5)	13.8	25.1
Juneau	13 5	Juneau 13 5 (38.5) 10.0 0.0	10.0	0.0	2	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	13	-	0.00 13 1 (7.7) 360.0	360.0	0.0	23 2	0.0 23 23 (100.0)		4.8	51	53	6.5 4.8 51 29 (56.9) 19.3	19.3	65.7
Kodiak	3 2	Kodiak 3 2 (66.7) 10.0	10.0	0.0	n	0	(0.0)		0.0	7	-	0.0 0.0 7 1 (14.3) 5.0	5.0	0.0	31 3	0.0 31 31 (100.0)		8.5	44	34	7.1 8.5 44 34 (77.3) 7.2 8.1	7.2	8.1
Nome	0				0					7	7	7 2 (28.6) 10.0	10.0	0.0	28 2	0.0 28 27 (96.4)		4.5	35	53	4.9 4.5 35 29 (82.9)	5.2	4.5
Sitka	0				m	0	(0.0)	0.0	0.0	27	٣	(0.0) 0.0 0.0 27 3 (11.1) 24.7	24.7	39.3	20 1	39.3 20 19 (95.0) 12.3 27.1 50 22 (44.0) 14.0 28.2) 12.3	27.1	52	22	(44.0)	14.0	28.2
Total 1	22 80	(65.6)	14.7	14.3	19	17	Total 122 80 (65.6) 14.7 14.3 61 17 (27.9) 7.8 7.6 136 31 (22.8) 18.0 64.7 397 394 (99.2) 11.9 29.4 716 522 (72.9) 12.6 30.5	7.8	7.6	136	31	(22.8)	18.0	64.7	397 39	4 (99.2) 11.9	29.4	716	522	(72.9)	12.6	30.5

TABLE 25 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Net Fines (\$) for Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 for Vehicular Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) within Each Misdemeanor Sub-category and the Number (n) and proportion (% N) of Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 in Fines

VEHICULAR

		- TOFNSF	<u>ν</u>				OPERATOR	•			č	(\$)				ć	ţ						
	z	N n (% N) MEAN SD	MEA	S	z	٥		(% N) MEAN SD N n (% N) MEAN SD N n (% N) MEAN SD N n (% N)	SD	z	2	% N)	MEAN	SS	z	ے ء	(N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	MEAN	SS	z	(N N)	MEAN	MEAN SD
Anch.	84 46	Anch. 84 46 (54.8) 149.0 97.0 44 33	1) 149.1	0 97.0		33	(75.0)	(75.0) 203.0 165.4 38 37 (97.4) 253.4 137.5 136 119 (87.5) 288.0 158.1 302 235 (77.8) 241.9 154.8	165.4	38 3	(9)	97.4)	253.4	137.5	136 1	19 (1	37.5) 2	88.0 1	58.1	02 235	(77.8) 241.9	154.8
Barrow O	0				-	0	(0.0)	(0.0) 0.0 0.0 13 4 (30.8) 43.8 37.5 11 8 (72.7) 256.3 17.7 25 12 (48.0) 185.4 107.4	0.0	13	4	30.8)	43.8	37.5	Ξ	8	2 (1.21	56.3	17.7	25 12	(48.0) 185.4	107.4
Bethe1	3 1	Bethel 3 1 (33.3) 50.0 0.0	.) 50.(0.0						7	2 (10	2 (100.0)	62.5	53.0	35	32 (3	91.4) 1	73.4	95.0	40 35	53.0 35 32 (91.4) 173.4 95.0 40 35 (87.5) 113.6 96.9) 113.6	6.96
Fair.	19 10	Fair. 19 10 (52.6) 220.0 135.8	.) 220.(0 135.8	 	4	(50.0)	(50.0) 212.5 131.5	131.5	29 2	S) 83	(9.96	210.7	113.9	113 1	60	36.5) 3	48.2 15	98.7	69 151	29 28 (96.6) 210.7 113.9 113 109 (96.5) 348.2 198.7 169 151 (89.3) 310.6 189.5) 310.6	189.5
Juneau	13 11	Juneau 13 11 (84.6) 62.3 32.6	.) 62.	3 32.6	2	2	(100.0)	(100.0) 300.0 70.7 13 12 (92.3) 180.0	70.7	13 1	2 (5	92.3)	180.0	94.4	23	23 (10	0.00	37.2 13	22.9	51 48	94.4 23 23 (100.0) 337.2 122.9 51 48 (94.1) 233.3 150.1) 233.3	150.1
Kodiak	3 1	Kodiak 3 l (33.3) 30.0 0.0) 30.(0.0	~	7	(66.7)	7) 75.0 35.4 7 7 (100.0) 171.4 119.4 31 29 (93.5) 432.8 180.9 44 39 (88.6) 357.2 210.1	35.4	7	7 (10	(0.00	171.4	119.4	31	s) &	3.5) 4	32.8 18	90.9	44 39	688.6) 357.2	210.1
Nome	0				0					7	7 (10	0.00	142.9	102.8	78	33 (3	32.1) 2	47.8 12	8.0	35 30	7 (100.0) 142.9 102.8 28 23 (82.1) 247.8 120.8 35 30 (85.7) 223.3 123.7) 223.3	123.7
Sitka	0				т.	W	(100.0)	3 3 (100.0) 258.3 166.5 27 26 (96.3) 167.7 84.4 20 17 (85.0) 367.6 82.8 50 46 (92.0) 247.5 129.5	5.991	27 2	9	96.3)	1.791	84.4	8	(8	35.0) 3	57.6	82.8	50 46	(92.0) 247.5	129.5
Total	122 69	(56.6) 143.	3 105.3	19	44	(72.1)	Total 122 69 (56.6) 143.3 105.3 61 44 (72.1) 206.3 156.3 136 123 (90.4) 197.5 120.3 397 360 (90.7) 310.4 172.1 716 596 (83.2) 259.9 167.4	56.3	136 12	3 (5	90.4)	197.5	120.3	397 30	8	5 (7.0	10.4 1	72.1	16 596	(83.2) 259.9	167.4

TABLE 26 (1981 Misdemeanors) Distribution of Active Jail Sentences (Days) for Vehicular Offenses. Given are Means and Standard Deviations (SD) for all Penalties.

VEHICULAR

							(DAYS)	~							
CITY	z		0		-10	F	11-20		21-30		31-40		40	Mean	SO
		د	(%)	С	(%)	c	(%)	С	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)		
Anchorage 302	302	78	(25.8)	171	(56.6)	35	(11.6)	80	(3.6)	7	(0.7)	80	(2.6)	6.6	29.0
Barrow	25	11	(44.0)	12	(48.0)	٦	(4.0)	0		0		٦	(4.0)	0.9	18.4
Bethel	07	-	(2.5)	33	(82.5)	4	(10.0)	0		0		2	(5.0)	8.8	13.4
Fairbanks 169	169	38	(22.5)	100	(59.2)	14	(8.3)	9	(3.6)	М	(1.8)	8	(4.7)	10.7	22.8
Juneau	51	22	(43.1)	23	(45.1)	₹	(8.8)	0		0		٦	(2.0)	11.0	50.1
Kodiak	44	01	(22.7)	29	(62.9)	4	(6.1)	0		0		٦	(2.3)	5.6	7.7
Nome	35	9	(17.1)	28	(80.0)	0		٦	(2.9)	0	 	0	- 4, - 27, 4	4.3	4.6
Sitka	22	28	(56.0)	18	(36.0)	7	(2.0)	7	(2.0)	0		, 2	(4.0)	6.1	19.7
Total	716	194	194 (27.1)	414	(57.8)	64	(8.9)	16	16 (2.2)	5	(0.7)	23	(3.2)	9.2	26.6

TABLE 27 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Net Fines (\$) For Vehicular Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For All Penalties.

VEHICULAR

							(\$)	_	•						
CITY	z		0	Ė	1-100	10	01-200	20	201-300	30	301-400		400	Mean	SO
		c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)	c	(%)		
Anchorage 302	302	29	(22.2)	52	(17.2)	62	(20.5)	91	(30.1)	7	(2.3)	23	(7.6)	188.3	169.6
Barrow	25	13	(52.0)	4	(16.0)	0		ω	(32.0)	0		0	· · · · · ·	89.0	119.3
Bethe]	07	~	(12.5)	12	(30.0)	18	(45.0)	М	(7.5)	0		7	(2.0)	143.1	105.8
Fairbanks 169	169	18	(10.7)	18	(10.7)	35	(20.7)	54	(32.0)	11	(6.5)	33	(19.5)	277.5	203.2
Junean	51	~	(5.9)	16	(31.4)	٣	(5.9)	18	(35.3)	7	(13.7)	4	(7.8)	219.6	155.7
Kodiak	777	2	(11.4)	9	(13.6)	2	(4.5)	٣	(8.9)	19	(43.2)	0/	(20.5)	316.6	228.3
Nome	35	'n	(14.3)	ω	(22.9)	7	(20.0)	10	(38.6)	2	(5.7)	К	(8.6)	191.4	139.1
Sitka	S	4	(8.0)	77	(22.0)	13	13 (26.0)	7	7 (14.0)	14	14 (28.0)	٦	1 (2.0)	7.722	141.4
Total	716	120	120 (16.8)	127	(17.7)	140	140 (19.6)	194	194 (27.1)	99	60 (8.4)	75	75 (10.5)	216.4	181.0

TABLE 28 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Regression Coefficients and Standard Errors (SE) for Equations Describing Variation in Active Jail Sentence Length (Days) for Vehicular Offenses. Also Given are Sample Sizes (N) and Coefficients of Determination (R^2)

	Prelimin	nary		uced
	N = 537		N = 544	
	$R^2 = 0.32$		$R^2 = 0.31$	
	Coefficient	(SE)	Coefficient	t (SE)
Case Descriptor Index	0.87°	(0.398)	0.9**	(0.39)
Process				·
Guilty at:				
Arraignment	1		1	
Other hearing	-1.5	(2.59)	-1.7	(2.50)
Jury Trial	12.6°	(4.07)	13.2***	(3.95)
Bench Trial	3.9	(6.56)	4.2	(6.44)
Concurrent Counts	15.30	(2.09)	15.5***	(2.04)
Offense		Į.		
Charge Subcategory		1		
Operator	4	1	11	,
License	6.6°	(4.19)	6.7	(4.07)
Reckless	4.3	(4.07)	4.5	(3.96)
DWI	9.70	(4.30)	10.8***	(3.66)
Victim Status				
No Harm	1		-	
Harm	- 0.7	(3.82)	-	
Alcohol Use at Offense		İ		
No	-	I	_	
Yes	-			
Defendant Problems				
Prior Record				
None	4	ĺ	_	
Violation(s)	0.2	(3.15)	_	
Misdemeanor(s)	2.3	(2.49)	_	
Felony(s)	4.7	(4.89)	_	
Drug/Alcohol Treatment				
No Problem	_		-	
Never Referred	-0.2	(3.38)	0.6	(3.18)
Referred, No Attendance	8.60	(3.16)	10.0***	(2.77)
Attended, No Completion		(6.56)	49.0***	(6.27)
Current Treatment	19.60	(4.14)	20.4***	(3.92)
Completed Treatment	0.3	(5.15)	2.1	(4.88)
Defendant Characteristics		,		(,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Sex				
Male	4	Į.	_	
Female	-3.3	(2.85)	_	
Age	-0.01	(0.086)	_	
Financial Index	1.20	(0.57)	1.3**	(0.55)
Other Factors	<u> </u>	, <u> </u>		
Net Fine	-0.010	(0.0059)	-0.01*	(0.0057)
Additional Conditions	1.9	(2.79)	-	, ,
Constant (Intercept)	-19.00	(5.14)	-18.9***	(4.49)
				-
	Not analyze	-1	* 0.10\D	

Not analyzed

[¶] Reference category

P**∠**0.20

^{* 0.10&}gt;P≥0.05 ** 0.05>P≥0.01

^{***} P< 0.01

(11.9 days) for defendants convicted of a DWI offense and who served at least 1 day in jail was less than that for defendants convicted of license (14.7 days) or reckless driving (18.0 days) offenses.

For license and reckless driving offenses the likelihood of receiving an active jail sentence varied among communities. Comparing communities that had at least 10 convictions, Anchorage (65.5%) and Fairbanks (78.9%) defendants convicted of license offense were more likely to go to jail than Juneau defendants (38.5%); Anchorage (44.7%) defendants who committed reckless driving offenses were more likely to go to jail than either Barrow (23.1%), Fairbanks (10.3%), Juneau (7.7%) or Sitka (11.1%) defendants.

Over 83% of the defendants committing a vehicular offense paid a fine (Table 22). Fines were less likely in Barrow (48.0%) than the other communities (77.8% to 94.1%). The likelihood of receiving a fine was highest for reckless driving (90.4%) and DWI (90.7%) offenses. However, the mean fine for a DWI offense (\$310.40) was over \$100 greater than a reckless driving conviction (\$197.50).

The distributions of active jall sentences and net fines are displayed in Tables 26 and 27. The majority of defendants who served time received a sentence between 1 and 10 days; the majority of defendants who paid a fine, paid between \$201 and \$300.

2) <u>Factors Associated with Sentences of Vehicular</u> Offenses

Results of the preliminary regression model for active jail sentences are shown in Table 28. Alcohol use at offense was not included in the model as it was directly related to one of the offense subcategories (DWI). For the 537 cases under consideration, 32% of the total variation in active jail sentence length could be explained by the full set of variables. Relatively significant ($P \le 0.20$) factors included the

CDI and financial indices, the court proceeding at which disposition occurred, the specific charge subcategory, the defendant's drug/alcohol treatment history, the number of pending counts and the net fine paid by the defendant.

The reduced regression model was able to explain 31% of the variation in active sentence length for 544 defendants.

The most significant (P<0.01) factors included the specific offense subcategory, the number of concurrent counts, the court proceeding at which disposition occurred and the drug/alcohol treatment history of the defendant. Defendants charged with a DWI violation received longer (10.8 days) jail sentences than defendants with "operator action" (e.g., failure to report an accident) violations, once other factors had been accounted for. License offenders also received marginally days, P=0.10) (6.7 sentences than operator convictions. Defendants who were charged and convicted multiple counts received an estimated 15.5 days for each additional count.

Defendants who were convicted after jury trials received significantly longer (13.2 days) sentences defendants who plead guilty or nolo at arraignment. Defendants received dispositions at а proceeding other arraignment or who had a bench trial did not receive sentences significantly different from defendants who plead guilty nolo at arraignment.

The drug/alcohol treatment history of the defendant was also significantly related to the jail term imposed. Defendants who were previously referred, but did not attend (10.0 days extra), who attended, but did not complete (49.0 days) or who were currently undergoing treatment (20.4 days) received significantly longer sentences than defendants with no prior problem. Defendants who had a prior alcohol problem, but were never referred to, or who completed an alcohol/drug program were not sentenced differently from defendants without an alcohol problem.

Other factors that were less significant statistically $(0.05 > P \ge 0.01)$ included the CDI and financial indices. Defendants who scored higher on these indices received longer (0.9 days per index point on the CDI index; 1.3 days per index point on the financial index) sentences than defendants who scored lower.

Of marginal significance $(0.10 > P \ge 0.05)$ in determining active jail sentence was the net fine. Larger net fines are associated with lower jail terms (-0.01 days per dollar net fine).

D. <u>Disorderly Conduct Offenses</u>

1) Community Sentencing Patterns

Disorderly conduct was the most serious offense committed by 9.1% of the defendants in the study. The proportion of defendants committing these offenses in each of the communities were Anchorage 5.6%, Barrow 17.0%. 12.8%, Fairbanks 7.3%, Juneau 16.7%, Kodiak 8.9%, Nome 10.0% and Sitka 13.0%.

Distributions of active jail sentences and net fines are shown in Tables 29 - 32. Statewide, 55.6% of the defendants were sentenced to at least one day in jail. Over two thirds of the defendants in Barrow (77.8%), Bethel (80.0%) and Nome (75.0%) received an active jail sentence; under 50% of the defendants in Juneau (26.3%), Kodiak (44.4%) and Sitka (33.3%) were likewise sentenced. The average active jail sentence for defendants sentenced to at least one day was 5.8 days. The range of mean jail sentences was between 1.3 days (Sitka) and 11.0 days (Fairbanks). The majority of sentences were between 1 and 10 days duration.

The use of net fines in the various communities is the converse of the use of active jail sentences. Barrow (22.2%), Bethel (46.7%) and Nome (8.3%) defendants received net fines in less than 50% of the cases. Defendants in Fairbanks (73.7%),

TABLE 29 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means and Standard Deviations (SD)
of Active Jail Sentences (Days) for Defendants
Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail for "Disorderly
Conduct" Offenses. Given are the Total Number
of Defendants (N) and the Number (n) and Proportion
(% N) of Defendants Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (DAYS)

CITY	N	n	(%N)	Mean	SD
Anchorage	e 29	17	(58.6)	6.1	10.0
Barrow	9	7	(77.8)	10.1	15.6
Bethel	15	12	(80.0)	3.3	2.4
Fairbanks	s 19	11	(57.9)	11.0	17.0
Juneau	19	5	(26.3)	5.8	3.8
Kodiak	9	4	(44.4)	3.3	2.1
Nome	12	9	(75.0)	2.1	1.3
Sitka	12	4	(33.3)	1.3	0.5
Total	124	69	(55.6)	5.8	10.0

TABLE 30 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means and Standard Deviations (SD)
of Net Fines (\$) for Defendants Who Paid
at Least \$1 for "Disorderly Conduct" Offenses.
Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N)
and the Number (n) and Proportion (% N) of
Defendants Who Paid at Least \$1 in Fines

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (\$)

CITY	N	n	(%N)	Mean	SD
Anchoraç	ge 29	17	(58.6)	82.4	55.7
Barrow	9	2	(22.2)	35.0	21.2
Bethel	15	7	(46.7)	42.9	27.8
Fairbank	ks 19	14	(73.7)	155.4	153.2
Juneau	19	12	(63.2)	100.0	67.4
Kodiak	9	6	(66.7)	66.7	37.6
Nome	12	1	(8.3)	50.0	0.0
Sitka	12	10	(83.3)	132.5	83.4
Total	124	69	(55.6)	100.3	92.3

TABLE 31 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Active Jail Sentences (Days) for "Disorderly Conduct" Offenses. Given are Means and Standard Deviations (SD) for all Penalties.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Z		c			01	(DAYS)		07 12	0,7	90	ć
-T C (%) C	(%)		-		-10 (%)	11-20	21-50	51-40	40	Mean	S
Anchorage 29 12 (41.4) 16 ((41.4) 16	(41.4) 16		`	(55.2)	0				3.6	8.1
9 2 (22.2) 6 (6	(22.2) 6	9		9	(66.7)	0	0	0	1 (11.1)	7.9	14.3
15 3 (20.0) 12 (80	12	12		(8)	(80.0)	0	0	0	0	2.6	2.5
Fairbanks 19 8 (42.1) 9 (47.4)	(42.1) 9	9/	6 (47	(47	.4)	0	0	0	2 (10.5)	4.9	13.9
19 14 (73.7) 5 (26.3)	(73.7) 5	٠.	5 (26,	(26,	3)	0	0	0	0	1.5	3.2
9 5 (55.6) 4 (44.4)	(55.6) 4	4	4 (44.	(44.	7	0	0	0		1.4	2.1
12 3 (25.0) 9 (75.0)	6	6	9 (75.	(75.	6	0	0	0	0	1.6	1.4
12 8 (66.7) 4 (33.3)	(66.7)	4	4 (33.	(33.	3)	0	0	0	0	4.0	0.7
124 55 (44.4) 64 (51.6)	64	64		(51.	(9	0	0	0	4 (3.2)	3.2	8.0
									•		

TABLE 32 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Net Fines (\$) For "Disorderly Conduct" Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For all Penalties.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

SD		59.0	17.1	28.7	148.0	72.3	44.7	14.4	91.4	84.9
Mean		48.3	7.8	20.0	114.5	63.2	44.4	4.2	110.4	55.8
400	(%)				(5.3)	-				1 (0.8)
	c	0	0	0	_	0	0	0	0	7
301-400	(%)				(5.3)					(0.8)
3	c	0	0	0	_	0	0	0	0	٦
201-300	(%)	(3.4)			(10.5)	(5.3)			(16.7)	6 (4.8)
2(c	-	0	0	2	-	0	0	2	9
101-200 (\$)	(%)	(3.4)							(16.7)	3 (2.4)
10	c		0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
1-100	(%)	(51.7)	(22.2)	(46.7)	(52.7)	(57.9)	(66.7)	(8.3)	(50.0)	(46.8)
İ	c	15	2	7	10	11	9	٦	9	58
0	(%)	(41.4)	(77.8)	(53.3)	(26.3)	(36.8)	(33.3)	(91.7)	(16.7)	55 (44.4)
	c	12	7	ω	ιΛ	7	К	11	2	55
z		53	6	15	19	19	6	12	12	124
CITY		Anchorage 29	Barrow	Bethel	Fairbanks	Juneau	Kodiak	Nome	Sitka	Total

TABLE 33 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Regression Coefficients and Standard Errors (SE) for Equations Describing Variation in Active Jail Sentence Length (Days) for Disorderly Conduct Offenses. Also Given are Sample Sizes (N) and Coefficients of Determination (\mathbb{R}^2)

	Prelimin	ary	Reduc	ed .
	N = 72		N = 81	
	$R^2 = 0.31$		$R^2 = 0.25$	
	Coefficient	(SE)	Coefficient	(SE)
Case Descriptor Index Process	-0.05	(0.37)	_	
Guilty at:				
Arraignment	4		-	
Other hearing	-1.54	(2.17)	_	
Jury Trial	-		_	1
Bench Trial	-		_	
Concurrent Counts	-5.7°	(4.62)	-5. 1	(4.11)
Offense				
Charge Subcategory				
Victim Status				
No Harm	1		_	
Harm	0.6	(2.1)	_	
Alcohol Use at Offense				
No	4			
Yes	-0.44	(2.63)	-	
Defendant Problems			 	
Prior Record				
None	4		_	
Violation(s)	_			
Misdemeanor(s)	4.00	(2.55)	3.2*	(1.74)
Felony(s)	-	(_	(30)
Drug/Alcohol Treatment		İ		İ
No Problem	_		_	
Never Referred	-1.0	(3.57)	-	
Referred, No Attendance		(3.09)	-	
Attended, No Completion			-	1
Current Treatment	_		_	
Completed Treatment	_		_	
Defendant Characteristics				
Sex				
Male	¶i		_	
Female	2.1	(3.24)	-	
Age	-0.09	(0.14)		
Financial Index	1.84°	(0.74)	1.6***	(0.57)
Other Factors			 <u> </u>	
Net Fine	0.05°	(0.013)	0.04***	(0.010)
Additional Conditions	0.1	(2.29)	_	, , , , ,
Constant (Intercept)	8.240	(6.15)	4.4	(4.31)
			, • ,	`

⁻ Not analyzed

ed * 0.10>P≥0.05

[¶] Reference category

^{** 0.05&}gt;P≥0.01

[°] P**∠**0.20

Juneau (63.2%), Kodiak (66.7%) and Sitka (83.3%) were more likely to receive a fine. Highest mean fines (for defendants receiving a net fine) were levied in Fairbanks (\$155.40), Juneau (\$100.00) and Sitka (\$132.50); lowest mean fines were in Barrow (\$35.00), Bethel (\$42.90) and Nome (\$50.00). The majority of fines were between \$1 and \$100.

2) <u>Factors Associated with Sentences of Disorderly</u> Conduct Offenses

Results of the preliminary regression model are shown in Table 33. For the 72 cases under consideration, 31% of the variation in active jail sentence length could be explained by the full model. Relatively (P 0.20) significant factors included the financial index, the number of concurrent counts, the defendant's prior record and the net fine received.

The reduced model with 81 cases explains 25% of the variation of active sentence length. In this model only net fine and the financial index were related to active jail sentence at the 0.05 level of significance. For each additional dollar of net fine, there was an estimated 0.04 day increase in active jail sentence length. Defendants who scored higher on the index served longer sentences (1.6 days per index point) than defendants who scored lower. There is some indication $(0.10 > P \ge 0.05)$ that defendants with a prior misdemeanor record received longer (3.2 days) sentences than defendants with no prior record.

E. Alcohol/Drug Law Offenses

Community Sentencing Patterns

Alcohol/drug law violations (such as possession of drugs or consumption of alcohol by a minor) were the most serious offenses committed by 5.5% of the defendants in this study. The proportion of defendants committing these offenses in each of the communities were Anchorage 0.8%, Barrow 9.4%, Bethel 5.1%, Fairbanks 3.1%, Juneau 16.7%, Kodiak 14.9%, Nome 14.2% and Sitka 1.1%. Only three communities (Juneau (19

cases), Kodiak (15), Nome (17)) have a sufficient number of convictions to make direct comparisons.

The distributions of active jail sentences and net fines are shown in Tables 34 - 37. Kodiak (66.7%) and Nome (52.9%) defendants were more likely to receive a jail sentence of at least one day than their Juneau counterparts (26.3%). However, the mean active jail term for defendants who spent at least one day in jail was 16.3 days in Kodiak, compared to 4.2 days in Juneau and 2.2 days in Nome. The majority of defendants who went to jail were sentenced for terms of 1 to 10 days.

Conversely, Juneau defendants (52.6%) were more likely to receive a net fine than defendants from Kodiak (20.0%) or Nome (17.6%). The mean net fines for defendants did not differ significantly in Juneau (\$43.50), Kodiak (\$33.30) or Nome (\$75.00). The majority of fines were between \$1 and \$100.

2) <u>Factors Associated with Sentences for Alcohol/Drug</u> <u>Offenses</u>

Results of the multiple regression models are shown in Table 38. In the preliminary model, 53% of the variation in active jail sentence length could be explained by all variables under consideration for the 51 cases. Relatively significant factors included the CDI, alcohol/drug treatment history, net fine and age of the defendants.

The reduced model was able to explain 41% of the variation in sentences for 55 defendants. Highly significant (P < 0.01) factors included the defendants's alcohol/drug treatment history and net fine received. Defendants who were previously referred for an alcohol treatment program, but did not attend, were assigned 7.0 days more than defendants with no previous alcohol problem. In addition, there was a positive relationship between the net fine levied and active jail sentence (i.e., for each additional \$1 net fine, there was an increase of 0.03 days in active jail sentence).

TABLE 34 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Active Jail Sentences (Days) for Defendants Who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail for Alcohol/Drug Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) and the Number (n) and Proportion (% N) of Defendants who Spent at Least 1 Day in Jail.

ALCOHOL/DRUG VIOLATION (DAYS)

CITY	N	n	(%N)	Mean	SD
Anchorage	4	1	(25.0)	3.0	0
Barrow	5	1	(20.0)	2.0	0
Bethel	6	5	(83.3)	19.8	18.5
Fairbanks	8	2	(25.0)	7.5	3.5
Juneau	19	5	(26.3)	4.2	2.6
Kodiak	15	10	(66.7)	16.3	28.4
Nome	17	9	(52.9)	2.2	1.9
Sitka	1	1	(100.0)	2.0	0
Total	75	34	(45.3)	9.6	17.8

TABLE 35 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Means and Standard Deviations (SD) of Net Fines (\$) for Defendants who Paid at Least \$1 for Alcohol/Drug Offenses. Given are the Total Number of Defendants (N) and the Number (n) and Proportion (% N) of Defendants who Paid at Least \$1 in Fines

ALCOHOL/DRUG (\$)

Anchorage 4 3 (75.0) 91.7 62.9 Barrow 5 2 (40.0) 510.0 693.0 Bethel 6 3 (50.0) 193.3 115.5 Fairbanks 8 6 (75.0) 162.5 168.6 Juneau 19 10 (52.6) 43.5 25.9 Kodiak 15 3 (20.0) 33.3 14.4 Nome 17 3 (17.6) 75.0 66.1 Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	CITY	N	n	(%N)	Mean	SD
Bethel 6 3 (50.0) 193.3 115.5 Fairbanks 8 6 (75.0) 162.5 168.6 Juneau 19 10 (52.6) 43.5 25.9 Kodiak 15 3 (20.0) 33.3 14.4 Nome 17 3 (17.6) 75.0 66.1 Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	Anchorage	4	3	(75.0)	91.7	62.9
Fairbanks 8 6 (75.0) 162.5 168.6 Juneau 19 10 (52.6) 43.5 25.9 Kodiak 15 3 (20.0) 33.3 14.4 Nome 17 3 (17.6) 75.0 66.1 Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	Barrow	5	2	(40.0)	510.0	693.0
Juneau 19 10 (52.6) 43.5 25.9 Kodiak 15 3 (20.0) 33.3 14.4 Nome 17 3 (17.6) 75.0 66.1 Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	Bethel	6	3	(50.0)	193.3	115.5
Kodiak 15 3 (20.0) 33.3 14.4 Nome 17 3 (17.6) 75.0 66.1 Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	Fairbanks	8	6	(75.0)	162.5	168.6
Nome 17 3 (17.6) 75.0 66.1 Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	Juneau	19	10	(52.6)	43.5	25.9
Sitka 1 1 (100.0) 200.0 0.0	Kodiak	15	3	(20.0)	33.3	14.4
	Nome	17	3	(17.6)	75.0	66.1
7-1-1 75 71 71 71	Sitka	1	1	(100.0)	200.0	0.0
10tal /5 31 (41.3) 121.9 191.1	Total	75	31	(41.3)	121.9	191.1

TABLE 36 (1931 Misdemeanors)

Distribution of Active Jail Sentences (Days) For Alcohol/Drug Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For All Penalties.

ALCOHOL/DRUG VIOLATIONS

	S		1.5	6.0	18.4	3.7	2.3	24.1	1.8	0.0	12.8
	Mean		0.8	0.4	16.5	1.9	1.1	10.9	1.2	2.0	4.3
	40	(%)			(16.7)			(6.7)			2 (2.7)
		c	0	0	-	0	0	٦	0	0	2
	31-40	(%)	_								
		c	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	21-30	(%)		* **********	(16.7)			(13.3)			3 (4.0)
		c	0	0	-	0	0	2	0	0	3
(DAYS)	11-20	(%)	0	0	1 (16.7)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (1.3)
	-										
	1-10	(%)	(25.0)	(20.0)	(33.3)	(25.0)	(26.3)	(46.7)	(52.9)	(100.0)	(37.3)
	_	c	7	_	7	2	₹	7	6	-	28
	0	(%)	(75.0)	(80.0)	(16.7)	(75.0)	(73.7)	(33.3)	(47.1)		(54.7)
		c	77	4	-	9	14	ιV	æ	0	41
	Z		4	5	9	œ	61	15	17	-	75
	CITY		Anchorage	Barrow	Bethel	Fairbanks	Juneau	Kodiak	Nome	Sitka	Total

TABLE 37 (1981 Miscemeanors)

Distribution of Net Fines (\$) For Alcohol/Drug Offenses. Given are Means And Standard Deviations (SD) For all Penalties.

ALCOHOL/DRUG VIOLATIONS

-				000	(\$)			9	:	
+	ا	0		-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	(%)	Mean	8
1	:	(2)								
	٦	(25.0)	7	(20.0)	1 (25.0)	0	0	0	68.8	68.8
	W	(0.09)	_	(20.0)	0	0	0	1 (20.0)	204.0	445.1
	М	(50.0)	-	(16.7)	0	2 (33.3)	0	0	91.7	124.2
ω	2	(25.0)	4	(50.0)	1 (12.5)	0	0	1 (12.5)	121.9	161.2
19	9	(47.4)	01	(52.6)	0	0	0	0	22.9	28.9
15	12	(80.0)	М	(20.0)	0	0	0	0	6.7	14.8
17	14	(82.4)	2	(11.8)	1 (5.9)	0	0	0	13.2	37.6
	0		0		1 (100.0)	0	0	0	200.0	0.0
75	44	44 (58.7)	23	(30.7)	4 (5.3)	2 (2.7)	0	2 (2.7)	50.4	135.8

TABLE 38 (1981 Misdemeanors)

Regression Coefficients and Standard Errors (SE) for Equations Describing Variation in Active Jail Sentence Length (Days) for Alcohol/Drug Offenses. Also Given are Sample Sizes (N) and Coefficients of Determination (\mathbb{R}^2)

	Prelimin	nary	Re	educed .
	N = 51		N = 55	
	$R^2 = 0.53$		$R^2 = 0.41$	
	Coefficient	<u>(SE)</u>	Coefficie	ent (SE)
Case Descriptor Index Process	-0.5°	(0.35)	-0.5*	(0.28)
Guilty at:				
Arraignment	1		-	
Other hearing	-1.0	(1.82)	-	
Jury Trial	-		-	
Bench Trial	_		-	
Concurrent Counts	2.7	(2.88)	_	
<u>Offense</u>				
Charge Subcategory				
Victim Status				
No Harm	_		-	
Harm	_		-	
Alcohol Use at Offense				
No	1		_	
Yes	-3. 2	(3.02)	_	
Defendant Problems				
Prior Record				
None	11		_	
Violation(s)	_		-	
Misdemeanor(s)	1.2	(2.80)	-	
Felony(s)	-		_	
Drug/Alcohol Treatment				
No Problem	¶		_	
Never Referred	1.3	(2.67)	1.7	(1.91)
Referred, No Attendance	6.0°	(3.53)	7.0***	(1.88)
Attended, No Completion	-		_	
Current	_		_	
Completed	-		-	
Defendant Characteristics				
Sex				
Male	1		-	
Female	-0.6	(2.06)	_	
Age	0.20	(0.11)	0.1*	(0.07)
Financial Index	-0.2	(0.89)	_	
Other Factors				
Net Fine	0.020	(0.012)	0.03**	** (0.0083)
Additional Conditions	1.6	(1.6)	_	
Constant (Intercept)	- 5.8	(5.49)	-3.8*	(2.00)

Not analyzed

0.05 > P≥0.01

**

[¶] Reference category

[°] P**≰**0.20

^{* 0.10}**≻≥**0.05

^{***} P< 0.01

There were marginally significant relationships $(0.107\,P\!\!\ge\!0.05)$ between active jail sentence and the CDI or the defendant's age. Defendants who scored higher on the index tended to get shorter sentences (0.5 days per index point); older defendants tended to get longer sentences (0.1 days per year difference) than younger defendants.

F. Miscellaneous Offenses

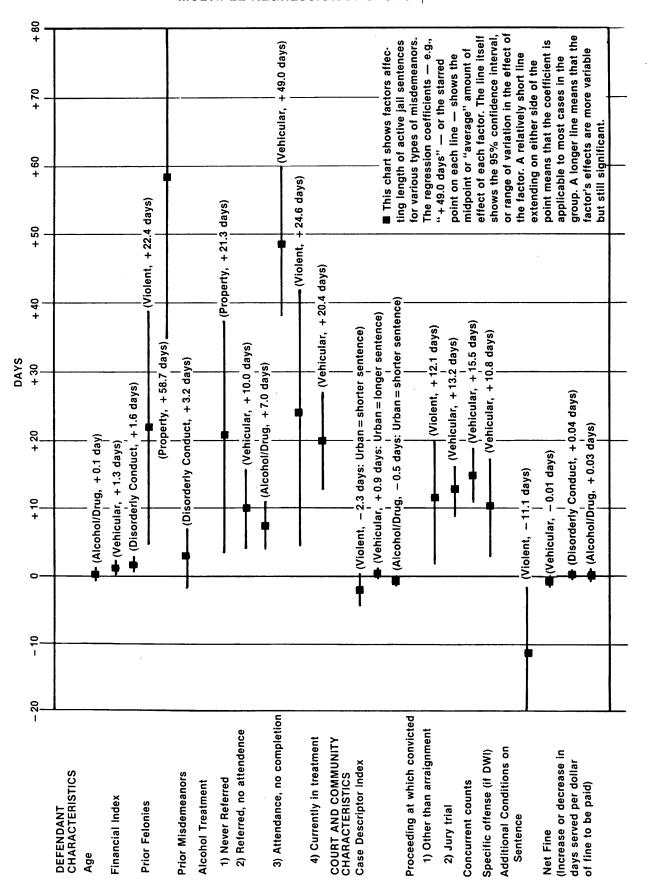
38 offenses were classified as "miscellaneous" (Tables 2 and 4). Major offense types within this category included prostitution-related offenses (15 cases), public indecency (6 cases) and gambling activities (6 cases). Due to the small number and varied nature of these offenses, no further meaningful statistical analysis was possible.

IV. SUMMARY OF FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH SENTENCES

Multiple regression was used to simultaneously account for various factors that may have affected active jail sentence length and to estimate the independent contribution of each factor. It should be noted, however, that even when all potential "causal" variables were entered into a regression model, generally only 30% to 40% of the variation of active jail sentence length could be explained. However, it may be useful to identify those factors which seem relevent to several types of misdemeanors and to analyze the consistency with which they appeared (Graph 13).

Case Descriptor Index. One of the study's main purposes was to find whether racial disparities existed in misdemeanor sentencings. When race of the defendant was used as a separate variable in the multiple regression models, no significant disparities appeared. However, the models showed that several other variables were very closely associated with race. When this phenomenon, know as multi-collinearity, occurs,

(1981 Misdemeanor Sentences) MULTIPLE REGRESSION FACTORS



other statistical techniques must be called into play. For this study, a "case descriptor index" (CDI) was constructed.

The CDI was an attempt to capture the underlying variability of a number of factors that distinguish urban and rural defendants. Recall that higher scores on the urban-rural index indicate a defendant classified as urban (Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau cases), who was caucasian or black, who entered a negotiated plea, who committed a municipal offense or who was tried by a district court judge. Lower index scores indicate a defendant classified as rural (Barrow, Bethel, Nome, Kodiak and Sitka cases), who was native, who did not enter a negotiated plea, who was charged with a state offense or who was tried by a magistrate or superior court judge.

The CDI "worked" well in the new multiple regression models; that is, it continued to be significantly associated with active jail sentence length. This indicated that the index accurately summarizes the varied information which has been incorporated into it.

For two of the regression models (violent and alcohol/drug offenses), there was a significant relationship (i.e., defendants with lower index scores received longer sentences) between a defendant's CDI score and active jail sentence. Both of these relationships can be explained on a community basis. For violent offenses, both the likelihood of receiving an active jail sentence and the mean sentence imposed (if an active term was indeed imposed) was significantly greater in Bethel and Nome cases (which make up the majority of "rural" defendants for violent offenses) than Anchorage cases (which are predominately "urban" defendants). For alcohol/drug offenses, the mean sentences did not differ significantly between areas. However, several of the areas classified as rural (Barrow, Bethel, Nome) had high likelihoods (greater than 67%) of sending defendants to jail for at least one day. The urban areas (Anchorage (55%), Fairbanks (47.4%) and Juneau (26.3%)) were less likely to sentence defendants to an active jail term.

For vehicular offenses, there was a significant positive relation (i.e., higher scores received longer sentences). This may also be explained by community differences in sentencing. Anchorage (13.4 days), Fairbanks (13.8 days) and Juneau (19.3 days) had three of the four highest mean active jail sentences for all communities.

The CDI was not significantly related to active jail sentence for property or disorderly conduct offenses.

The finding that sentences vary by geographic area for most type of offenses (except property and disorderly conduct offenses) is consistent with findings from earlier felony studies, which also show strikingly different sentencing patterns between urban and rural areas. All of the findings provide statistical support for the frequent observation by Bush leaders and others that Alaska's criminal justice system operates differently in its urban and rural areas.

To provide more background for these differences among areas, interviews with judges and attorneys were conducted in Bethel and Nome. Those interviewed believed that community condemnation, especially of violent offenses, may be either greater or more apparent than in urban areas. Furthermore, judges and other criminal justice personnel are much more likely to be acquainted with the defendant and victim, as well as the context in which the offense was committed. Yet another factor noted by the interviewees was the difference in criminal justice resources available in smaller comunities. Fewer jail facilities, fewer treatment or community-service programs, and the difficulties of supervising a defendant living in a remote village all limit the choices for the judge or magistrate imposing sentence on a rural defendant.

These interactions among cultural values of communities and public resources available to deal with criminal behavior structure decisions made prior to sentencing as well. The judges and attorneys interviewed noted that

village police may characterize the charge against a defendant differently than would a state trooper. Bail decisions may result in a higher proportion of rural defendants faced with a monetary bond requirement because of the difficulty of assuring that a defendant from an outlying village will appear for subsistence economies and trial. But. because of unemployment, many of these defendants may be unable to post the bail, and may stay in jail prior to conviction. Or, there may be no satisfactory way to provide for own-recognizance release in a small village. Again, the combination of all of these factors results in a very different criminal "environment" than that found in more urban areas of the state.

Finally, the persons interviewed noted that a number of important changes have occurred in the two years between the convictions studied (1981) and this report (1983). Villages in western Alaska that had only one telephone at that time may now have 30 to 50 telephones, making communication much simpler. Increased court resources in areas such as Barrow, and attempts by communities to ban the sale or importation of alcohol may have significantly affected sentencing patterns. Changes have also occurred in urban areas, including a new community-service program for Anchorage misdemeanants, and stiffer penalties for drunk driving offenses statewide. However, it is likely that and rural sentencings different patterns for urban continue, based on the differing values and resources in each community.

Financial Index. The financial index was an attempt to measure the financial well being of the defendant. Recall that lower scores on the index are related to defendants who were employed, who were represented by a private attorney and who were released on monetary bail at the time of sentencing; higher scores are related to defendants who were unemployed, represented by the public defender or who were in jail at the time of sentencing.

The index was positively related (i.e., a defendant who scored higher on the index received a longer sentence than a defendant who scored lower) to active jail sentence for vehicular and disorderly conduct offenses. No relationship was found between the index and sentence length for violent, property or alcohol/drug offenses.

Alcohol/Drug Treatment History. In four of the misdemeanor categories (violent, property, vehicular and alcohol/drug offenses) longer sentences were generally related to defendants who were either referred to, but did not attend, or who attended, but did not complete previously required alcohol/drug treatment.

Prior Record. For violent and property offenses, defendants prior felony convictions received with sentences than defendants with no prior criminal record. Defendants with misdemeanor records did not significantly different sentences. For vehicular, disorderly conduct and alcohol/drug offenses, prior record was not related sentence severity. It should noted, however, that be drug/alcohol treatment history was related to length of jail sentence (above), and that prior reference or entrance into a treatment program may have been mandated by a previous offense. If this was the case, there is joint information within these two variables that may determine sentence severity.

Court Proceeding. The proceeding at which disposition took place was significantly related to active jail sentence length for violent and vehicular misdemeanors. For violent misdemeanors, defendants who had dispositions that occurred at a proceeding other than arraignment received longer (12.1 days) sentences than defendants who plead quilty or arraignment. For vehicular offenses, defendants who were found quilty by a jury received sentences an estimated 13.2 days longer than defendants who plead guilty or nolo at arraignment. significant number of jury trials occurred defendants who had committed vehicular offenses.

Concurrent Counts. The number of concurrent counts was found related to active jail sentence length only for vehicular violations. For these offenses, each count in addition to the most serious offense accounted for an added 15.5 days in active jail sentence length. This may be due to the use of consecutive jail sentences for vehicular offenses and the use of concurrent penalties in other offense categories.

Other Factors. The use of additional sentencing conditions was related to less severe (-11.1 days) sentences for violent misdemeanors. Additional conditions were not significantly related to sentence length for any other offense category.

For disorderly conduct and alcohol/drug violations there was a positive relationship (i.e., defendants with longer jail terms also received higher fines) between the net fine imposed and active jail sentence. However, for vehicular offenses there is a trade-off between the two penalties: defendants who received larger fines served less time (-0.01 days per dollar fine).

Factors that were generally unrelated to active jail sentence included the status of the victim and the age or sex of the defendant.

ALASKA MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES: 1981

APPENDIX A

Misdemeanor Sentencing Information Sheet

	CASE NUMBER:
	DEFENDANT'S RACE:
	White Indian/Native Black Other Minority Unknown PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD:
	a) Felonies Misdemeanors Unknown
	
	b) Severity: None Slight Moderate Severe Record of Simila Offenses
	Aggravates sentence Mitigates sentence N/A to sentence
	ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE AT THE TIME OF OFFENSE:
	Yes No N/A Unknown
	If "YES": Aggravates sentence Mitigates sentence N/A to sentence
	DEFENDANT HAS HISTORY OF DRUG OR ALCOHOL PROBLEMS:
	Yes No N/A Unknown
	If "YES": Light Moderate Severe
	DEFENDANT'S TREATMENT FOR DRUG/ALCOHOL PROBLEM:
••	Yes, has been treated previously (or is presently in treatment)
	Nc problem or problem never treated
	N/A
	Unknown
	NOTE ANY FACTORS STATED BY THE JUDGE AT THE TIME OF SENTENCING IN SUPPORT OF THE PARTICULAR SENTENCE:
	a) Aggravating <u>Mitigating</u> Other
	b) This crime is similar to others of its type, and sentence imposed is similar

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MISDEMEANOR INFORMATION

At the time of sentencing either the judge or the in-court clerk shall complete the misdemeanor sentencing information form as follows:

- 1. <u>Case Number</u>: Write in the case number.
- 2. Race: The in-court clerk will check the appropriate box after the sentencing is completed.
- 3. a) Number of Prior Offenses: Fill in the number of prior felonies and misdemeanors.
 - b) <u>Prior Criminal History Comments</u>: Record all other comments about the defendant's criminal history, including the number of same or similar offenses, probation or parole status, and other factors which are mentioned by the judge or other parties.
- 4. <u>Drug/Alcohol Use at time of Offense</u>: Record the known or reported use of alcohol and/or drugs at the time of the offense.
- 5. <u>Drug/Alcohol History</u>: Record the known or reported history of drug or alcohol problems of the defendant.
- 6. <u>Drug/Alcohol Treatment</u>: Record the known or stated treatment the defendant has received for drug or alcohol use.
- 7. Factors Stated by Judge: Record any particular factors explicitly stated by the judge regarding the sentence imposed in the case. These may include: employment information, harm to victim, provocation by the victim, prior offenses, or any other aggravating and/or mitigating factor specifically articulated by the judge in support of the sentence.

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

No. 81-3

May 20, 1981

TO:

All Presiding Judges

All Area Court Administrators

SUBJECT: Misdemeanor Sentencing Information Sheet

All judges and magistrates imposing sentence for conviction of a misdemeanor offense in specified court locations shall complete a Misdemeanor Sentencing Information Sheet at the time of sentencing. The judge or magistrate may delegate this duty to the in-court clerk, but shall be responsible for making the required information available to the clerk. The sheet shall be completed according to the instructions attached to it, and is to be kept in the court case file until collected by a representative of the Alaska Judicial Council. The court locations included in this directive are Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel, Nome, Kodiak, Juneau, Sitka and Barrow. The directive does not apply to fish and game or vehicle license violations (including driving with a suspended, revoked or without a valid license). Forms will be sent under separate cover.

The directive will be effective from June 1, 1981 through December 31, 1981.

rthur H. Snowden, I.

:smh

cc: Chief Justice Jay A. Rabinowitz All Judges and Magistrates at designated locations ALASKA MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES: 1981

APPENDIX B

Defendant and Charge Coding Forms

		Initials: 's Initials: FORM	
CASE NUMBER(S	s):		
LOCATION: AN BA BE	E FA JU KO NO	SI	
NAME: LAST,	F	IRST,	M.I.
1. $\frac{1}{2}$ Location		•	
2. 3 4 5 6	Defendant I.D. Nur	mber (Coders lea	ive blank)
3. 7 8 9 1 Month Day	10 11 12	te of Birth (9s	= unknown)
4. Age: $1 = 18$ 2 = 22 3 = 26	3-21 years 4 : 2-25 years 5 : 5-30 years 9 :	= 31-45 years = Over 45 years = Unknown	
2 = Na	Race: ack 4: tive/Indian 9: ucasian	= Other minority = Unknown	· ()
Sex of Offe 1 = Ma 2 = Fe 9 = Un	le male		
16 Is defendan 1 = No 2 = Ye			

1 = No, known to have no priors

2 = Yes

9 = Unknown

Is anything further mentioned about the prior record?

1 = No, known to have no priors

2 = Yes, felonies 3 = Yes, misdemeanors

4 = Yes, prior juvenile offenses

5 = Yes, violations, traffic tickets, or failures to

satisfy judgments or fines $9 = \bar{U}_{nknown}$

Check police report for information

10.	19	Defendant's custodial status at time of sentencing 1 = Own recognizance (OR) or third party custody 2 = Monetary bail release 3 = Jailed (never made bail, violated bail conditions, jailed for another charge, etc.) 9 = Unknown (check with supervisor before using)
11.	20	Type of attorney at sentencing 1 = None (pro per or pro se) 2 = Public Defender 3 = Court-appointed private attorney 4 = Private attorney
*12.	21	Drug and/or alcohol use at time of offense 1 = No evidence of either 2 = Alcohol used 3 = Drugs used 4 = Both used 5 = Alcohol or drug use, not specified 9 = Information not available
13.	22	Past drug and/or alcohol use 1 = No evidence of either 2 = Alcohol "problem" or addiction 3 = Drug addiction or methadone treatment 4 = "Heavy" drug use 5 = Both used 6 = Alcohol or drug use, not specified 9 = Information not available
1,4.	23	Past or current alcohol and/or drug treatment 1 = No evidence of drug or alcohol problem 2 = Referred to alcohol or drug treatment, no record of attendance 3 = Attended drug or alcohol treatment; did not complete programs 4 = Completed alcohol or drug treatments in the past 5 = Never referred to programs or received treatment 6 = Currently receiving treatment 9 = Information not available

^{*} Check police report for information

	CHARGE FORM
	e of ense/Cite:
Coun	t Number:
Loca	tion of Court: AN BA BE FA JU KO NO SI
Defe	ndant's Name: Last, First, M.I.
1.	Defendant ID Number (coders leave blank)
2.	5 6 7 8 9 10 Court Case File Number
3.	Original Offense Code (coders leave blank)
4.	Offense of conviction (coders leave blank)
5.	19 20 21 22 23 24 Month Day Year
6	How did case come to court? 1 = Citation 2 = Complaint 3 = Information
7	Is offense state or municipal? 1 = State 2 = Municipal
8	Type of disposition 1 = Guilty or nolo at arraignment 2 = Guilty or nolo at any other proceeding 3 = Jury trial 4 = Bench trial (non-jury trial)
9	Is negotiated plea (plea bargain) noted on the record? 1 = No 2 = Yes, state 3 = Yes, municipal
10.	Judge's or magistrate's initials (see list of abbreviations in coding manual) xxx = Unknown

Coder's Initials: Checker's Initials:

```
Type of sentence
           1 = Active imprisonment (even if part suspended)
            2 = Suspended imposition with active time
            3 = Suspended imprisonment (no active time; may include
                probation)
            4 = Suspended imposition with no active time
            5 = Fine (includes court costs, restitution or restitution
                and fine)
12.
                            Total length of jail sentence.
                             0000 = No jail sentence
       Months
                   Days
                             9999 = Unknown (see supervisor)
13.
                            Amount of total suspended
     37 38
                  39 40
       Months
                   Days
14.
                            Amount of time to serve.
       Months
                   Days
           Was defendant sentenced to "time served"?
15.
            1 = No
            2 = Yes
16.
                            Total amount of fine
            47 48 49
                            $0000 = No fine
                            $9997 = Maximum amount
                            $9999 = Unknown (see supervisor)
17.
                            Amount of fine suspended
18.
                            Amount of fine to be paid
           Was bail forfeited for part or all of the fine?
19.
            1 = No
            2 = Yes, entire fine
            3 = Yes, partial fine
            8 = Not applicable, no bail or fine
            9 = Unknown (see supervisor)
20.
                            Total amount of restitution (see coding
       59 60 61 62
                           for fines)
21.
                            Amount suspended
            64 65 66
22.
                           Amount of restitution to be paid
23.
          Was driver's license revoked or suspended?
               1 = No
               2 = Yes, revoked wholly
3 = Yes, limited revocation
               4 = Yes, suspended wholly
               5 = Yes, limited suspension
               8 = Not applicable, non-vehicular
               9 = Unknown
```

24.	72	defendant at time of sentencing? (Do not incude prior convictons. See prior record variables on defendant form for recording these). Choose the most serious. 1 - Probation or parole violations 2 = Felonies 3 = Misdemeanors 4 = "Failure to satisfy" warrants 5 = Traffic violations 6 = Other violations 7 = Yes, charge unknown 8 = None 9 = Unknown
25.	73	As additional condition of sentence, judge required: 1 = No special conditions 2 = Drug or alcohol treatment 3 = Psychological Treatment 4 = Work 5 = Education 6 = Community service 7 = Other (specify: 8 = Combination of two or more above choices (specify combination:
		OTHER CHARGE INFORMATION FROM POLICE REPORTS: Police Report Number:
26.	74	Did breathalyzer or blood test exceed legal limit? 1 = No test, offense is alcohol-related 2 = Yes, breathalyzer 3 = Yes, blood test 4 = Breathalyzer done; below legal limit 5 = Blood test done; below legal limit 6 = Defendant refused testing 8 = Not applicable, offense is not alcohol-related 9 = Unknown
27.	75	Amount of property involved (stolen, damaged, etc.) 1 = \$0 - \$100 2 = \$101 - \$500 3 = \$501 - \$1,000 4 = \$1,001 - \$10,000 5 = Over \$10,000 8 = Not applicable, no property involved 9 = Property involved, value unknown
28.	76	Type of custodial arrangement at booking 1 = OR (own recognizance), summons, defendant not booked) 2 = Release to third party, no monetary bail 3 = Monetary bail required 4 = Other (describe: 9 = Unknown. no information available

29.

Was any victim physically harmed?
1 = No victim physically harmed (includes property damage without personal injury)
2 = Victim(s) harmed physically

8 = Not applicable, no victim (e.g. assignation, CCW, etc.)

9 = Unknown