

A Report for

**The Weed and Seed Program, Park and
Recreation Department, City of Corpus Christi**

WEED AND SEED EVALUATION

PHILIP W. RHOADES, PH.D

And

**MINERVA SANCHEZ,
RESEARCH ASSISTANT**

FEBRUARY 21, 2002



Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
The Island University

WEED AND SEED EVALUATION

This report has been prepared for the Weed and Seed Program, Park and Recreation Department, of the City of Corpus Christi by the Social Science Research Center, College of Arts and Humanities, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi.

The evaluation team was directed by and this report written by

Philip W. Rhoades, Ph.D
Professor of Criminal Justice and Regents Professor

and

Minerva Sanchez, BA
Research Assistant

It was published and delivered on February 21, 2002.

Funding was provided by the Weed and Seed Program.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Methodology Related to Indicators	6
Results of Analysis of Indicators	7
Indicators of Crime, Delinquency, and Child Abuse	7
Indicators of Academic Performance	12
Economic Indicators	17
Methodology Related to the Survey	19
Survey Results	22
Respondent Demographics	22
Satisfaction with Neighborhood	26
Perception of Safety	30
Perceptions of Neighborhood Crime Problems	34
Experiences With Victimization	40
Observations and Perceptions of Police	42
Participation in Neighborhood Improvement Initiatives	50
Ratings of Availability of Services in the Community	52
Knowledge of, Participation in, and Evaluation of Weed and Seed Programs	57
Perceptions of Availability of Businesses and Professional Services in the Neighborhood	65

Conclusions	68
Appendices	81
A: Crime Tables	82
B: Schools in Sites I and II	85
C: Questionnaire—English Version	86

WEED AND SEED EVALUATION

INTRODUCTION

This report describes the findings of an evaluation of the Weed and Seed Program of the City of Corpus Christi. The Weed and Seed Program is managed by the Park and Recreation Department and is aided by an advisory board of citizens. The Weed and Seed Program is operated in two sites located in the west-central part of the City.

In 1994, the City of Corpus Christi began preparation for implementation of the Weed and Seed project. The first target site for the program was officially defined in 1996 and the “weed” aspects of the program began. As defined by the Weed and Seed Staff to the Evaluation Team, Site I is bounded on the east by IH-37 and North Staples and on the west by Omaha and Baldwin Streets. It extends from the beginning of residential areas on the north next to the port area to Agnes Street on the south.

In 1997, the second target site for the Weed and Seed program was officially defined and funding was received to establish “seed” programs. This site was defined to the Evaluation Team as being bounded by Baldwin-Airport-Greenwood-Horne-Old Brownsville on the west, Brownlee and South Staples on the east, Agnes on the north, and Saratoga Boulevard on the South. One neighborhood to the west of Old Brownsville Road and north of Bear Lane was included in Site II.

Actual programming for the “seed” aspects of the project began in 1998. Initial negotiations to begin the present evaluation began in the fall of 2000. The actual contract and evaluation itself began in March 2001. Data collection for the indicators began at that time and extended through September 2001. The survey of residents occurred in June and July 2001.

The Social Science Research Center, College of Arts and Humanities, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi conducted the evaluation. The evaluation team coordinated with the Weed and Seed staff and advisory board for the initial design of the evaluation. The evaluation and this report were divided into two parts. First, the evaluation examined the general goals of the Weed and Seed Program in relationship to indicators derived from official government sources of data. The Weed and Seed staff indicated that the Program's objectives included the

- a. reduction of crime and juvenile delinquency,
- b. reduction of child abuse,
- c. improvement of academic performance, and
- d. improvement of economic conditions

These objectives were examined by indicators of crime, delinquency, child abuse, academic performance, and economic conditions.

Second, the Program was examined in the light of a public opinion survey conducted by phone and in-person. The survey was administered only within the two sites. It contained questions concerning citizen's satisfaction with their neighborhood, perceptions and experience with crime, perceptions of police services, opinions and evaluations of services in the neighborhood, and knowledge and evaluation of specific Weed and Seed funded programs. For much of the survey data, no base-lines are available for comparison. Thus, much of the results reported here must be seen as creating that base-line for future comparisons in later evaluation efforts.

The report begins with the examination of indicators derived from official government sources.

METHODOLOGY RELATED TO INDICATORS

The Weed and Seed staff and advisory board members met with the evaluation team on several occasions. At these meetings, the above list of objectives was provided to the evaluation team. It should be noted that these are very general objectives rather than specific measures that are time limited. Ideally, the Program should produce specific measurable objectives that fit within a specific time frame. Such specific objectives may be more easily created by using these evaluation findings as a baseline.

Within the meetings between the Weed and Seed staff and the evaluation team, it was determined to use measures of sexual assault, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft to examine the Program's effect on crime. A related indicator was child abuse confirmed cases. Indicators to be used for examining effects on academic performance were to be dropout rates, attendance rates, and TAAS test scores. Indicators for economic conditions were to be unemployment and welfare data.

The crime data were obtained from the Corpus Christi Police Department. Their cooperation in providing these data is sincerely appreciated. School data were collected from the website of the Texas Education Agency. Unemployment data came from the Texas Workforce Commission. Child abuse data came from the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services. Welfare data were provided by the Texas Department of Human Services. The data from the latter three sources were provided on written request in a format that permitted examination by postal Zip Code or census tract.

While these data are being used to examine the effect of the Weed and Seed Program on its objectives, it should be noted that changes in all of these indicators may be sensitive to other activities. The Weed and Seed Program is not the only activity

operating within the Sites. The Community Youth Development program, Youth Opportunities United, and other government and non-profit organizations have targeted these areas with interventions. The effects of any one of these cannot be separated from the overall effects of them all. It must be assumed that each has contributed to whatever changes have been found.

To seek evidence of changes in the indicators and determine the Program's effectiveness, the data collected was from one year before programs began for the Sites to the most recent data available. Therefore, indicators were collected for the years 1997 through 1999 or 2000.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS OF INDICATORS

Indicators Of Crime, Delinquency, And Child Abuse

By seeking to increase the number of crime control and enforcement activities and attempting to improve economic and community conditions, the Weed and Seed Project should contribute to a reduction in crime and child abuse. The evaluation considered crime data for sexual assault, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, simple assault, and drug offenses. Most of the data examined were from 1997 through 1999 because the data for the year 2000 was not available at the time of data collection. Data for 2000 were available for simple assault and drug offenses because these were delivered to the project in table form during September 2001 by the CCPD.

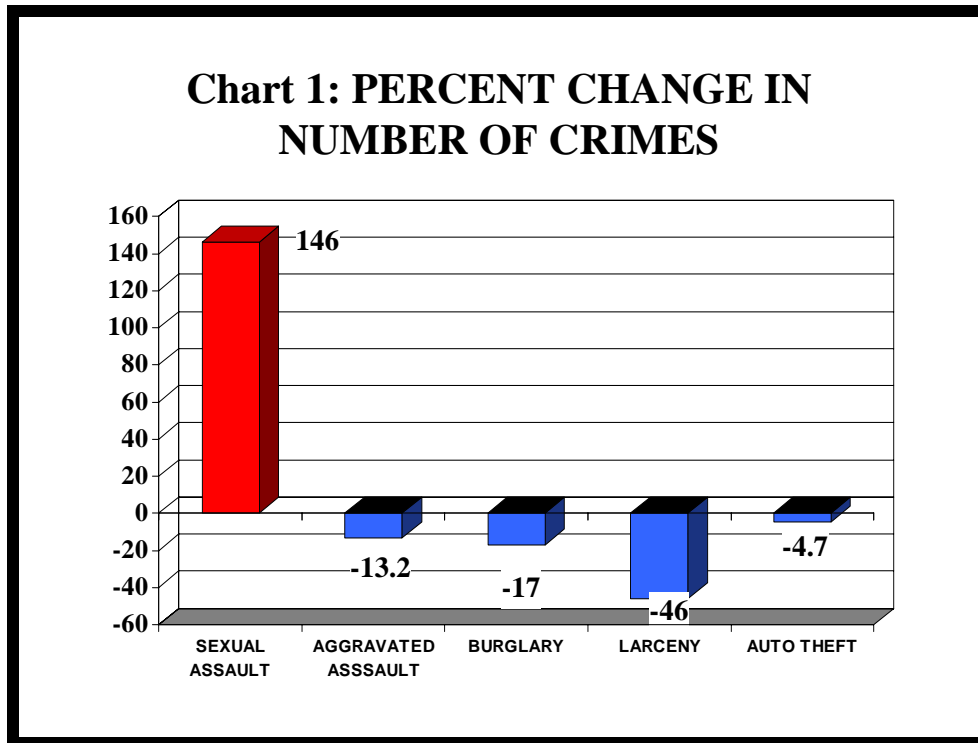
For sexual assault, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft, the number of crimes in each Corpus Christi Police Department Reporting District within or overlapping the Sites was obtained. These were summed and are reported by Postal Zip Code on Tables 1 to 7 in Appendix A. Note that some Reporting Districts extend beyond

the Weed and Seed Site boundaries as do most of the Postal Zip Code boundaries. Zip Code included in the analysis include 78401, 78404, 78405, 78407, 78408, 78415, and 78417. Parts of 78402 and 78416 are within the Sites, but these are such small proportions that it was not considered appropriate to include them in most of the analysis. The presentation of the data by Zip Code was the most efficient method available.

The number of crimes for each year and percentage change in the number of offenses from 1997 to 1999 is provided on the Appendix A Tables for each Zip Code and for the total of each crime for the Sites combined. Chart 1 below provides the percentage change for these crimes as taken from the Appendix A Tables.

Sexual Assault. The number of reported sexual assaults increased dramatically (146%) within the Sites and in every Zip Code. This increase is much higher than the 25.9% increase reported for the City of Corpus Christi as a whole for the same time period. The largest numerical increase occurred in the 78408 Zip Code area. An increase in reporting of sexual assault can result from improved police-citizen relationships, a public education campaign, or specific sexual assault prevention program activities. However, it is unlikely that an increase of this magnitude is merely an increase in reporting behavior by victims. This is especially so in light of the much lower increase for the rest of the City. It is likely that the Weed and Seed Sites experienced a real increase in sexual assault crimes over the 1997-1999 time period.

Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft. The following offenses: aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft decreased over the three-year period reported in the Appendix A, Tables 2-5 and Chart 1.



For aggravated assault (Table 2), the largest numerical decrease occurred in the 78415 Zip Code and an increase was reported in the 78417 Zip Code. The 13.2% decline in aggravated assault in the Sites is lower than the 16.7% decline reported for the City as a whole in the same time period. An additional measure of violent behavior, simple assault, is also available. It is reported on Appendix A, Table 7. From 1997 through 2000, simple assault remained the same in Site I and decreased only 1% in Site II. Thus, while more serious assaults declined in the Sites, the less serious violent crimes did not.

The three theft offenses (Tables 3, 4, and 5) demonstrate declines in all Zip Codes except 78408 and 78417. In comparison to the City as a whole, burglary and auto theft did not decrease as much. In the Sites, burglary decreased by 16.9% and auto theft by 4.7% while in the City as a whole, burglary decreased 19.4% and auto theft 7.5%. For the crime of larceny, the Sites recorded a 45.9% drop compared to only a 38.5% decrease

for the City. When taken as a group of theft crimes, the three crimes decreased 37.5% in the Sites while they decreased only 33.5% in the City. The large size of the larceny crime total in comparison to the other two crimes accounts for this finding when the three crimes are totaled.

Drug Arrests. Arrests for drug offenses increased 17% in the Sites from 1997 to 2000 (see Table 6). However, arrests for drug offenses declined 42% for adults and 75% for juveniles in Site I. The increase of 25% in the larger and more populated Site II negates the decrease when the Sites are combined. Note that the vast majority of arrests were for possession of drugs with 3 or less arrests in any year for selling. The overwhelming majority of arrests of both juveniles and adults were for possession of opium, cocaine and derivatives or marijuana.

Probation Revocations and TYC Commitments. Two additional indicators of crime were added to the evaluation as data became available through other projects of the Social Science Research Center. The number of adult probation revocations and the number of juveniles committed to the Texas Youth Commission were examined (see Table 8).

TABLE 8: ADULT PROBATION REVOCATIONS AND JUVENILES COMMITTED TO TYC			
	1997	2000	% CHANGE
ADULT REVOCATIONS			
SITES	400	392	-2.0
NUECES COUNTY	735	751	+2.2
JUVENILE COMMITMENTS			
SITES	35	21	-40.0
NUECES COUNTY	61	38	-37.7

The first of these indicators, adult probation revocations demonstrates a 2% drop in the Sites as compared to a 2.2% increase in Nueces County as a whole. This may be

an indication of a reduction in repeat offenses within the Sites or a least some slightly better compliance with the rules of probation.

Table 8 also indicates that the number of serious or repeat juvenile offenders that were committed to the Texas Youth Commission declined by 40% in the sites and only 37% in Nueces County as a whole. It should be noted that the number of commitments rose in 1998 and 1999 and then dropped in 2000.

Child Abuse Victims. The other planned indicator examined was the number of confirmed victims of child abuse (see Table 9). From 1997 through 2000, the number of confirmed victims of child abuse increased in all but one Zip Code in the Sites. The only zip code that did not have an increase in child abuse was 78417. The total change for the two sites was an increase in confirmed child abuse cases of 119%. It has been reported in the Annual Report of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services that the 1997 data are an underestimate of the reported and confirmed child abuse cases due to both a management problem and a recording error. Therefore, the 1997-2000 changes are most likely artificially high. For this reason, Table 9 also reports the 1998 data and the 1998-2000 change. Again, child abuse confirmed cases increased in the Sites as a whole, but

TABLE 9: CONFIRMED VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE					
	1997	1998	2000	% Change 1997-2000	% Change 1998-2000
78401	50	25	90	80	260
78404	25	80	69	176	-13.5
78405	46	83	130	183	57
78407	24	44	27	12.5	-39
78408	27	62	63	118	83
78415	56	91	135	141	4.4
78417	9	7	6	-33	- 14
TOTAL	237	413	520	119	26

this increase was only 26%. Also, three Zip Code areas demonstrate a decrease in confirmed cases. The changes in the Sites compare to a 1997-2000 change in Nueces County of 83.7% and for 1998-2000 a 12.8% change.

The increase in confirmed child abuse cases is not necessarily a negative indication of the effects of the Weed and Seed Program. It is well understood that child abuse is highly under-reported with 7 to 10 times as much abuse present as is reported. Activities that increase the contact between citizens and government agencies, efforts to improve reporting of crime and child abuse, and increased service delivery in a community will all tend to increase the number of reported and confirmed cases of child abuse. This is likely to be what has happened in the two Weed and Seed Sites. Much if not all of the increase may be attributed to an increase in reporting. The end result of increased reporting is that intervention and services can occur with more victims and families. In the long run, intervention and the provision of services to greater numbers of victims and families will reduce child abuse, delinquency, and crime.

Indicators Of Academic Performance

Academic performance was examined using data from the Campus Academic Excellence Indicator Reports (AEIS) of the Texas Education Agency. Six schools were located in Site I and twenty-seven schools were located in Site II. The schools were in the Corpus Christi and West Oso Independent School Districts. The schools are listed in Appendix B.

The indicators used in this report include the annual dropout rate, attendance rate, retention rate, and TAAS test scores in Reading, Math, and Writing. The school

performance indicators combined data for all schools found in both sites and means (averages) were produced.

Dropout Rate. The first indicator measured the dropout rate (see Table 10). The dropout rate was determined by averaging the dropout rate for all the schools found in Site I and Site II to form one figure. However, this indicator does not include elementary schools because the Texas Education Agency does not provide dropout rate data for that level.

TABLE 10: MEAN & MEAN DIFFERENCES FOR DROPOUT AND ATTENDANCE RATES			
INDICATOR	1997	1999	DIFFERENCE
DROPOUT RATE	4.1	1.35	-2.75
ATTENDANCE RATE	95.63	96.16	.53

The mean dropout rate in 1997 was 4.1. The 1999 dropout rate (most current data available) was 1.35. The dropout rate between 1997 and 1999 decreased 2.75 percentage points. In comparison, the dropout rate for CCISD as a whole decreased .7 percentage points to 1.7 and for West Oso ISD the dropout rate increased .6 percentage points to 3.1. It appears that the schools within the Sites improved their dropout rates more than their parent districts and for 1999 had a lower dropout rate than those districts.

Attendance Rate. The second indicator measured the attendance rate by determining the average attendance rate for all schools found in the Sites (Table 10). Unlike the drop out rate, the Texas Education Agency provided an attendance rate for all schools. The attendance rate in 1997 was 95.63. By 1999, the attendance rate was 96.16. The attendance rate between 1997 and 1999 had increased .53 percentage points. In comparison, the attendance rate for CCISD as a whole increased only .4 percentage points and the attendance rate for West OSO ISD increased .9 percentage points. Since

most of the schools within the Sites are CCISD schools, it appears that a small improvement beyond that of the District as a whole occurred for the Weed and Seed schools.

Retention Rate. The third indicator examined the retention rate for all elementary and junior high schools found in the Sites (Table 11). The retention rate for high schools is not reported by the Texas Education Agency. A retention rate indicates the proportion of students that are not promoted to the next higher grade, but are retained in the current grade at the end of a school year.

The retention rates for elementary and middle schools were examined separately. The retention rate for elementary schools in 1997 was 2.35 while the retention rate for elementary schools in 2000 was 3.24. The retention rate had increased 0.89 in three years. The retention rate for middle schools in 1997 was 4.23 while the retention rate in 2000 was 8.66. The retention rate had increased 4.43 in only three years.

TABLE 11: MEAN & MEAN DIFFERENCES RETENTION RATES			
	1997	2000	DIFFERENCES
ELEMENTARY	2.35	3.24	0.89
MIDDLE	4.23	8.66	4.43

The time period from 1977 to 2000 was one that saw implementation of stronger performance standards and closer attention to these and TAAS test scores for the purpose of promotion to higher grades. Policy and procedural changes are likely to be the source of the increases in retention rates reported here. It is significant that during the time that standards were increased and retention rates went up that the dropout rates declined and

attendance rates increased. The strengthening of standards and increased retention does not appear to have mitigated against school attendance at the schools in the Sites.

TAAS Test Scores. The fourth indicator was the mean of TAAS reading scores for schools found in the Sites (see Table 12). The mean of TAAS reading scores for elementary schools in 1997 was 78.65 while in 2000 the mean TAAS reading score was 83.59. TAAS reading scores increased 4.94 points for elementary schools in three years. The mean TAAS reading score for middle schools in 1997 was 74.27 while the TAAS reading score in 2000 was 74.53. The Middle School mean reading scores increased 0.26 points in three years. The mean TAAS reading score for high schools was 79.45 in 1997 while in 2000 the mean score was 86.15. The High School mean reading score increased 6.7 points in only three years. The TAAS reading score for CCISD (all students, all schools) increased 3.4 points from the 1996-1997 to the 1999-2000 school years. The average of means for change in points scored at the schools in the Sites is 3.9. Therefore, the schools in the Sites have demonstrated an improvement in reading scores at least the same if not better than the CCISD as a whole.

TABLE 12: Mean & Mean Differences for School Indicator: TAAS READING SCORES			
	1997	2000	DIFFERENCES
ELEMENTARY	78.65	83.59	4.94
MIDDLE	74.27	74.53	0.26
HIGH	79.45	86.15	6.7

The mean for TAAS math scores for all schools located in the Sites was the fifth indicator (see Table 13). The mean TAAS math scores for elementary schools in 1997 was 76.30 while in 2000 the mean math score was 80.47. This is an increase of 4.17 points. The mean TAAS math score for middle schools in 1997 was 61.33 while in 2000 the mean TAAS score was 78.80. The junior high schools mean 17.47 in only three years.

The mean TAAS math score for high schools was 59.68 while in 2000 the mean TAAS math score was 78.30. This is an increase of 18.62 points. The high school increase was the largest for the three levels of schools. In comparison to CCISD as a whole, the schools in the Sites appear to have demonstrated a larger increase in test scores. The CCISD mean TAAS math score increased 8.2 points from the 1996-1997 to the 1999-2000 school year. The mean increase of the school means for the sites was 13.4 points.

TABLE 13: Mean & Mean Differences for School Indicator: TAAS MATH SCORES			
	1997	2000	DIFFERENCES
ELEMENTARY	76.30	80.47	4.17
MIDDLE	61.33	78.80	17.47
HIGH	59.68	78.30	18.62

The sixth indicator evaluated the TAAS writing scores (see Table 14). The TAAS writing examination is given only to students in 4th, 8th, and 10th grades. The average TAAS writing score for 4th graders was 82.22 in 1997 while in 2000 the average TAAS writing score for 4th graders was 82.93. The 4th grade score increase was only 0.71. The average TAAS writing score for 8th graders was 76.16 in 1997 while in 2000 the average writing score for 8th graders was 76.04. The 8th grade writing score decreased by 0.12 points. The average TAAS writing score for 10th graders in 1997 was 84.63 while in 2000 their score increased to 89.03. The 10th grade writing score increased by 4.4 points. Again, the greatest increase in scores occurred with students enrolled in high school.

TABLE 14: Mean & Mean Differences for School Indicator: TAAS WRITING SCORES			
	1997	2000	DIFFERENCES
ELEMENTARY	82.22	82.93	0.71
MIDDLE	76.16	76.04	-0.12
HIGH	84.63	89.03	4.4

Economic Indicators

Three indicators were used to measure any changes in economic conditions within the Sites across the 1997-2000 time period. These included the unemployment rate, number of persons receiving food stamps, and number of persons receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

Unemployment Rate. The unemployment rate was obtained according to census tract from the years 1997 through 2000 (see Table 15). Upon written request, the Texas Workforce Commission provided the unemployment rate for each census tract in the Weed and Seed areas rather than Zip Codes. Twenty-three census tracts are located in the Sites; four of those census tracts are located in Site I and the remaining nineteen are located in Site II.

TABLE 15: UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
Census Tract	2000	1997	Differences
4	15.1	18.4	-3.3
5	14.6	17.7	-3.1
6	9.8	12.0	-2.2
9	12.6	15.4	-2.8
10	10.9	13.3	-2.4
11	18.3	21.9	-3.6
12	15.0	18.1	-3.1
13	7.4	9.2	-1.8
15	11.8	14.4	-2.6
16.01	7.1	8.8	-1.7
16.02	8.1	10.0	-1.9
17	10.1	12.4	-2.3
18.01	8.8	10.9	-2.1
18.02	7.7	9.6	-1.9
19.01	9.9	12.2	-2.3
20	8.7	10.7	-2.0
22	3.3	4.1	-.8
23.01	5.3	6.6	-1.3
23.02	6.4	7.9	-1.5
24	4.0	5.0	-1.0
34.01	2.2	2.7	-.5
34.02	5.6	7.0	-1.4
Total Difference All Tracts Combined			-2.04

The unemployment rate decreased between 1997 and 2000 in every census tract. While the specific differences vary, this finding is important because it indicates that the economic change occurred across all of the area rather than in some limited part of it. The mean unemployment rate of the census tracts dropped from 11.2 in 1997 to 9.2 in 2000. The mean difference computed to a -2.04 .

In comparison, the unemployment rate for Texas in 1997 was 4.9 and for Nueces County it was 7.8. By 2000, these had dropped to 4.0 for the State and 6.3 for the County. The Weed and Seed Sites remain a pocket of unemployment rates greater than either the State or the County. However, the -2.04 change was greater for the Sites than the -0.9 change for the State and the -1.5 for the County.

Food Stamps and TANF. The remaining two indicators of economic conditions were obtained by written request from the Texas Department of Human Services. The numbers of food stamp and TANF recipients for the month of February for each year from 1997 to 2001 were provided (see Table 16). This month is used by the Department of Human Services as an indicator for its analysis of State conditions. It was suggested to the evaluation team that it would be appropriate for this purpose too.

It is known that the eligibility criteria for both Food Stamps and TANF became stricter during the time considered in this report. It is likely that the changes reported on Table 16 are largely due to the reduction in recipients occurring as a result of policy changes. However, the improved employment conditions in the Sites will also have removed some individuals from the ranks of recipients.

In Nueces County as a whole, the number of Food Stamp recipients 31.9% and the number of TANF recipients decreased 39.9% from 1997 to 2001. In the Sites, the

number of Food Stamp recipients decreased 32.5% and the number of TANF recipients decreased 41.5% over the same time period. This decrease occurred within all Zip Codes that are in or overlap the Sites.

TABLE 16: FEBRUARY FOOD STAMP AND TANF RECIPIENTS AND % DECREASE BY ZIP CODE						
Zip Code	TANF			Food Stamps		
	1997	2001	% Change	1997	2001	% Decrease
78401	869	396	-54.4	2,118	1,333	-37.1
78404	944	539	-42.9	3,387	2,157	-36.3
78405	1,956	1,198	-38.7	6,118	4,310	-29.5
78407	578	208	-64.0	1,678	653	-61.1
78408	989	600	-39.3	3,122	2,162	-30.7
78415	2,150	1,459	-32.1	7,350	5,375	-26.9
78417	178	82	-53.9	632	489	-22.6
Total	7,664	4,482	-41.5	24,405	16,479	-32.5

METHODOLOGY RELATED TO THE SURVEY

The evaluation included a survey of the residents of Sites I and II performed through in-person and telephone interviews. The Weed and Seed survey was designed to inquire into issues such as child day care usage, proximity and access to area business, methods of transportation, residents' perception of safety, and the residents' participation and level of satisfaction in the Weed and Seed programs. The survey instrument (see Appendix C) was derived from the format of the 1997 Community Survey Basic Interview Data Questionnaire used in evaluations of other Weed and Seed Sites in the country. The evaluator, Weed and Seed staff, and Weed and Seed board members reviewed the questionnaire, selected questions to be deleted, modified questions, and added questions to fit the local conditions and desired information. A draft questionnaire was designed and reviewed by the Weed and Seed staff. The product of this last review was produced as the survey to be used. Surveys were translated into Spanish by

Evaluation Team staff in the event that the respondent only spoke Spanish. The translation was reviewed and edited by a Professor of Spanish at TAMU—CC.

In agreement with the Weed and Seed staff and board, a sample of 400 was chosen. Due to the difference in population size between Sites I and II, it was decided to complete one hundred fifty interviews for Weed and Seed site I and two hundred fifty interviews for site II. Also, one-half for each site were to be performed as in-person interviews and one-half by telephone interviews.

The project focused on selecting a sample of addresses from each of the two Sites. One interview would be performed for each address selected in the sample. The boundaries and streets of each site were identified. A criss-cross phone directory was obtained for a list of every name, address, and phone number located within the Weed and Seed target area. A list of the street names in each site was generated. From these lists, a random sample of 400 streets was selected. A random number generator from a scientific calculator was used to select streets from the lists. For each street a random address was selected. Because fewer than 400 streets exist in the Sites, some streets were selected more than one time, and so, more than one address was selected for those streets. By phone or in-person, the individual answering the call or door or the first adult contacted was requested to perform the interview. For some house-holds, the first adult contacted passed the interview to another adult. No attempt was made to select respondents by gender, head of house-hold, or other criteria was made.

A replacement procedure was created so that any address in the sample where no response was possible or where a refusal was obtained could be replaced. Where the telephone interviewer or in-person interviewer received no answer or a refusal, the

interviewers shifted to the next house lower in address number and tried again. This process was continued until an interview was obtained for the sampled street. Where no response was obtained on the street, another random street and address was selected using the original technique.

All phone interviewers were bi-lingual and could perform the interviews in either English or Spanish. The in-person interviewers were sent out in pairs. At least one member of each interviewer pair was bi-lingual. When possible, interviewer pairs were made up of one female and one male interviewer. All interviews by phone were conducted in May and June 2001 in the hours between 5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday. The in-person interviews were conducted in the same time periods in June and July 2001 with two exceptions. It was permitted to complete interviews begun by 8:30 p.m., and so, some interviews ended just before 9:00 p.m.. Also, in-person interviews were conducted on two Saturdays.

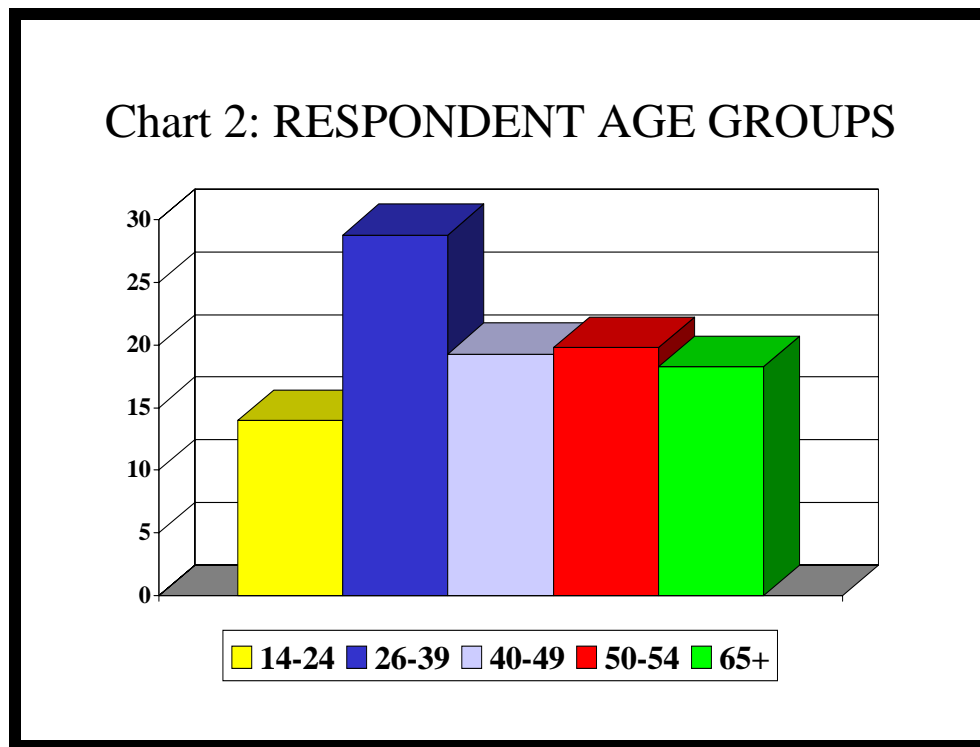
Respondents were promised anonymity and could refuse to participate. In order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents of the survey, the surveys were each given a case identification number that cannot be traced to the name or address of the respondent. The surveys were identified according to the police department's reporting districts and Zip Codes.

Scanable response forms were created. Surveys were completed by telephone or by in-person interview on printed copies of the survey. Then, the scanable forms were filled out by the interviewers from the completed surveys. The scanable response forms were used to enter the data into a computer file for later analysis. Four hundred three (403) interviews were completed.

SURVEY RESULTS

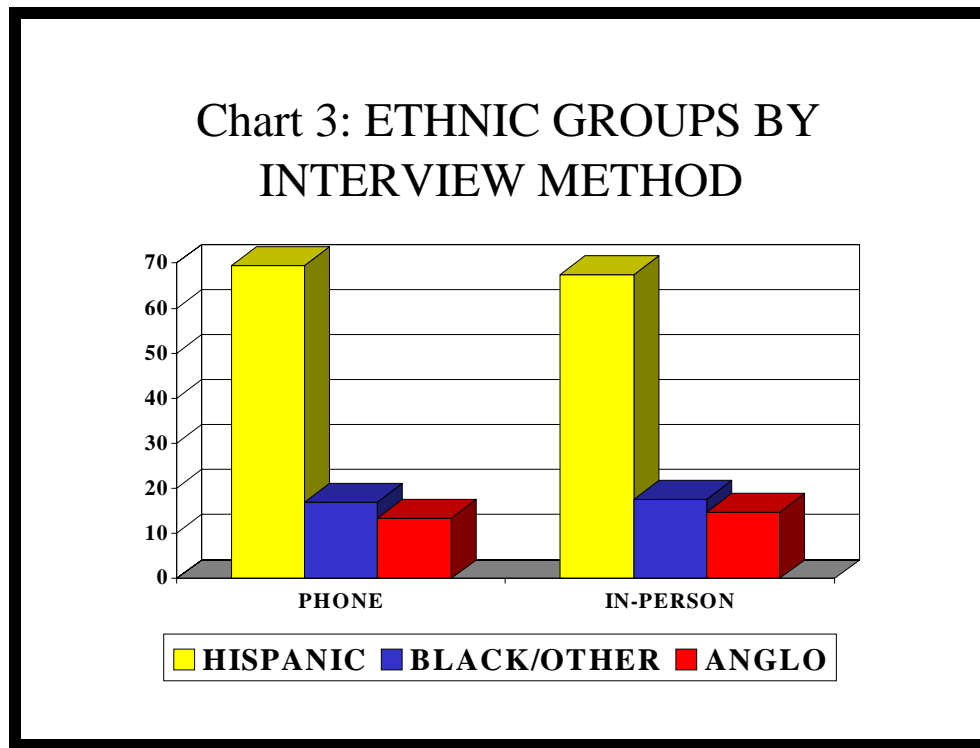
Respondent Demographics

Age, Gender, Ethnicity. Of the respondents, 64.5% were female and 35.0% were male. Regarding age (see Chart 2), 14.0% of the sample were in the 14-25 age group, 28.8% of the sample were in the 26-39 age group, and 19.3% of the sample were in the 40-49 age group. Those individuals (8) from 14 to 16 years of age in the sample appear to be predominately Hispanic, female, parents. The 50-64 age group accounted for 19.8% of the sample, while 18.3% indicated that they were over 65. The largest ethnic group in the sample was Hispanics at 68.5%, followed by Blacks/Others at 17.4%, and Anglos at 14.1% (see Chart 3).



No significant differences were found when the method of interview was compared to the respondents' gender, ethnicity, or age. For example, Chart 3 splits the

Ethnicity variable by the method of interview. Essentially similar proportions were found for the ethnic groups in the sub-samples by interview method.



The sampling technique and interview procedure resulted in similar respondent demographics for the two interview methods. As a result, the survey did not find different answers based on the method of interview.

Length of Neighborhood Residence. When asked how long the respondent lived in their neighborhood, 13.0% reported that they had lived there one year or less, 10.7% reported that they had lived there two to three years, 15.0% reported that they lived there four to six years, and 61.3% reported that they lived there for seven years or more.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondents' age and employment status. As logic would dictate, the results indicate that as the age of the respondent increased, so did the number of years that the respondent had

lived in their neighborhood. In the 14-25 age group, 41.1% responded that they have lived in their neighborhood for seven years or more, as did 43.5% of the respondents in the 26-39 age group and 55.8% in the 40-49 age group. Of those respondents in the 50-64 age group, 80.5% responded that they had lived in their neighborhood for seven years or more and 89.0% in the 65 and over age group responded that they had lived in their neighborhood for seven years or more ($\Phi=.421$, Contingency Coefficient=.388 with $p=.001$).

Employment Status. Some 46.4.% of the respondents were full-time employed, 11.7% were employed part-time, 11.2% were unemployed and looking for work, 19.1% were retired, and 11.6% indicated the category of other or did not respond to the question. Those respondents that were retired or employed full-time were the majority of the respondents who had lived in their neighborhood the longest. Of those respondents that were retired, 80.6% responded that they had lived in their neighborhood for seven years or more years and 56.1% of the respondents employed full-time gave the same responses. Those respondents who reported being unemployed, 50.0% responded that they had lived in their neighborhood for seven years or more as did 46.8% of those employed part-time ($\Phi=.290$, Contingency Coefficient=.278 with $p=.001$).

Job Training and College. Related to employment issues are the numbers of respondents reporting someone in the household in job training or attending college. Only 14 family members were reported to be in job training. None of these were in a training program located in the neighborhood. Also, only 28 reported that someone in the household were in some level of college education. None of the respondents report attending job training in their neighborhood.

Family Sizes. Family sizes ranged from 1 to 9 persons. The mean family size was 3.38 persons. Only 11.3% of the respondents lived alone. Two person households made up the largest proportion at 23.9%. This was followed by 22.8% with three people, 19.4% with four people, and 10.2% with five or more people. The number of persons under 18 in the households ranged from 0 to 7 with a mean of 1.12. Some 46.4% of the households reported no persons under 18 while 21.8% reported one, 14.8% reported two, and 10.3% reported three. The number of persons over 18 ranged from 0 to 6 with a mean of 2.24.

Families with children may need daycare services. Only 44 or 12.8% of the respondents noted that they had a child in daycare. Of those reporting a child in daycare, 23.1% indicated that they believed that day care was affordable. Therefore, 76.9% believed that daycare was not reasonably affordable. A larger proportion, 44.3% indicated that they believed that daycare was convenient while the remaining 55.7% believed that it was not convenient.

Transportation. Only 10.75 of the respondents report taking public transportation while 84.1% report using their own car. Also, 5.2% indicate that they car pool and 4.7% use other transportation. Multiple responses were possible, but the overwhelming majority reported using only their own car.

When asked to rate the availability of public transportation, 147 or 36.5% declined to answer the question. Most indicated that they did not know about it or had never used it. Of the 256 that had used public transportation, 69.5% rated it excellent or good, 18.85 rated it average, and 11.7% rated it fair or poor.

Attend a House of Worship. Attending a house of worship was reported by 67.8% of the respondents with the remaining 32.2% indicating that they do not. For 51.9% of those who attend church, the church is in their neighborhood. Of those who attend church, 54.5% attend one or more times per week while 16.3% attend one or more time a month and 7.8% attend only a few times per year.

Zip Code Areas. The sampling technique acquired respondents from nine Zip Code areas that are overlapped by the Weed and Seed Sites (see Table 17). The majority of respondents (83.9%) came from the Zip Codes that most overlap the Sites. Some 15.2% of the respondents were from the 11 and 16 Zip Codes that have most of their area and population outside of the Sites. Also, 4 appear to have given Zip Codes for post office boxes rather than for addresses within the Sites.

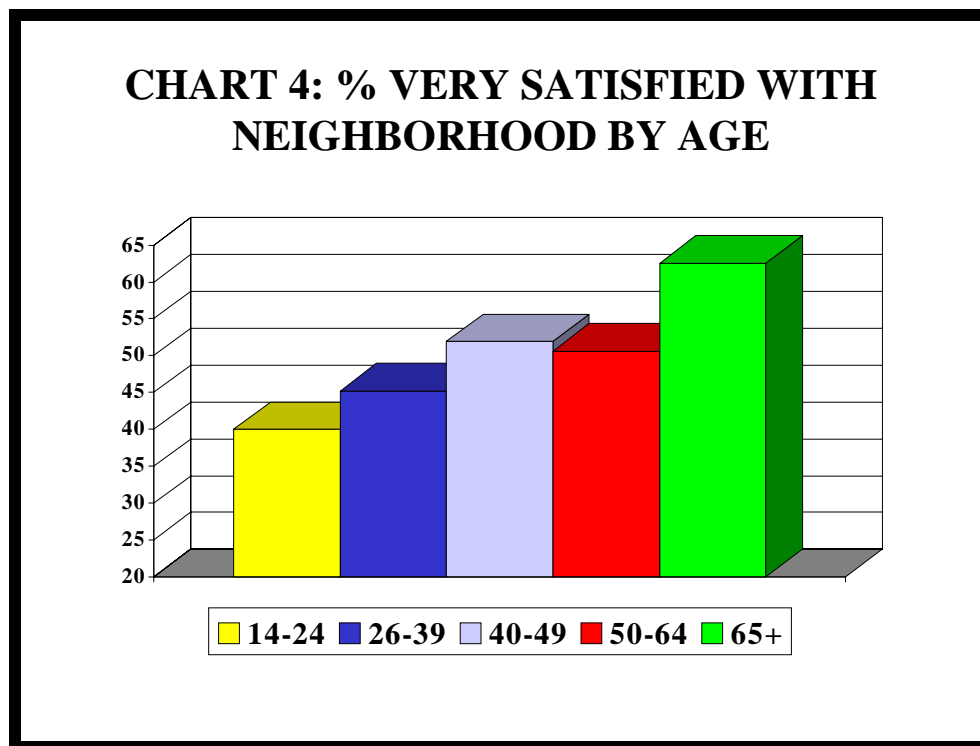
CODE	NUMBER	PERCENT
01	32	7.7
04	32	7.9
05	46	11.4
07	31	7.7
08	90	22.3
11	24	6.0
15	102	25.3
16	37	9.2
17	6	1.5
OTHER	4	.9

Satisfaction With Neighborhood

Satisfaction with Neighborhood as Place to Live. The respondents were asked how satisfied they were with their neighborhood as a place to live. The five possible responses ranged from very satisfied to don't know. The largest group of respondents, 49.4% reported that they were very satisfied with their neighborhood as a place to live,

while 36.5% reported that they were somewhat satisfied, 8.7% that they were somewhat dissatisfied, 4.5% that they were very dissatisfied, and 1.0% that they did not know their level of satisfaction.

Significant differences were discovered when the responses were examined in relation to the respondents' ages. The most common response for every age group was that they were very satisfied with their neighborhood (see Chart 4). The exception was the 26-39 age group that reported equal proportions of responses that were somewhat satisfied and very satisfied.



Of the respondents in the 14-25 age group, 40.0% were very satisfied with their neighborhood. Of those in the 26-39 age group, 45.2% were very satisfied with their neighborhood and 45.2% were somewhat satisfied. Of those in the 40-49 age group, 51.9% were very satisfied as were 50.6% of the respondents in the 50-64 age group and 62.5% of the respondents in the 65 and over age group. The increased satisfaction with

the neighborhood across the age groups was statistically significant with $\Phi=.2.88$, Contingency Coefficient=.2.77, and $p=.001$).

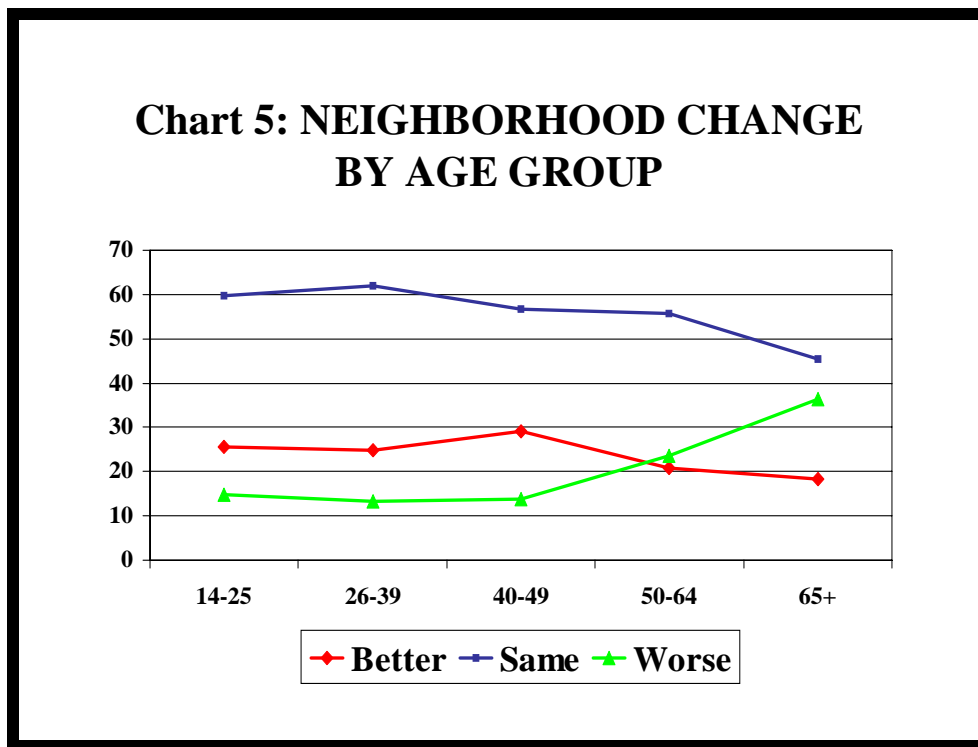
Satisfaction with the neighborhood as a place to live did not vary significantly by ethnicity, gender, site, or church attendance.

An interesting finding occurs with the relationship between satisfaction with the neighborhood and whether or not the respondents had been victimized by crime. The victimization data are reported in a later section. Here, the four types of victimization are summarized into a single indicator. Those that had been victimized by any type of crime were significantly more likely to express dissatisfaction with their neighborhood. More than a fourth or 26.9% of victimized respondents indicated that they were somewhat or very dissatisfied with their neighborhood compared to only 6.8% of those not victimized ($\Phi=.313$ with $p=.001$).

Has Neighborhood Changed? The respondents were also asked if they believed that their neighborhood had become a worse, better or stayed about the same in the past two years. Approximately half of the respondents reported that their neighborhood had remained the same. Of the respondents, 21.4% reported that their neighborhood was a better place to live, 18.0% reported their neighborhood was a worse place to live, and 51.4% reported their neighborhood had remained the same in the past two years. Also, 5.7% reported that they did not live in their neighborhood two years ago and 3.5% reported that they did not know if their neighborhood had changed in the past two years.

When examined by age, employment status, ethnicity, and gender significant differences were found.

For all of the age groups, the most common response was that their neighborhood had remained the same in the past two years. According to survey results, 59.6% of the respondents of the 14-25 age group rated their neighborhood as remaining the same as did 61.9% of the 26-39 age group and 56.9% of the 40-49 age group. Of those in the 50-64 age group, 55.6% of them rated the neighborhood as remaining the same as well as 45.5% of the 65 and over age group. As noted on Chart 5, the perception that the neighborhood had become a worse place to live increased with age starting at the 50-64 age group. This difference was statistically significant ($\Phi=.222$, Contingency Coefficient=.217, with $p=.022$).



The largest proportion for each employment status responded that their neighborhood had remained the same in the past two years. Of those respondents employed full time, 62.0% reported their neighborhood as remaining the same as did 58.1% of those employed part time, and 45.0% of those unemployed; as well 51.0% of

those retired. Those employed part time were most likely to report that their neighborhood had become worse at 30.0%. At the same time those part-time employed were one of the two groups that reported most often that their neighborhood had become better at 25.0%. the other group were those who were full-time employed at 25.9%. These differences were significantly different ($\Phi=.193$, Contingency Coefficient=.189 with $p=.042$).

Women were more likely to report their neighborhood as remaining the same than men. Of the females, 59.4% rated their neighborhood as remaining the same as well as 51.5% of the males. Males were more likely to report that their neighborhood had gotten better while females were more likely to report that it had gotten worse. Almost a third of males, 32.3%, believed their neighborhood was better, but only 18.8% of females. Conversely, only 16.2% of males thought their neighborhood had gotten worse while 21.8% of females did. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.155$, Contingency Coefficient=.153 with $p=.013$).

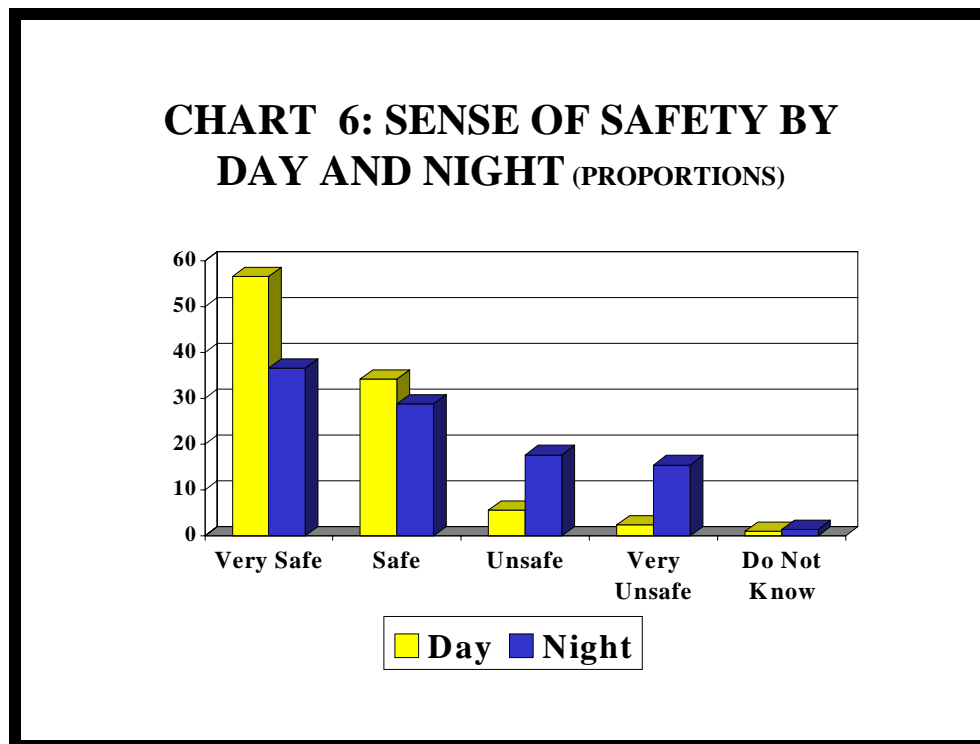
Again, a relationship with victimization was found. The respondents that had been victimized were significantly more likely to indicate that their neighborhood had gotten worse than those not victimized. Almost a third or 32.5% of victimized respondents reported their neighborhood had gotten worse while only 13.2% of those not victimized reported this ($\Phi=.228$ with $p=.001$).

Perception Of Safety

The survey included several questions that measured the respondent's perceived level of safety. Such questions attempted to rate the respondent's level of safety when

they were alone in their neighborhood during the day and if it changed at night. The five possible responses for this set of questions ranged from very safe to don't know.

Safe in Neighborhood During Day. When the respondents were asked how safe they felt when alone in their neighborhood during the day, 56.6% reported feeling very safe, 34.2% felt somewhat safe, 5.7% felt somewhat unsafe, and 2.5% felt very unsafe; while 1.0% reported they did not know how they felt alone in their neighborhood during the day (see Chart 6). These findings indicate that 90.8% respondents reported feeling very safe to somewhat safe when they were alone in their neighborhood during the day. Only when the responses were compared to the respondent's age was a significant difference found.



Very safe was the most common response for all of the age groups in regard to being in their neighborhood alone in the day. However, only 45.5% of the 14-25 age group indicated they felt very safe compared to 67.8% of the 26-39 age group, 50.6% of

the 40-49 age group, 46.2% of the 50-64 age group, and 68.1% of those in the 65 and older age group. The 50-64 age group felt the most unsafe with 16.75 responding in the somewhat or very unsafe categories. No other age group had more than 8% in these categories of response. The differences in perception of neighborhood safety by age were statistically significant ($\Phi=.259$, Contingency Coefficient=.251 with $p=.009$).

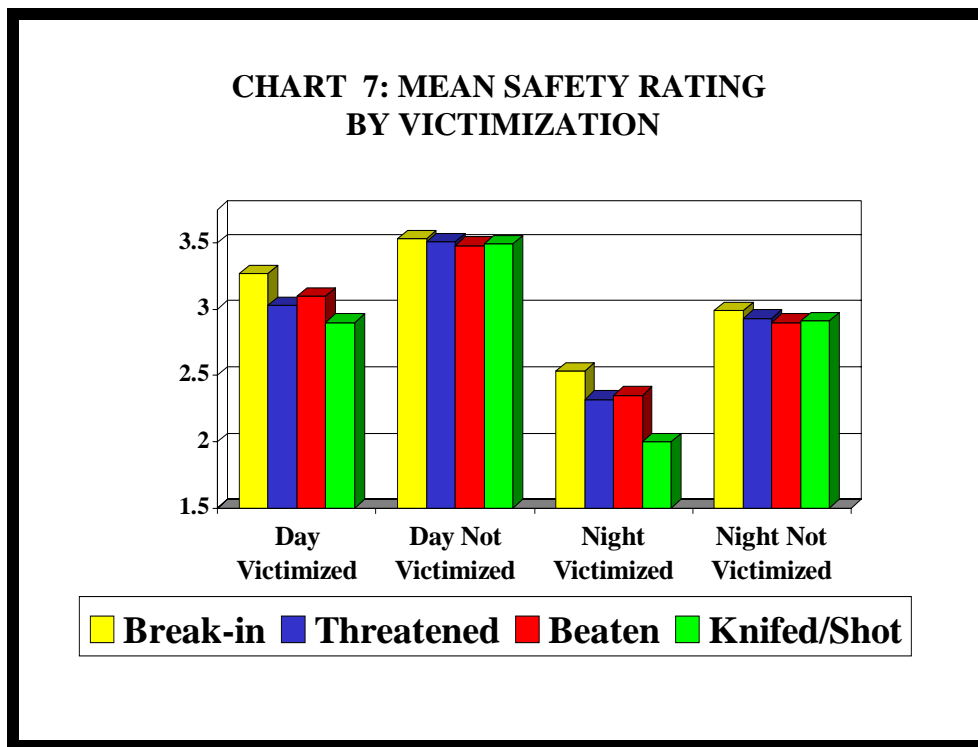
Safe in Neighborhood After Dark. The respondents were also asked how safe they felt when alone in their neighborhood *after* dark (refer again to Chart 6). Most of the respondents, 65.4%, reported feeling very safe to somewhat safe in their neighborhood *after* dark. Of the respondents, 36.6% reported feeling very safe alone in their neighborhood after dark, 28.8% reported feeling somewhat safe, 17.7% reported feeling somewhat unsafe, and 15.5% reported feeling very unsafe. Only 1.4% reported that they did not know how they felt alone in their neighborhood after dark. No significant differences were found when perceptions of safety after dark were compared to the respondents' age, ethnicity, employment status, or gender.

Chart 6 reveals a clear difference in opinions on neighborhood safety between the day and night times. The decrease in the responses indicating feeling safe and parallel increase in feeling unsafe occurred across all age groups. Thus, in regard to age no significant difference was found for the sense of safety at night as there was for the question about the daytime. The shift from feeling safe to feeling unsafe between the day and night times occurred with both genders, all ethnic groups, and all employment statuses.

Safety and Victimization. A separate analysis was conducted with these perceptions of safety in the day and night times in relation to whether or not the

respondents were victimized. The victimization data are reported in a later section. Here, the safety perceptions are converted to scales from 0 to 4 and mean scores were produced for those who had been and those who had not been victimized. The mean scores for victimized respondents were significantly different from those that had not been victimized for each of the four types of victimization (see Chart 7).

The respondents that had been victimized by a break-in rated their safety in the neighborhood in the day at 3.27 and at night 2.53 while those not victimized rated they safety in the day at 3.53 and at night at 2.99 (day, $F=10.112$ with $p=.002$ and night, $F=12.280$ with $p=.001$).



For those threatened, the mean safety ratings were 3.03 for the day and 2.32 for the night compared to 3.51 and 2.93 for those not threatened (day, $F=16.011$ with $p=.001$ and night, $F=9.223$ with $p=.003$). For those attacked or beaten, the mean safety ratings were 2.90 for the day and 2.00 for the night compared to 3.49 and 2.91 for those not

threatened (day, $F=13.298$ with $p=.001$ and night, $F=.10.541$ with $p=.001$). Last, for those knifed or shot, the safety ratings were 3.10 for the day and 2.35 for the night compared to 3.48 and 2.90 for those not victimized (day, $F=5.907$ with $p=.016$ and night, $F=4.227$ with $p=.041$). These data indicate that victimization significantly reduces ones perception of safety in the neighborhood for both the day and night times.

Perceptions of Neighborhood Crime Problems

Because the Program is aimed at the reduction of drug trafficking, gang activity, and crime, the survey asked the respondents several questions about crime in their neighborhood. The list of questions included if the following were problems in the neighborhood: drug dealers on the streets, drug sales out of homes, violent crime, robbery, burglary, and drug use. The respondents were asked to indicate for each of these if it was a big problem, small problem, or no problem (see Table 18).

Drug Dealers On Streets, Street Corners, Or In Other Public Places. The first question regarding crime asked if drug dealers on streets, street corners, or in other

Table 18: SIZE OF CRIME PROBLEMS IN NEIGHBORHOOD*			
CRIME	NO PROBLEM	SMALL PROBLEM	BIG PROBLEM
STREET DRUG SALES	42.8	23.6	17.4
DRUG SALES FROM APT.S	36.3	16.4	16.2
DRUG USE	38.0	22.0	18.5
VIOLENT CRIME	58.4	19.5	10.5
BURGLARY	39.3	31.3	13.4
ROBBERY	46.6	23.4	12.2
GANGS	49.1	22.7	14.0
*Rows do not total to 100% due to exclusion of the do not know category.			

public places were a problem in the neighborhood. According to survey results, 17.4% reported that it was a big problem in their neighborhood, 23.6% reported that it was a small problem, and 42.8% reported that there was no problem. Also, 16.2% reported that they did not know if drug dealers in their neighborhood was a problem.

A statistically significant difference was found by age with the perception of drug sales on streets or other public places ($\Phi=.230$, Contingency Coefficient $=.224$, with $p=.05$). Older respondents were more likely to see this as a big problem while younger respondents saw this as a small problem.

Drug Sales Out Of Homes Or Apartments. The next question asked if drug sales out of homes or apartments was a problem in their neighborhood. Of the respondents, 16.2% reported that it was a big problem in their neighborhood, 16.4% reported that it was a small problem in their neighborhood, and 36.3% reported that it was no problem in their neighborhood. Nearly a third, 31.1%, reported that they did not know if it was a problem in their neighborhood. No significant differences were found when this question was compared to the respondents' age, ethnicity, or employment status. Significant differences were found when this question was compared to the respondents' gender.

Approximately 16% of both males and females indicated that drug sales from apartments or homes was a small problem and about the same proportion of both genders indicated that it was a big problem. Of females, 31.7% reported drug sales out of homes or apartments was not a problem while 44.8% of males indicated this. Females were more likely to indicate that they did not know compared to males. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.156$, Contingency Coefficient $=.155$ with $p=.02$).

Drug Use. When the respondents were then asked if drug use was a problem in the neighborhood, 18.5% reported this as a big problem, 22.0% reported a small problem, and 38.0% reported no problem, and 21.5% reported that they did not know if drug use was a problem in their neighborhood.

Differences were significant for this item when looking at age, ethnicity, and employment status. The largest segment of each age groups agreed that drug use was not a problem in their neighborhood. This was reported by 32.7% of the 14-25 age group, 34.2% of the 26-39 age group, 43.4% of the 40-49 age group, and 36.7% of the 50-64 age group, and 43.8% of the 65 and over age group. The oldest group, 65 and over, were the most likely to indicate that it was not a problem while the 50-64 age group was most likely to indicate that drug use as a big problem (31.6%). The differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.266$, Contingency Coefficient=.257 with $p=.005$).

Those that were employed full-time (23.0%) and that were unemployed (20.5%) were more likely to see drug use as a big problem than those that were retired (11.9%) or employed part-time (8.9%). The largest proportion of each employment category indicated that drug use was no problem. Respondents employed part-time were the most likely to report drug use as a small problem in the neighborhood. Of the respondents employed full-time, 38.0% reported no problem, as did 40.9% of the unemployed respondents, and 41.3% of the retired respondents. In comparison, 44.4% of the respondents employed part-time reported drug use as a small problem in their neighborhood ($\Phi=.300$, Contingency Coefficient=.287 with $p=.001$).

Burglary Or Other Property Crime. The respondents were asked if burglary or other property crime was a problem in their neighborhood. Of all respondents, 13.4%

reported a big problem, 31.3% reported a small problem, 39.3% reported no problem, and 15.9% reported that they did not know if there was a problem. When these responses were compared to the respondents' age, and ethnicity, significant differences were found.

The 40-49 age group (46.8%) was the only one to report a small problem in burglary and other property crime in their neighborhood. The remaining age groups reported no problem of burglary and other property crime in their neighborhood. Looking at age, 42.9% of the 14-25 age group reported burglary as no problem, as did 40.4% of the 26-39 age group, 26.0% of the 40-49 age group, and 36.7% of the 50-64 age group, and 49.3% of the 65 and over age group. The 50-64 age group (22.8%) was the most likely to report burglary as a big problem. The differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.280$, Contingency Coefficient=.270 with $p=.002$).

A larger proportions of the Hispanics (42.0%) and Black/Others (37.7%) than Anglos (28.1%) reported burglary and other property crime as no problem in their neighborhood. Anglos reported burglary to be a small problem, (49.1%) more often. Blacks/Others were more likely to see burglary as a big problem (18.8%) followed by Hispanics (13.8%). The difference in perception of the burglary problem was statistically significant ($\Phi=.184$, Contingency Coefficient=.181 with $p=.034$).

Robbery And Other Street Crimes. The subsequent question asked the respondents if robbery and other street crimes were a problem in the neighborhood. Of the respondents, 12.2% reported a big problem, 23.4% reported a small problem, and 46.6% reported no problem. Also, 17.7% of the respondents reported that they did not know if there was a robbery problem in their neighborhood. Significant differences were found only when these responses were compared to the respondents' age and ethnicity.

The most common response of the different age groups was that robbery and other street crime was not a problem in their neighborhood. Nearly half, 48.2%, of the 14-25 age group reported no problem, as did 45.6% of the 26-39 age group, 44.2% of the 40-49 age group, 39.2% of the 50-64 age group, 56.9% of the 65 and over age group. The perception that robbery and other street crime was a big problem increased with age until it dropped off at the 65 and over age group. The 40-49 age group (31.2%) were the most likely to perceive robbery as a small problem and the 50-64 group (19.0%) were the most likely to perceive it as a big problem. The differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.244$, Contingency Coefficient=.237 with $p=.022$).

All of the ethnic groups also reported robbery and other street crime as not a problem in their neighborhood. Nearly half, (49.3%), Black/Other respondents reported robbery as no problem, as did 46.2% of the Hispanic respondents, and 45.6% of the Anglo respondents. Hispanics (14.2%) were most likely to perceive robbery as a big problem while Anglos were the most likely to perceive it as a small problem. The differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.193$, Contingency Coefficient=.189 with $p=.021$).

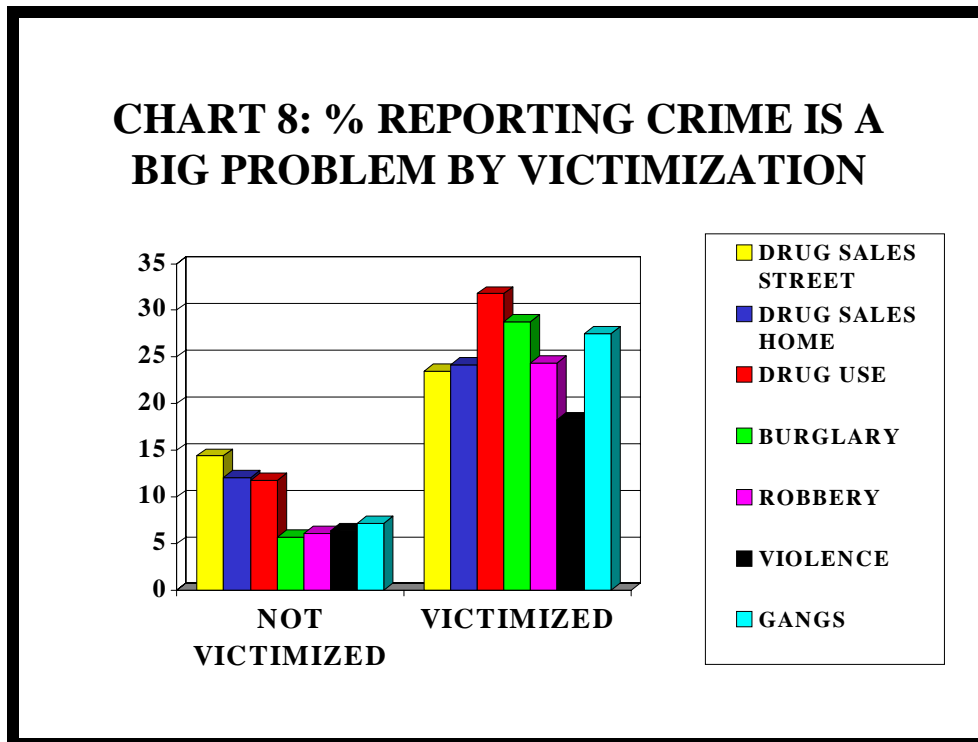
Violent Crime. The respondents were asked if violent crime such as shootings and assaults were a problem in the neighborhood. Of the respondents, 10.5% reported a big problem, 19.5% reported a small problem, and 58.4% reported no problem. Also, 11.7% of the respondents reported that they did not know if violent crime was a problem in their neighborhood.

Significant differences were found only when this question was compared to the respondents' employment status. A majority of respondents who were employed full-

time (63.9%), part-time (65.2%), and retired (63.9%) reported violent crime such as shootings and assaults as not a problem in their neighborhood. The unemployed were far more likely to report violent crime as a small problem (31.1%) or big problem (13.3%) than those retired or employed. The differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.218$, Contingency Coefficient=.213 with $p=.032$).

Gang Activity. The respondents were asked if gang activity was a problem in their neighborhood. Only 14.0% of the respondents reported gangs as a big problem while 22.7% a small problem, and 49.1% no problem. Only 14.2% of the respondents reported that they did not know if gang activity was a problem in the neighborhood. When the responses were compared to the respondents' age, ethnicity, employment status, and gender, no significant differences were found.

Neighborhood Problems and Victimization. It is clear from the data reported on Chart 8 that those victimized by crime were more likely to indicate that the



seven crime problems were big problems when compared to those not victimized.

For drug sales on the streets, 23.5% of victimized respondents indicated this was a big problem compared to only 14.4% of those not victimized (Phi=.144 with p=.041). For drug sales from houses or apartments, 24.2% of victimized respondents indicated this was a big problem compared to only 12.1% of those not victimized (Phi=.196 with p=.002). For drug use in the neighborhood, 31.8% of the victimized indicated it was a big problem compared to only 11.8% of those not victimized (Phi=.283 with p=.001). The strongest relationship occurred with burglary where the proportions were 28.8% for victimized and 5.7% for not victimized (Phi=.415 with p=.001). Other strong relationships were found with robbery with victimized at 24.4% and not victimized at 6.1% (Phi=.376 with p=.001), violence with victimized at 18.3% and not victimized at 6.4% (Phi=.260 with p=.001), and gang activity with victimized at 27.5% and not victimized at 7.2% (Phi=.335 with p=.001). Crime victimization appears to increase the probability that crime problems will be seen as “big” problems in the neighborhood.

Experiences With Victimization

Respondents were asked about their experiences with crime victimization. The respondents were asked if they or a member of their family had anyone break into their home or garage, had something stolen by force or by threat of force, if they had been attacked with an object or weapon, or had been knifed or shot at in the past two years.

The results of these questions are found on Table 19.

Table 19: EXPERIENCE WITH VICTIMIZATION		
Victimization Type	Yes	No
Break In	24.6%	74.9%
Robbery	9.7%	90.0%
Hit with Object	5.0%	95.0%
Knifed or Shot	5.2%	94.8%

Break-in. When the respondents were asked if anyone had broken into their home, garage or another building on their property, 74.9% of the respondents said no while 24.6% of the respondents said that they had (see Table 19). No significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondents' gender, employment status, and age. Differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's ethnicity. Anglo respondents were more likely to have experienced a break-in when compared to Hispanics and Black/Others. The differences found however, were not significant.

Robbery. The respondents were asked, if anyone had stolen something from them or a member of the family by force or by threat of force (see Table 19). According to survey results, 90.0% of the respondents reported that they had not while 9.7% of the respondents reported that they had been victimized. No significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondents' gender, ethnicity, employment status, and age.

Beaten, Attacked, or Hit With an Object. The respondents were asked if they or a member of their family had been beaten, attacked or hit with an object such as a rock or bottle (see Table 19). A substantial majority, 95.0%, of the respondents said no while only 5.0% of the respondents said yes. No significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's gender, ethnicity, employment status, age, or zip code.

Knifed, Shot, Attacked with Weapon. The respondents were also asked if they or a member of their family had been knifed, shot at or attacked with some other weapon

by anyone at all (see Table 19). Again, a substantial majority of the respondents, 94.8%, said no while only 5.2% of the respondents said yes. No significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's gender, ethnicity, employment status, age, and zip code.

As reported elsewhere in this document, those who had been victimized were more likely to be less satisfied with their neighborhood, have a lower sense of safety, believe that neighborhood conditions had worsened, perceive neighborhood crime problems to be big, and provide more negative evaluations of the police.

Observations and Perceptions of the Police

The survey included several questions that allowed the respondents to provide evaluations of the police and identify specific situations in which the respondent might have seen the police within the past month.

Police Drive in Neighborhood. The respondents were then asked if they had seen a police car driving through their neighborhood in the past month (see Table 20). Most of the respondents reported that they had seen a police car in the past month. A substantial majority, 86.5%, indicated that they had while 12.5% of the respondents said that they had not and 1.0% of the respondents said that they were unsure. Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to Zip Code and age.

A majority of all of the age groups reported that they had seen a police officer drive through their neighborhood in the past month. Of those in the 14-25 age group, 91.1% stated that they had seen a police officer drive through as did 88.4% of those in the 26-39 age group, 77.9% of those in the 40-49 age group, 83.5% of those in the 50-64 age

group, and 91.8% of those in the 65 and over age group. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.195$, Contingency Coefficient=.191 with $p=.059$).

Table 20: % REPORTING OBSERVATION OF POLICE PRESENCE			
TYPE	Yes	No	Not Sure
Driving	86.5	12.5	1.0
Walking	16.2	82.0	1.8
In Alleys	20.4	68.1	11.5
Conversation	27.0	65.5	6.5

Police Walk or Stand in Neighborhood. The respondents were also asked if they had seen a police officer walking or standing on patrol in their neighborhood (see Table 20). This question was one that was included because it was in the surveys used in other cities. However, it does not apply well to this community. Walking patrol is not practiced within the Weed and Seed Sites. Thus, it was unlikely that respondents would have seen police officers walking in the neighborhood. As expected, most of the respondents reported that they had not seen the police walking or standing on patrol in their neighborhood. According to survey results, 82.0% of the respondents responded that they had not, and 16.2% of the respondents responded that they had. Many of the respondents commented that they had seen the police department’s bicycle patrol officers. No significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent’s gender, age, current employment status, or ethnicity.

Police Patrol in Alley or Back of Buildings. The respondents were then asked if they had seen a police officer patrolling in the alleys or in the back of buildings (see Table 20). Again, this question, taken from previous surveys, does not apply well in the Weed and Seed Sites. Most of the neighborhoods do not have alleys. Therefore, most of the respondents, 68.1%, reported that they had not seen a police officer patrolling the

back of alleys or in the back of buildings while 20.4% of the respondents reported that they had and 11.5% of respondents reported that they were unsure. Some differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's age, however the differences were not significant. Differences were significant for this item only when looking at the zip codes condensed.

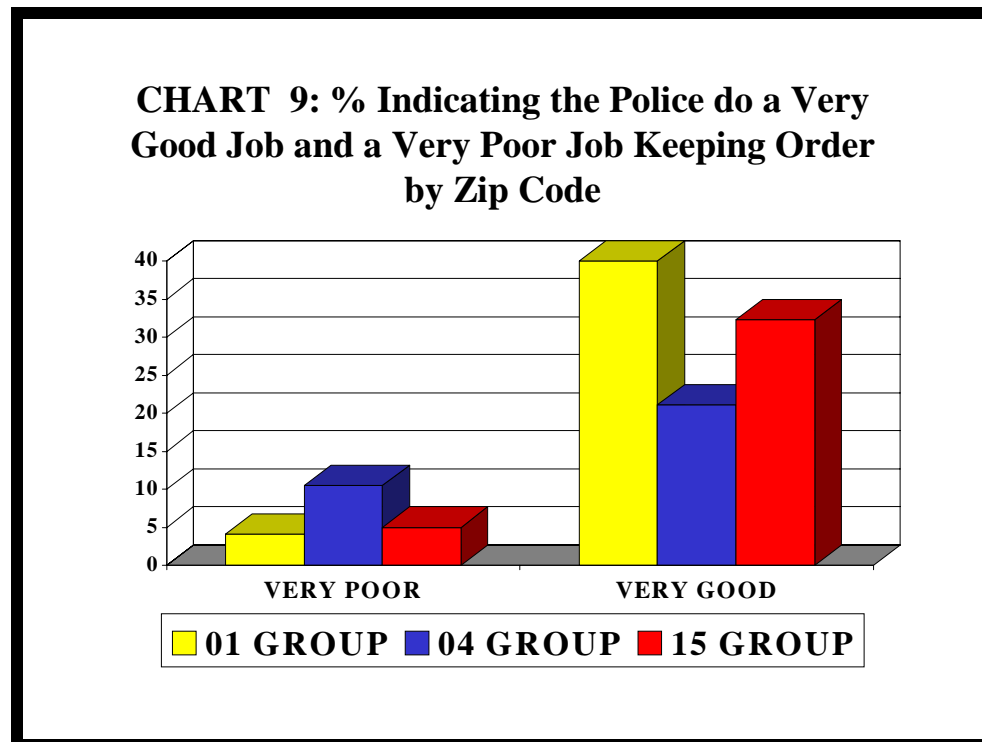
Respondents in the combined Zip Code including 01, 07 and 08 were the least likely to report seeing police patrol in alleys and behind businesses at 60.5%. Those in the 04 and 05 combined Zip Code were the most likely to report seeing police patrol in alleys and behind businesses at 79.5%. The 15, 16, 17, and 11 Zip Codes group falls in between at 69.5%. These differences are statistically significant ($\Phi=.198$, Contingency Coefficient=.194 with $p=.004$).

Police Chatting or Holding a Conversation. When the respondents were asked if they had seen a police officer chatting or having a friendly conversation with people in the neighborhood, 66.5% stated that they had not while 27.0% of the respondents reported that they had and only 6.5% of the respondents reported that they were unsure (see Table 20).

Significant differences were found when this item was compared to the respondent's age ($\Phi=.207$, Contingency Coefficient=.203 with $p=.029$). A total of 69.6% of the 14-25 age group reported that they had not seen a police have a friendly conversation with anyone in the neighborhood as did 61.7% of the 26-39 age group, 75.3% of the 40-49 age group, 59.5% in the 50-64 age group, and 69.9% of the 65 and over age group.

Rating of Police Job Keeping Order on Streets. The respondents were asked to rate how well the police are doing to keep order on the streets and sidewalks in their neighborhood using a five-point scale ranging from a very good job to a very poor job. The police received a positive rating. Most of the respondents rated the police at a very good job or a good job. Some 31.3% of the respondents rated the police as doing a very good job and a similar 31.1% of the respondents rated the police as doing a good job. Only 23.6% of the respondents rated the police as doing a fair job, 4.2% of the respondents rated the police as doing a poor job, and 5.5% of the respondents rated the police as doing a very poor job. The remaining 4.2% said that they did not know. No significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's age, gender, ethnicity, or employment status.

A geographic difference was found (See Chart 9). Residents in the 04 and 05



combined Zip Code group were much less likely to rate the police positively on doing a good job in keeping order on the streets and sidewalks. In that Zip Code group, 14.4% indicated the police were doing a very poor or poor job compared to only 11% of the 01 Zip Code group and 6.2% of the 15 Zip Code group (Chart indicates only the extreme ratings of very poor and very good).

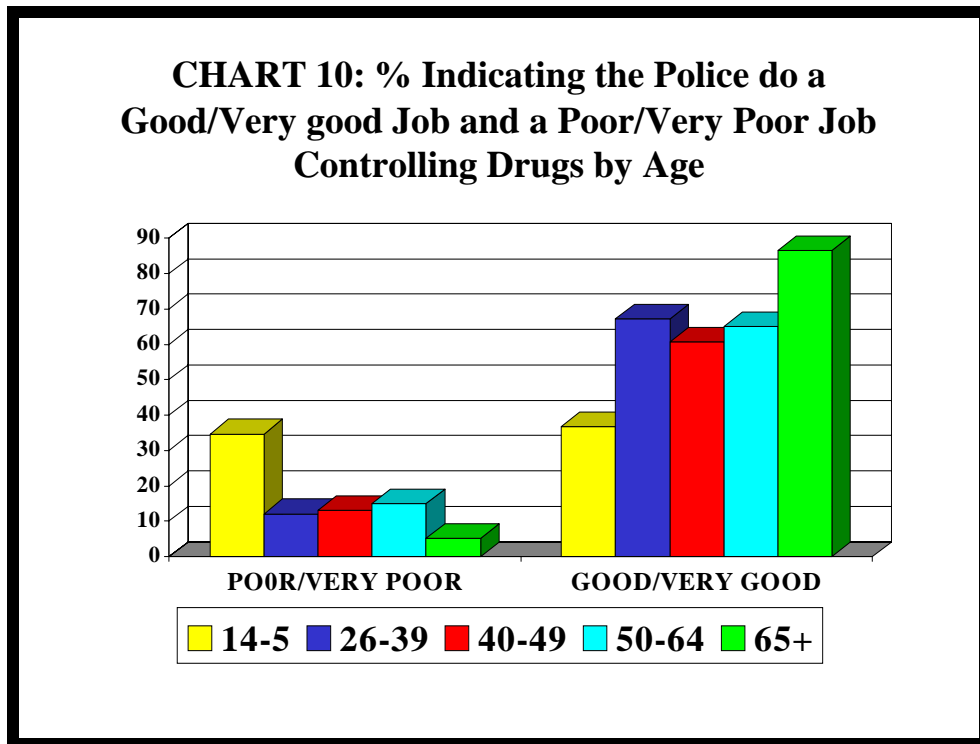
Conversely, only 21.1% of the 04 Zip Code group indicated that the police were doing a very good job while 40.0% of the 01 group and 32.3% of the 15 group indicated the police were doing a very good job. These differences are statistically significant ($\Phi=.241$, Contingency Coefficient=.234 at $p=.005$).

Rating Police and Victimization. In a separate analysis, it was found that experience with victimization has a negative effect on the respondents' perception of police performance. The mean rating of the police at 3.46 for those who had experienced a break-in was significantly lower than the 3.95 rating by those who had not experienced a break-in ($F=14.694$ with $p=.001$). This was also true for those who had been attacked/beaten or knifed/shot. The rating by those who had been attacked/beaten was 3.06 and by those who had not it was 3.86 ($F=9.178$ with $p=.003$). The rating by those who had been knifed/shot was lowest at 2.79 compared to 3.87 for those who had not ($F=17.958$ with $p=.001$). Very clearly, the experience of victimization reduces one's rating of the police. This effect occurred with all ethnic groups and in all of the Zip Code groups.

Rating Police Job Controlling Drug Sales. The respondents were also asked how good a job the police were doing to control the street sale and use of illegal drugs in their neighborhood. Of the respondents, 22.3% indicated the police as doing a very good

job, 29.8% indicated a good job, 16.8% indicated a fair job, 5.0% indicated a poor job, and 7.0% indicated a very poor job. Almost a fifth, 19.3%, of the respondents said that they were unsure. Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's age and employment status.

While the largest proportion of all of the age groups gave the police a positive rating, the youngest age group, 14-25, was significantly more likely to indicate the police were doing a poor or very poor job (34.7%) and the 65 and over age group were more likely to indicate that the police were doing a good or very good job (86.5%). As reported on Chart 10, the 14-25 age group splits about equally between the good and poor ratings. About double the number of the three middle age groups rate the police positively as rate them negatively. Finally, the 65 and over group overwhelmingly rates the police positively. These differences are statistically significant ($\Phi=.381$, Contingency Coefficient=.356 with $p=.001$).

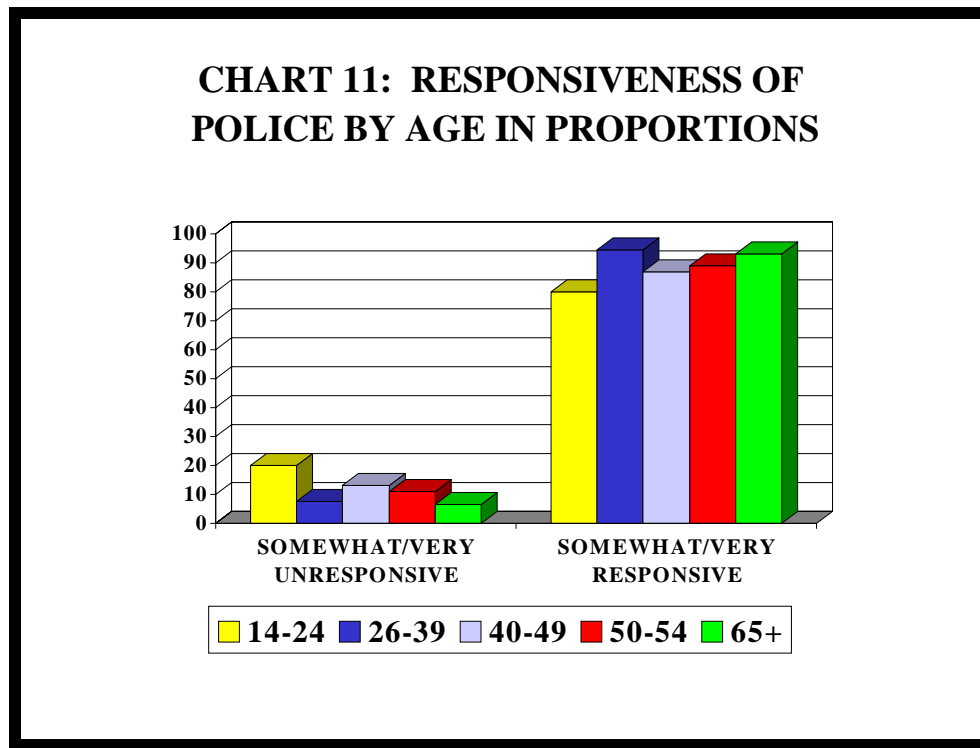


The police rating significantly varied according to the different employment categories ($\Phi=.287$, Contingency Coefficient=.276 with $p=.012$). Again, most respondents indicated the police were doing a good or very good job controlling the street sale and use of illegal drugs. Related to age, the retired respondents were the most likely to report the police doing a good or very good job at 79.0%. The unemployed were the least likely to indicate this at 45.9%. Instead, the unemployed were the most likely to report the police as doing a poor or very poor job at 21.6%. All other employment groups fell below 20% in the lowest two categories with full-time at 17.6%, part-time at 10.8%, and retired at only 7.0%.

Responsiveness of Police to Community Concerns. The respondents were asked to indicate how responsive the police were in their neighborhood to community concerns. Of those responding to the question, 39.2% of the respondents rated the police as very responsive, 32.7% rated the police as somewhat responsive, 4.5% rated the police as somewhat unresponsive, and 4.2% rated the police as very unresponsive. Almost of fifth, 19.4%, of the respondents indicated that they did not know in regard to this question. Significant differences were found when the responses were examined by age.

The positive evaluation of police responsiveness increased with age (see Chart 11). For this analysis, the respondents that indicated that they did not know were excluded. Only 80% of the 14-25 age group indicated that the police were somewhat or very responsive. This went up to 94.5% with the 26-39 age group, dropped to 86.9% with the 40-49 group, and then, increased again for the 50-64 (89.0%) and 65 and over (93.4%) groups. The very unresponsive answer was most common for the two youngest

age groups at 6.0% and 6.5% respectively. These differences were statistically significant (Phi=.272, Contingency Coefficient=.262 with p=.023).



Police Responsiveness and Victimization. Again, in a separate analysis, it was found that the rating of police responsiveness was negatively affected by the respondents' experience with victimization. Those who had experienced a break-in provided a mean rating of police responsiveness of 3.08 while those not experiencing a break-in rated the police significantly higher at 3.42 (F=11.765 with p=.001). Those that had been attacked/beaten rated police responsiveness at 2.59 which was significantly lower than the 3.37 rating by those not attacked/beaten (F=15.713 with p=.001). Also, those knifed/shot rated police responsiveness at 2.85 compared to a significantly higher 3.36 rating by those not victimized (F=7.570 with p=.006). The rating of police responsiveness is clearly reduced by the experience of victimization.

Participation In Neighborhood Improvement Initiatives

The survey included a set of questions that sought to determine if the respondents participated in neighborhood programs. The respondents were asked if they had participated in any crime prevention program in the past two years. A crime prevention programs included an anti-drug rally, vigil or march, a citizen patrol, neighborhood watch program, and a neighborhood cleanup project. These crime prevention programs seek to involve residents in helping to address problems in their community.

Anti-drug Rally, Vigil, or March. The respondents were asked if they had participated or attended an anti-drug rally, vigil, or march. Only a small proportion, 4.7%, of the respondents had while 93.5% of the respondents had not (see Table 21).

Significant differences were found in regard to ethnicity ($\Phi=.157$, Contingency Coefficient=.155 with $p=.043$). Black/Other respondents were the most likely to participate in an anti-drug rally, vigil, or march at 7.2%. Only 4.0% of Hispanics and 5.3% of Anglos had participated in an anti-drug rally, vigil, or march.

Activity	Black/Other	Hispanic	Anglo	Total
Anti-drug Rally	7.2	4.0	5.3	4.7
Citizen Patrol	7.2	4.7	17.5	7.0
Neighborhood Watch	18.8	12.0	15.8	13.8
Clean-up	11.4	7.3	8.8	8.2

Citizen Patrol. When the respondents were asked if they had participated in the citizen patrol program, 90.3% of the respondents reported that they had not while only 7.0% of the respondents reported that they had (see Table 21).

Significant differences were found when this item was compared to the respondent's ethnicity (Phi=.186, Contingency Coefficient=.183 with p=.008). As noted in Table 21, Anglos were far more likely to have participated in a citizen patrol followed by Black/Others and then Hispanics.

Also, males (12.6%) were more likely to participate in citizen patrols than females (3.9%). This difference was statistically significant (Phi=.172, Contingency Coefficient=.170 with p=.003).

Neighbors on Watch. The respondents were asked if they had participated in a neighborhood watch program. This is the crime prevention activity in which the greatest proportion of respondents (13.8%) had participated. As can be seen in Table 21, similar levels of participation were reported for all ethnic groups. Indeed, no significant differences were found when the responses were examined by ethnicity, age, gender, or employment status.

Neighborhood Cleanup. The respondents were also asked if they had participated in a neighborhood cleanup project. According to survey results, 87.8% of the respondents responded that they had not participated in a neighborhood cleanup project while 8.2% responded that they had (see Table 21).

Participation in neighborhood cleanup projects did not differ by ethnicity. However, differences for this item were found when compared to the respondent's employment status. Participation appears to be related to time available to participate. Only 4.8% of respondents that were employed full time reported participation while 17.0% of those employed only part-time and 11.0% of those retired reported participation. The unemployed respondents did not participate well with only 4.4%

reporting participation. These differences are statistically significant ($\Phi=.182$, Contingency Coefficient=.179 with $p=.047$).

Ratings of Availability of Services in the Community

The Weed and Seed Program hopes to improve the availability of a variety of services within the Sites. Therefore, questions were asked about the respondents satisfaction with the availability of the services listed on Table 22. Table 22 reports the proportions indicating that they were satisfied/ very satisfied or dissatisfied/very dissatisfied with the availability of the service and includes the proportion for those that did not know.

A problem exists with the responses on these questions. It was clear to all of the interviewers that many respondents had difficulty with rating the availability of the service. Rather they appeared to be evaluating the quality of the service rendered. Thus, the responses to these questions may mix these two dimensions. The problem with rating availability was also complicated by the respondents that indicated that they did not know if the service was available in the community. This response comprised between one-third and two-thirds of all responses for this set of questions (see Table 22). It cannot be determined if this response is due to the respondents' not having heard of the services or not having a need for the services and thus selectively screening out information in their memories. These problems with these questions should be remembered when examining the responses.

Youth Sports and Recreation. When the respondents were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with the availability of sports, recreation and other programs for youth, 20.7% reported being very satisfied, 23.4% somewhat satisfied, 9.7% somewhat

dissatisfied, and 8.0% very dissatisfied. The remaining 38.2% indicated that they did not know.

TABLE 22: % INDICATING SATISFACTION OR DISSATISFACTION WITH AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD			
Service	Do Not Know	Dissatisfied	Satisfied
Youth Sports and Recreation	38.2	17.7	44.1
Drug treatment	65.9	11.3	22.8
Job Opportunities	33.3	27.7	38.9
WIC	44.6	6.0	49.2
Department of Health Services	41.6	6.5	51.7
Texas Workforce Commission	49.6	9.7	40.5
TANF	60.3	5.7	34.0
Assistance to earn a GED	54.6	5.2	40.2

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to whether the respondent resided in Site I or Site II ($\Phi=.206$, Contingency Coefficient=.202 with $p=.014$). Of the respondents located in site I, 46.8% were very satisfied with the availability youth sports and recreation programs while only 27.5% of Site II respondents gave this answer. Slightly more Site II respondents (29.8%) were dissatisfied than Site I respondents (26%) concerning youth sports and recreation availability.

Drug Treatment Services. The respondents were asked to report their level of satisfaction with the availability of drug treatment services (see Table 22). According to survey results, 9.0% of the respondents said that they were very satisfied, 13.8% of the respondents said they were somewhat satisfied, 3.8% of the respondents said that they were somewhat dissatisfied and 7.5% of the respondents said that they were very dissatisfied. The remaining 65.9% of the respondents indicated that they did not know. No significant differences for this item were found.

Programs for Jobs. The respondents were also asked to express how satisfied they were with programs that provided job opportunities (see Table 22). Of the respondents, 13.7% reported being very satisfied, 25.2% somewhat satisfied, 14.2% somewhat dissatisfied, and 13.5% very dissatisfied. A third or 33.4% of the respondents indicated that they did not know.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's current employment status ($\Phi=.300$, Contingency Coefficient=.287 with $p=.001$). The group most satisfied with job opportunities was the unemployed group with 72.8% indicating that they were somewhat or very satisfied. For the full-time employed, these responses totaled to 55.3% while for the part-time employed it totaled to 51.4% and the retired it totaled to 59.6%.

WIC. The respondents were asked to state how satisfied they were with the availability of the WIC-Women, Infants, and Children program (see Table 22). Nearly half of the respondents 49.2%, reported being very satisfied to somewhat satisfied with the WIC program. Of the respondents, 30.7% reported being very satisfied, 18.5% somewhat satisfied, 1.5% somewhat dissatisfied, and 4.5% very dissatisfied. The largest group, 44.6%, of the respondents reported that they did not know.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's ethnicity ($\Phi=.265$, Contingency Coefficient=.256 with $p=.049$). The largest proportion of each ethnic groups gave the highest positive rating for this program. Of the respondents, 56.9% of the Hispanic respondents were very satisfied as were 56.3% of the Anglo respondents and 48.6% of the Black/Other respondents. Anglos were the

most dissatisfied with WIC with 21.9% indicating they were very dissatisfied while only 5.9% of Hispanics and 5.4% of Black/Others were very dissatisfied.

Department of Health Services. The respondents were also asked to rate the programs provided from the Department of Health (see Table 22). When questioned about this service, the interviewers named the immunization program and the public health clinics. A little more than half, 51.7% of the respondents gave a positive rating for the Department of Health. Based on survey results, 30.1% of the respondents were very satisfied, 21.6% somewhat satisfied, 2.0% somewhat dissatisfied, and 4.5% very dissatisfied; 41.6% of the respondents did not state an opinion. No significant differences were found for this item.

TWC. The respondents were asked to rate the availability of Texas Workforce Commission services (see Table 22). Of the respondents, 18.4% rated it as very satisfied, 22.1% satisfied, 4.7% somewhat dissatisfied, and 5.0% very dissatisfied. Almost half or 49.6% of the respondents indicated that they did not know.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's gender, and whether the respondent resided in Site II or I. More of the females (51.6%) were satisfied with the Texas Workforce Commission compared to only 38.5% of the men. Men were significantly more likely to be somewhat or very dissatisfied at 29.5% than females at only 12.9% ($\Phi=.237$, Contingency Coefficient=.231 with $p=.01$).

The majority of respondents in both Site I and II gave the Texas Workforce Commission a positive rating. However, Site I respondents were more likely to give responses at the extremes of the response scale. In other words, 48.5% of Site I

respondents offered a very satisfied response and 15.2% offered the very dissatisfied response. For Site II, only 30.9% indicated that they were very satisfied and only 7.4% indicated that they were very dissatisfied. Most of the Site II responses fell into the middle categories. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.256$, Contingency Coefficient=.248 with $p=.004$).

Interestingly, the rating for the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) was not significantly different at the .05 level or better when examined by employment status. However, 91.7% of the unemployed respondents indicated that they were somewhat or very satisfied with the TWC while 87.1% of the part-time employed and 79.2% of the full-time employed were somewhat or very satisfied. This may be an indication that the ratings are based on use of the service rather than knowledge of the services availability.

TANF. The respondents were asked to rate the availability of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (see Table 22). According to survey results, 15.6% of the respondents were very satisfied, 18.4% somewhat satisfied, 2.0% somewhat unsatisfied, and 3.7% very unsatisfied. Almost two-thirds or 60.3% of the respondents indicated that they did not know. No significant differences were found for this item.

G.E.D. Programs. The respondents were asked to rate programs that provide assistance to earn a G.E.D (see Table 22). Of the respondents, 22.1% indicated that they were very satisfied, 18.1% somewhat satisfied, 2.7% somewhat dissatisfied, and 2.5% very dissatisfied. More than half or 54.6% of the respondents indicated that they did not know.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's current employment status ($\Phi=.318$, Contingency Coefficient $=.303$ with $p=.038$). All 100% of the unemployed respondents indicated that they were somewhat or very satisfied with the availability of these services. This compares to 96.6% of the part-time employed, 83.4% of the full-time employed, and 83.9% of the retired respondents. The least satisfied group were the retired with 12.9% of this group indicating that they were very dissatisfied. Only 5.6% of the full-time employed and 3.4% of the part-time employed were very dissatisfied.

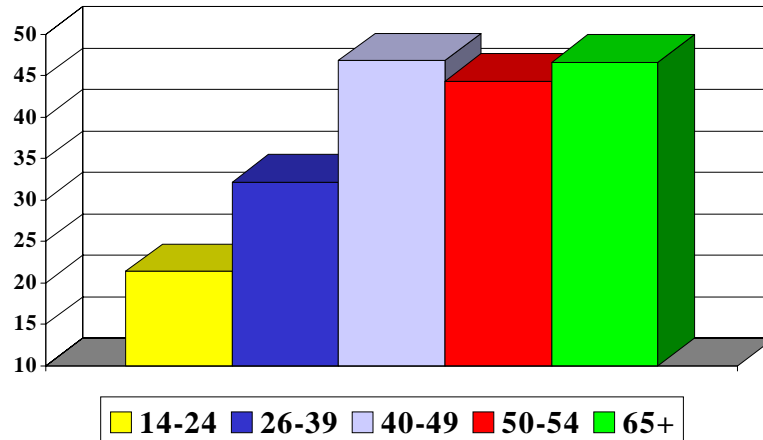
Knowledge of, Participation in, and Evaluation of Weed and Seed Programs

The respondents were asked if they had heard of the Weed and Seed Program itself and eight (8) programs that it funds. If the respondent stated that they had heard of the specific program, they were asked if they had participated in it. If they had participated, they were asked to provide a rating of the program on a five point scale from poor to excellent.

Weed and Seed. A majority of the respondents or 61.3% had not heard of the Weed and Seed Program. Only 38.5% reported that they had heard of the Weed and Seed Program.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondents' age and ethnicity. Knowledge of the Weed and Seed Program significantly increased with age group ($\Phi=.203$, Contingency Coefficient $=.199$ with $p=.036$). As reported on Chart 12, only 21.4% of the 14-25 age group reported that they had heard of

CHART 12: % THAT HAD HEARD OF WEED AND SEED BY AGE



the program while 32.2% of the 26-39 age group, 46.8% of the 40-49 age group, 44.3% of the 50-64 age group, and 46.6% of the 65 and over age group had heard of it.

A majority, 52.9%, of the Black/Other respondents said that they had heard of the Weed and Seed program compared to only 40.4% of the Anglo respondents and 34.4% of the Hispanic respondents. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi = .182$, Contingency Coefficient = .179 with $p = .01$).

Only the 126 respondents that had heard of the Program answered the question that sought an evaluation of the Weed and Seed Program. Of these 126 respondents 28.6% rated the program as excellent, 45.2% rated the program as good, 17.5% rated it as average, 17.5% rated it as fair, and 3.2% rated it as poor. Thus, the Weed and Seed Program received an excellent or good rating from 73.6% of the respondents that were aware of it. No significant differences were found for this item based on any of the demographic variables.

Weed and Seed and Victimization. The rating of the Weed and Seed Program differed by whether or not the respondent had been victimized or not. The differences all indicated that victimized respondents were more likely to provide a low rating than those not victimized. The differences were only statistically significant for those threatened. Those respondents that were threatened had a mean rating of the Weed and Seed Program of 2.25 on a scale from 0 to 4. Those not threatened rated the Program at 3.00 ($F=8.622$ with $p=.004$).

Funded Programs. Three items of information are available for each of the 8 programs funded in part by the Weed and Seed Program. These include whether or not the respondents had heard of the program, if they had participated in the program, and a rating of the programs by the participants. Table 23 provides a summary of these data. The first data column reports the percent of all respondents that had heard of the program. The second column reports the percent of those respondents that had heard of the program that had actually participated in the program. The third column reports the percent of the participants that rated the program as excellent or good on a five-point scale from excellent to poor.

Boys and Girls Club. The respondents were asked if they had ever heard of the 3902 Teen program at the Boys & Girls Club (see Table 23). Of the respondents, 52.4% reported that they had heard of the program while 47.6% of the respondents reported that they had not heard of the program. Significant differences were found when compared to the respondent's age, and whether the respondent resided in Site I or II.

A majority or 62.5% of the 14-25 age group responded that they had heard of the Boys & Girls Club 3902 Teen Program as did 56.5% of the 26-39 age group, 66.2% of

the 40-49 age group, 51.9% of the 50-64 age group, and 58.9% of the 65 and over age group. These differences are statistically significant ($\Phi=.194$, Contingency Coefficient $=.190$ with $p=.005$). It may be that youth that are targeted by the program and parents of teen aged children in the 40-49 are more likely to have heard of the program.

TABLE 23: KNOWLEDGE OF, PARTICIPATION IN, AND RATING OF FUNDED PROGRAMS

PROGRAM	% HAD HEARD OF PROGRAM	% OF HEARD THAT PARTICIPATED	% OF PARTICIPANTS THAT GAVE POSITIVE RATING
3902 Teen	52.4	18.7	92.3
Fighting to Rid Gangs	18.4	2.3	100.0
La Raza Counseling	51.4	12.2	78.3
Free Swimming	67.2	33.0	91.5
Summer Arts	32.3	14.8	100.0
Tejano Academy of Fine Art	31.3	8.2	100.0
Northside Basketball League	44.2	20.9	97.3
Youth Odyssey	12.7	6.8	Not Available

Those respondents residing in site II were more likely to have heard of the Boys & Girls Club Teen Program. Only 44.7% of the respondents residing in site I reported that they had heard of the program compared to 56.9% of the respondents residing in site II. The difference is statistically significant ($\Phi=.119$, Contingency Coefficient $=.118$ with $p=.017$).

The 211 respondents that responded that they had heard of the 3902 Teen Program were asked if they had participated in the program. Only 39 or 18.7% of the respondents that had heard of the 3902 Teen Program had participated in it.

Of the 39 respondents that had participated in the program, 51.3% rated it as excellent, 41.0% rated it as good, 5.1% rated it as average, and 2.6% rated it as fair.

Fighting to Rid Gangs in America. The second program was the Fighting to Rid Gangs in America-Life Skills Class regarding substance abuse. When the respondents were asked if they had heard of the program, 81.6% stated that they had not and 18.4% that they had. Significant differences were found when compared to the respondent's ethnicity.

A majority of all of the ethnic groups reported that they had not heard of the Fighting to Rid Gangs in America program. Looking at ethnicity, 84.8% of the Hispanic respondents had not heard of the program compared to 77.2% of the Anglo respondents and 72.9% of the Black/Other respondents (Phi=.124, Contingency Coefficient=.123 with $p=.046$).

Of the 74 that had heard of it, only 2 had participated in the program. These 2 participants rated the program either excellent or good.

Gulf Coast Council of La Raza. The respondents were asked if they had heard of the Gulf Coast Council of La Raza-Counseling and Education. Almost half or 48.6% of the respondents responded that they had not heard of the Gulf Coast of La Raza while 51.4% of the respondents responded that they had heard of it.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's age and ethnicity. Most of the respondents in the 14-25 age group and the 65 and over age group had not heard of the Gulf Coast Council of La Raza programs. Of the respondents, 58.9% of both the 14-25 age group and the 65 and over age group had not heard of the program. However, 51.3% of the 26-39 age group had heard of it, as had 55.8% of the 40-49 age group and 64.6% of the 50-64 age group. These differences were statistically significant (Phi=.170, Contingency Coefficient=.168 with $p=.021$).

The Black/Other respondents were not likely to have heard of La Raza while the Anglo and Hispanic respondents had heard of it. For Black/Others, 65.7% had not heard of the La Raza programs while 52.6% of the Anglos and 55.4% of the Hispanics had. These differences are statistically significant ($\Phi=.158$, Contingency Coefficient=.156 with $p=.007$).

Of the 207 respondents that had heard of La Raza programs, 26 or 12.2% had participated in it while 87.8% had not. Only 23 participants provided a rating. Of those, 34.8% rated them as excellent, 43.5% rated La Raza as good, 8.7% rated it as average, 4.3% rated it as fair, and 8.7% rated it as poor.

Free Swimming. Next, the respondents were asked if they had heard if the City of Corpus Christi Park & Recreation Department provided free swimming at the Joe Garza Community Pool, H.E.B. Community Swimming Pool, and the T.C. Ayers Recreation Center. Based on survey results, 67.2% of the respondents responded that they had heard of it and 31.5% of the respondents responded that they had not. Knowledge of this program did not vary significantly by any of the demographic variables.

Of the 271 respondents that had heard of the free swimming offered at the community pools, only 87 or 33.0% had participated. Of the 83 participants providing a rating, 37.3% rated the free swimming as excellent, 54.2% rated it as good, 7.2% rated it as average and 1.2% rated it as fair.

South Texas Institute for the Arts. The respondents were asked if they had heard of the South Texas Institute for the Arts-Summer Arts Program. According to survey results, 32.3% had heard of it while 67.2% had not heard of it. Significant

differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's age and ethnicity,

The youngest and oldest age groups were more likely to have not heard of the South Texas Institute for the Arts program. For the 14-25 age group, 80.4% had not heard of the South Texas Institute for the Arts compared to 72.2% of the 26-39 age group, 62.3% of the 40-49 age group, 53.2% of the 50-64 age group, and 69.9% of the 65 and over age group. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.204$, Contingency Coefficient=.199 with $p=.035$).

Of the Hispanic respondents, 71.7% had not heard of the South Texas Institute for the Arts program compared to 49.1% of the Anglo respondents and 64.3% of the Black/other respondents. These differences were statistically significant ($\Phi=.181$, Contingency Coefficient=.178 with $p=.011$).

Of the 135 of the respondents that had heard of the South Texas Institute for the Arts, 20 or 14.8% of those that had heard of the program had participated in it. All 100% of the participants rated the South Texas Institute for the Arts program excellent or good.

Tejano Academy of the Fine Art. The respondents were asked if they had ever heard of the Tejano Academy of the Fine Art Program. About one-third or 31.3% responded that they had heard of the Tejano Academy of the Fine Art Program while 68.7% of the respondents had not. Significant differences were found for this item when the responses were compared to the respondent's gender ($\Phi=.137$, Contingency Coefficient =.136 with $p=.006$). Females were less likely to have heard of the program with 73.5% indicating that they had not heard of the Tejano Academy of the Fine Art Program while 60.1% of the males had not heard of the program.

Of the 126 respondents that had heard of the Tejano Academy of the Fine Art Program, only 10 or 8.2% had participated in it. All of the participants rated it as excellent or good.

Northside Night Basketball League. The respondents were asked if they had heard of the YMCA Northside Outreach Program-Northside Night Basketball League program. According to survey results, 44.2% had heard of it while 55.8% had not.

Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's age ($\Phi=.172$, Contingency Coefficient $=.170$ with $p=.018$). A majority of the of the 14-25 age group, 57.1%, had heard of the YMCA Northside Outreach Program-Northside Night Basketball League program as had 54.4% of the 50-64 age group. However, only 34.8% of the 26-39 age group, 44.2% of the 40-49 age group, and 39.7% of the 65 and over age group had heard of it.

Also, it was significantly more likely that Black/Other respondents, 55.7%, had heard of the YMCA Northside Outreach Program-Northside Night Basketball League program than Anglos, 33.3%, or Hispanics, 43.5% ($\Phi=.127$, Contingency Coefficient $=.126$ with $p=.038$).

Of the 182 respondents who had heard of the YMCA Northside Outreach Program-Northside Night Basketball League program only 38 or 9.4% had participated. Of these participants, 97.3% rated the program excellent or good. Significant differences were found when the responses were compared to the respondent's gender and whether the respondent resided in site I or II.

An interesting finding relating to the respondents' proximity to the Basketball League Program occurred. About equal proportions of Site I, 42.7% and Site II, 45.1%

respondents had heard of the program. However, a significantly different proportion of Site I respondents who had heard of the program participated than Site II respondents ($\Phi=.179$, Contingency Coefficient=.177 with $p=.016$). Some 31.1% of Site I respondents that had heard of the program had participated compared to only 15.7% of Site II participants.

Youth Odyssey. The respondents were asked if they had heard of the Youth Odyssey-Outdoor Program. A substantial majority, 87.3%, had not heard of the Youth Odyssey program while 12.7% had.

Significant differences were found when the respondent's response was compared to their ethnicity ($\Phi=.141$, Contingency Coefficient=.139 with $p=.019$). Anglo respondents were more likely to have heard of this program than Black/Other and Hispanic respondents.

Of the 54 respondents that had heard of the Youth Odyssey-Outdoor Program, only 4 or 6.8% had participated in it. The respondents that participated in the Youth Odyssey-Outdoor Program were asked to rate it. However, an error in the construction of the surveys and scannable response forms caused this data to be lost.

Perceptions of Availability of Businesses and Professional

Services in the Neighborhood

One of the goals of the Weed and Seed Program is to encourage economic development and to facilitate the retention or opening of businesses and professional offices in the Sites. Because of this, the Weed and Seed staff asked that the survey inquire about the respondents' opinions about whether or not certain businesses and professional offices were in their neighborhoods. These included a coin laundry, grocery

store, gas station, pharmacy, dentist’s office, and doctor’s office. The proportion of respondents indicating that these existed in their neighborhoods at the time of the survey is found on Table 24. Responses are provided for the total sample and for the three Zip Code groups.

Gas stations were the most common business reported in the neighborhoods with 88.4% of the respondents reporting one existed in their neighborhood. This was followed

TABLE 24: % INDICATING BUSINESS OR SERVICE EXISTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD BY SITE AND ZIP CODE						
SERVICE	Site I	Site II	01	04	15	TOTAL
GAS STATION	80.5	93.2	80.8	88.5	95.2	88.4
GROCERY STORE	72.0	85.3	73.0	80.8	87.5	80.3
PHARMACY	59.3	75.5	59.2	71.8	78.1	69.5
COIN LAUNDRY	62.7	70.4	62.5	73.1	69.8	67.5
DOCTOR’S OFFICE	38.1	51.2	40.3	55.8	46.7	46.9
DENTIST’S OFFICE	43.9	48.6	45.3	51.3	46.1	46.4

by 80.3% indicating that a grocery store existed in their neighborhood, 69.5% indicating that a pharmacy existed, and 67.5% indicating that a coin laundry existed. Only 46.9% indicated that a doctor’s office existed in the neighborhood and a similar 46.4% indicated that a dentist’s office existed in their neighborhood.

It was clear to the interviewers that several businesses were perceived to exist together. Convenience stores were considered as both gas stations and grocery stores by some respondents. Other respondents did not consider convenience stores as grocery stores. Respondents also indicated that the pharmacy was the one inside the grocery store that they believed existed in their neighborhood.

As can be seen on Table 24, the perception that these businesses and services were in the neighborhood differed geographically. Respondents in Site I were less likely to report that any of the businesses or professional services were in their neighborhood

than those in Site II. For grocery stores (Phi=.162 with p=.001), gas stations (Phi=.191 with p=.001), pharmacies (Phi=.170 with p=.001), and doctor's offices (Phi=.127 with p=.011) the differences are statistically significant.

The breakdown into the three Zip Code groups indicates that the perception that the services are not in the neighborhood is concentrated in the north part of Site I or Zip Code group 01 (codes 01, 07, and 08). The differences found for the existence of coin laundries, dentist's offices, and doctor's offices were not statistically significant across the three Zip Code groups. However, for gas stations (Phi=.200 with p=.001), pharmacies (Phi=.185 with p=.001), and grocery stores (Phi=.164 with p=.005) the differences were statistically significant. Residents in the 01 Zip Code group do not perceive that these three businesses exist in their neighborhood to the same degree as residents in the 04 and 15 groups.

This geographic difference contributes to statistically significant differences in the perception that grocery stores, gas stations, and pharmacies exist in the neighborhood by ethnicity. A majority, 65.7%, of the Black/Other respondents were from the 01 Zip Code group while 66.7% of the Anglos were from the 15 Zip Code group. Hispanics were more evenly distributed, but more Hispanic respondents (43.0%) were in the 15 Zip Code group neighborhoods than either of the other two. Therefore, with the concentration of Black/Other respondents in the 01 Zip Code group, they were less likely to report the presence of these businesses in their neighborhood. Only 58.6% of the Black/Other respondents reported a pharmacy in their neighborhood compared to 69.6% of Hispanics and 82.5% of Anglos (Phi=.145 with p=.015). Only 68.6% of Black/Other respondents reported a grocery store in their neighborhood compared to 81.5% of Hispanics and

89.3% of Anglos ($\Phi=.151$ with $p=.01$). Finally, only 74.3% of Black/Other respondents reported a gas station in their neighborhood compared to 89.8% of Hispanics and 100% of Anglos ($\Phi=.231$ with $p=.001$).

CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation of the Weed and Seed Program proceeded along two paths. One used official data indicators and the second used a survey of residents. The first effort examined the possible effect of the Weed and Seed Program using official data indicators related to program goals. These indicators were selected in consultation between the evaluation team, Weed and Seed Program staff, and Weed and Seed Program advisory board members.

Review of Official Indicator Analysis

The results of the examination of official data indicators are generally positive. Most of the indicators have changed in the desired directions. This demonstrates that progress has been made toward reaching the Weed and Seed Program goals. The Weed and Seed Program appears to have contributed to the reduction of crime and delinquency and improved academic performance and economic conditions in the two Sites. Again, it is not possible to sort out the separate contribution of the Weed and Seed Program from those of other initiatives also operating in the Sites. Keeping this in mind, it is still accurate that progress has been made in achieving the Weed and Seed Program's goals.

Progress was made on the goal to reduce crime and delinquency in the Sites.

The analysis determined that:

1. Aggravated Assault decreased in the Sites although simple assault did not;

2. Burglary decreased in the Sites;
3. Auto Theft decreased in the Sites;
4. Larceny decreased in the Sites; and
5. The total of Burglary, Auto Theft and Larceny decreased more in the Sites than in the City as a whole.

It was also found that the number of revocations of adult probationers and the number of juveniles committed to TYC decreased more in the Sites from 1997 to 2000 than in Nueces County as a whole. These indicators may demonstrate that repeat and serious offending declined in the Sites over the time period under study.

Two types of crime provide contrary evidence. First, the number of sexual assaults in the Sites increased dramatically more than the total number for the City as a whole. This may be a result of either or both an increase of actual sexual assault crimes and/or an increase in the reporting of sexual assault crimes. Given the size of the increase in the Sites of 146%, it is unlikely that the increase occurred from an increase of reporting alone. The Weed and Seed staff should seek assistance from the CCPD and appropriate non-profit organizations to address sexual assault in future preventive programming.

Secondly, the number of drug arrests in the Weed and Seed Sites increased from 1997 to 2000. The increase appears to have occurred in Site II while Site I experienced a large decrease in drug arrests. This difference may be an indication of both the declining population of Site I and a shift of enforcement effort to the larger and more populated Site II. The increase of arrests is not necessarily a negative finding. A Weed and Seed Program is supposed to increase enforcement efforts in regard to crimes such as drug

abuse. Thus, the increased number of arrests demonstrates an increase in the effort to provide “weeding” within Site II by law enforcement. This effort is certainly one that should be encouraged. However, the Weed and Seed Program should consider the type and nature of its efforts to encourage drug use prevention efforts in the Sites.

It is also difficult to determine if the Weed and Seed goal to prevent child abuse has been successfully addressed. A large increase in reported and confirmed victims of child abuse occurred from 1997 to 2000. This was especially true in Zip Code areas 78401, 78405, and 78408. The largest increase appears to be in the 78401 Zip Code area where population was actually decreasing. Similar to the sexual assault crime, child abuse reporting is sensitive to changes in reporting behavior. It is likely that the various initiatives at work in the Weed and Seed Sites have increased the actual reporting of child abuse whether or not the actual number of abuse cases has increased or decreased. What is known is that abused children and their families cannot receive appropriate intervention, case management, and services if abuse is not reported. The increase in reported and confirmed victims is an indicator that greater intervention and service provision has likely occurred in the Sites. Over the long term (5 to 20 years), this increased intervention should reduce child abuse, juvenile delinquency, and adult criminality through the treatment provided to the child victims and their families. The Weed and Seed Program should continue to encourage programs and services that increase the reporting of child abuse and the resulting interventions.

The Weed and Seed goal to improve Academic Performance appears to have been successfully served over the 1997 to 2000 time period. Positive changes in most of the Academic Performance indicators were found. Specifically it was found that:

1. Dropout rates in the schools within the Sites decreased more than those for the school districts present;
2. Attendance rates in the schools within the Sites increased more than for the CCISD as a whole; and
3. TAAS test scores in Reading, Math, and Writing increased and for Math the increase was greater than that for CCISD as a whole.

These findings demonstrate that the Weed and Seed Program may have contributed to an improvement in Academic Performance within the Sites.

The remaining indicator of Academic Performance was retention rates. The retention rate increased in the sites. It is likely that this increase is related to the imposition of stricter standards for promotion to the next grade that occurred during the time period under examination. This policy change over shadowed any possible effect of the Program. It is important to remember that these findings show that academic performance standards can be strengthened without a negative effect on attendance rates and dropout rates.

The Weed and Seed Program appears to have contributed to progress toward its goal of improving economic conditions in the Sites. The examination of indicators demonstrated that:

1. Unemployment fell more in the Sites than for Nueces County as a whole. However, the rate remained higher than the County rate;
2. The number of persons receiving Food Stamps decreased slightly more than that for Nueces County as a whole; and

3. The number of persons receiving TANF decreased slightly more than that for Nueces County as a whole.

The evidence is clear that the Sites remain an economically depressed area. However, the improvement in employment is a very positive sign. The reduction of the number receiving Food Stamps and TANF is sensitive to changes in policies concerning eligibility. Much of the reduction is likely to be due to these changes in eligibility. However, with more employed persons in the Sites, a true reduction in demand for Food Stamps and TANF is likely to have occurred.

In summary, progress appears to have been made by the Weed and Seed Program in reaching its goals to reduce crime and delinquency and improve academic performance and economic conditions within the Sites.

Review of Survey Results Analysis

A survey of 403 residents of the Weed and Seed Sites was successfully conducted. The survey was conducted by telephone and in-person interviews using both English and Spanish versions of a questionnaire in May through July 2001. The questionnaire was constructed from one used at other sites in consultation between the Evaluation Team and Weed and Seed staff and advisory board members.

Interestingly, the residents of the Sites appeared to be fairly stable because 76.3% indicated that they had lived at their present location for four or more years and 61.3% had lived there seven or more years. This would seem to give to the Weed and Seed Program a stable base from which to generate citizen knowledge of and support for its programs.

Family size varied considerably from 1 to 9 persons. The average family size was 3.38 persons. Only 53.6% of the families contained persons under the age of 18. Thus, a substantial number of households in the Sites do not have children at which many of the Weed and Seed funded programs are targeted. Conversely, 35.7% of the households held only persons 50 years of age or older. This includes the 36.7% of the 65 and older age group that lives alone. Some consideration of programs or services for the older residents of the Sites may need to be given.

Of the 214 families with persons under 18 in the household, only 44 or 20.5% reported using daycare services. A majority of these daycare users or 76.9% indicated that daycare was not affordable and 55.7% indicated that it was not convenient. These factors may be related to the lack of day care use among the respondents with children. The daycare issue need to be investigated more completely than the present data permit. The actual ages of the children in the households was not collected. The full extent of the possible need for daycare services cannot be determined from the survey data.

A baseline of perception and opinion data has been established from the residents of the Sites. These data provide a current picture of their perceptions of the safety, crime problems, police services, and availability of services and business in their neighborhoods.

In review of the perceptions of the neighborhood, the respondents have provided relatively positive observations. The majority of residents of the Weed and Seed Sites perceived that their neighborhoods were satisfactory places to live, were safe in both day and night, had remained the same or improved, and did not

have big problems with crime. The Weed and Seed Program must be considered to have contributed to these positive evaluations of the neighborhoods within the Sites.

Some additional observations may be made concerning each of these issues.

Neighborhood Satisfaction. A majority or 85.9% of the respondents indicated that they were very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their neighborhood as a place to live. This appears to correspond with the stability of the residents noted earlier. However, continued stability of the neighborhoods may be in question as younger respondents were less satisfied than older, more stable, residents. An important finding for the Weed and Seed Program and for its ally the CCPD is that victimized respondents were significantly less satisfied with their neighborhoods than non-victimized respondents. The presence of crime victimization appears to reduce satisfaction and may contribute to movement out of the neighborhoods. **Increased crime prevention is likely to improve neighborhood satisfaction among other perceptions.**

Neighborhood Change. Nearly equal numbers of respondents indicated that their neighborhoods had become worse (18.0%) and had gotten better (21.4%) over the previous two years. The perception that the neighborhood was getting worse increased with age. Thus, the older, more stable residents and those likely to living alone are more concerned that their neighborhood is changing in undesirable ways. **This is another indication that the Weed and Seed Program may need to review programs and services for older residents.**

Again, victims of crime were significantly more likely to indicate that their neighborhoods had become worse.

Neighborhood Safety. A majority of respondents felt safe in their neighborhoods during the day (90.8%) and at night (65.4%). However, a substantial shift toward feeling unsafe occurred between the day and the night times. This shift appeared to occur for all age groups, genders, and ethnicities. Victims of crime were significantly more likely to feel unsafe than those not victimized. **These data appear to point out a need for attention to crime and fear of crime reduction activities in the nighttime.**

Crime Problems. A high level of satisfaction with their neighborhoods and the general sense that their neighborhoods were safe are related to the fact that **only a minority perceived any of the seven types of crimes as a big problem.** The sale of drugs on the street, sale of drugs from dwellings, and drug use are the crimes most often labeled big problems while violent crime and theft crimes are not as often labeled big problems. When compared to the official indicators of crime, the respondents appear to be providing a similar picture. Assault and theft crimes have decreased while drug arrests have increased in the Sites. **The perception that drug crimes are more problematic than violent crimes and theft crimes may be a reflection of the reality of the respondents experiences over the past two to three years.**

Only a minority or 24.6% of the respondents had experienced a break-in at their dwelling over the previous two years and fewer still had experienced robbery or assault. When summed across all four types of victimization, a total of 132 respondents or 33.2% had been victimized in the previous two years. **This victimization negatively influenced their perceptions of their neighborhoods, their sense of safety, their perception of the seriousness of crime problems, and their evaluations of police services.**

Police Services. A majority of the respondents or 86.5% had seen a police officer drive by in the past month. Of concern for the community and the CCPD, is that only 27% had observed a police officer chatting or having a conversation with someone in the neighborhood. With the development of community policing within the CCPD, this figure should increase over time. The questions used in regard to walking and patrolling alleys are not thought to reflect the reality of police work within the sites.

The majority of the respondents indicated that the police were doing a very good or good job in regard to keeping order on the streets (62.4%) and a very good or good job in regard to control of street sale and use of illegal drugs (52.1%). Also, 71.9% indicated that the police were very or somewhat responsive in their neighborhood to community concerns. These ratings of the police varied by age. The youngest age group were the least likely to rate the police positively on responsiveness or doing a good job in keeping order on the streets.

The lower rating of police performance in regard to street sale and use of illegal drugs is likely to be related to the respondents' perceptions that drug sale and use are big problems in their neighborhoods compared to other crimes. It is also consistent with the increased drug arrests in Site II. Citizen knowledge of that increase is likely to lead to the perceptions that drug offenses are a problem in the neighborhood and that the police need to do something about them regardless of whether or not increased police enforcement effort was the cause of the increase in drug arrests.

Generally, the respondents in the Weed and Seed Sites rated the police positively in regard to job performance and responsiveness to community concerns.

Availability or Existence of Programs, Services, and Businesses. Two sets of questions asked the respondents about the programs, services, and businesses in their neighborhoods.

Professional Services and Businesses. One set inquired about whether or not six business or professional services actually existed in the neighborhood. For gas stations, grocery stores, pharmacies, and coin laundries, a majority of the residents of both Sites indicated that they existed in the neighborhood. Less than half, indicated that doctor's and dentist's offices existed in the neighborhood. Very importantly, it was less likely that respondents from Site I and the most northern Zip Code areas reported that these existed in their neighborhood. Site I is the older of the two Sites and should reflect any successful efforts to improve availability of services and businesses. **If the Weed and Seed Program is designed to encourage the retention and opening of businesses and professional offices in the Sites, these data do not offer evidence that this has occurred.** Again, these data are a baseline, it cannot be determined if the responses would have been different two years previously. To adequately measure this both a follow-up survey and an actual objective count of businesses and professional offices in the area need to be performed.

Availability of Programs and Services. A different set of questions asked the respondents to rate the availability of a set of 8 programs and services generally offered by either government or non-profit organizations. **An important finding here is that many of the respondents did not know if the program or service was available.** This could mean that marketing of these programs and services is inadequate or is missing the target audience in some way. The survey did not inquire if the respondent would use the

service if they knew it was available. Thus, it cannot be determined if the large proportions that did not know of the programs were due to the respondents filtering out information that did not apply to them or from inadequate or off target marketing. The Weed and Seed Program should seek information that would determine the level of need for each of these programs and services in combination with whether or not those in need had heard of the program in any future data collection effort.

Knowledge of, Participation in and Evaluation of Weed and Seed. A

significant majority or 61.3% of the respondents had not heard of the Weed and Seed Program. Slightly more respondents in Site I (42.7%) that has been in operation longer had heard of the Program than respondents in Site II (36.1%), but this difference was not statistically significant. Also, significant is the finding that knowledge of the Program was lower in the two youngest age groups than in the older age groups. Many of the Weed and Seed Program's activities appear to be directed at youth. Yet, the youngest respondents and those with a greater probability of having persons under 18 in the household had not heard of the Weed and Seed Program. **For the Weed and Seed Program to have its desired effects, it must encourage participation, but participation is unlikely if residents in the Sites are not aware of Weed and Seed.**

Weed and Seed Funded Programs. Only the Boys & Girls Club-Teen Program, Park and Recreations Free Swimming, and the Gulf Coast Council of La Raza's Counseling and Education programs had been heard of by a majority of respondents. Less than half had heard of the Northside basketball league, less than a third had heard of either or the Arts programs, and less than a fifth had heard of either Fighting to Rid

Gangs or Youth Odyssey. **Again, the observation must be made that participation is unlikely if the programs are not known to the residents who might participate.**

An observation about knowledge of Weed and Seed and its funded programs can be made from the interview process. When the Evaluation Team was conducting the in-person interviews, it used the Greenwood and Parkdale Libraries as staging centers. Both libraries permit the display of posters and the distribution of flyers and brochures. One of these libraries is inside Site II and one is on the edge of Site II. However, on inspection, no poster, leaflet, flyer, or brochure was available at either library about Weed and Seed or any of the eight funded programs. This appears to be an example of an opportunity to provide residents with information or “knowledge” about Weed and Seed and its programs that has been lost.

The proportions of respondents that reported participation in any of the programs were very low. The three programs for which participation was highest were the free swimming, Boys & Girls Club-Teen Program, and the Northside Basketball League. Yet, at best less than a third of respondents that had heard of the programs had participated in them. For most programs, the proportion participating was much lower.

Similar low levels of participation were reported in anti-drug activities, citizen patrols, neighborhood watch, and neighborhood cleanups. Only 13.8% reported participation in neighborhood watches and less than 10% reported participation in any of the other three activities.

A very positive note is provided by the extremely favorable evaluations that participants gave for the programs. Between 90% and 100% of participants in the various programs rated them excellent or good with one exception. The Gulf Coast

Council of La Raza's Counseling and Education programs received excellent and good rating from only 78.3% and it was the only program that received poor ratings. Thus, when residents become participants, they appear very pleased with the programs.

The survey has provided a wealth of information for the Weed and Seed staff and advisory board to consider in the continued development of the Program. Examples can be given. Few residents were involved in job training and no job training was reported in the Sites. Few residents are taking advantage of the public transportation within the Sites. Daycare is perceived to be inconvenient and costly in the Sites. Residents were concerned about the perceived increase in drug offenses in their neighborhoods. The younger residents are concerned with the quality of police services while the older residents appear concerned with worsening neighborhood conditions. Thus, programs may be needed to address the differing concerns of the ends of the age spectrum. Finally, too few residents appear to be aware of programs and services available in the neighborhoods and of the Weed and Seed programs themselves.

The results of the survey analysis should be considered favorable toward the Weed and Seed Program. The respondents from both Sites appear to be satisfied with their neighborhoods and their safety within them. They appear to be regard police services and responsiveness positively. When they participate in Weed and Seed programs, they provide very high ratings of them. With room to improve, the Weed and Seed Program appears to be contributing to the improvement of the Sites and to the achievement of its state goals.

APPENDICES

A: CRIME TABLES

B: SCHOOLS IN SITES I AND II

C: QUESTIONNAIRE—ENGLISH VERSION

APPENDIX A: CRIME TABLES

TABLE 1: SEXUAL ASSAULT BY ZIP CODE				
ZIP	1997	1998	1999	% CHANGE 1997-1999
01	0	5	13	+130
04	3	8	6	+100
05	6	10	13	+117
07	0	3	8	+800
08	10	7	31	+210
15	17	11	19	+12
17	1	1	1	0
Total	37		91	+146

TABLE 2: AGGRAVATED ASSAULT BY ZIP CODE				
ZIP	1997	1998	1999	% CHANGE 1997-1999
01	69	56	65	-6
04	81	45	74	-9
05	235	185	179	-24
07	37	36	31	-16
08	144	88	133	-8
15	202	168	174	-14
17	21	7	29	+38
Total	789		685	-13.2

TABLE 3 : BURGLARY BY ZIP CODE				
ZIP	1997	1998	1999	% CHANGE 1997-1999
01	114	71	62	-47
04	206	187	138	-33
05	363	403	302	-17
07	82	52	42	-49
08	217	230	278	+28
15	567	512	456	-19.6
17	35	33	38	-8.6
Total	1,584	1,662	1,316	-16.9

TABLE 4 : LARCENY BY ZIP CODE				
ZIP	1997	1998	1999	% CHANGE 1997-1999
01	297	263	178	-40
04	657	457	265	-60
05	1,899	1,008	584	-69
07	114	74	50	-56
08	714	541	545	-24
15	2,230	1,607	1,404	-37
17	220	220	291	+32
Total	6,131		3,317	-46

TABLE 5: AUTO THEFT BY ZIP CODE				
ZIP	1997	1998	1999	% CHANGE 1997-1999
01	23	23	19	-17
04	57	32	37	-35
05	130	120	95	-27
07	25	13	21	-16
08	83	103	146	+76
15	226	208	205	-9
17	27	27	21	-22
Total				-4.6

TABLE 6: DRUG OFFENSES BY SITE						
SITE	STATUS	1997	1998	1999	2000	% CHANGE 1997-1999
I						
	ADULT	126	131	65	73	-42
	JUVENILE	4	3	1	1	-75
II						
	ADULT	858	889	992	1,078	+25.6
	JUVENILE	82	75	100	103	+25.6
Total		1,070			1,255	+17

TABLE 7: SIMPLE ASSAULT BY SITE					
SITE	1997	1998	1999	2000	% CHANGE 1997-1999
I	224	234	203	224	0
II	3,008	2,891	2,767	2,965	-1
TOTAL	3,232	3,125	2,970	3,189	-1

APPENDIX B: SCHOOLS IN SITES I AND II

HIGH SCHOOLS

Carroll
Miller
Moody

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Baker
Cunningham
Driscoll
Martin
South Park
West Oso
Academy of Fine Arts

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Allen
Carolle Lane
Casa Linda
Central Park
Chula Vista
Crockett
Crossley
Evans
Fannin
Garcia
Houston Kostoryz
Lamar
Lexington

Los Encinos
Lozano
Oak Park
Prescott
Shaw
Travis
Coles
Zavala
Mary Grett
Galvan
Carl Allen
Kennedy
Skinner

APPENDIX C: QUESTIONNAIRE

ENGLISH VERSION

15. Has anyone stolen something from your or a member of your family by force or by threat of force? YES NO DON'T KNOW

16. Have you or a member of your family been beat, attacked, or hit with something such as a rock or bottle? YES NO DON'T KNOW

17. Have you or a member of your family been knifed, shot at, or attacked with some other weapon by anyone at all? YES NO DON'T KNOW

18. In general, how good a job are the police doing to keep order on the streets and sidewalks in this neighborhood these days? Would you say they are doing...

- A very good job
- A good job
- A fair job
- A poor job
- A very poor job
- Don't Know

19. How good a job are the police doing in controlling the street sale and use of illegal drugs in this neighborhood these days? Would you say they are doing...

- A very good job
- A good job
- A fair job
- A poor job
- A very poor job
- Don't Know

Here are a few specific situations in which you might have seen the police. During the past month, have you seen...

20. A police car driving through your neighborhood? YES NO DON'T KNOW

21. A police officer walking around or standing on patrol in the neighborhood? YES NO DON'T KNOW

22. A police officer patrolling in the alleys or in the back of buildings? YES NO DON'T KNOW

23. A police officer chatting/having a friendly conversation with people in the neighborhood? YES NO DON'T KNOW

24. In general, how responsive are the police in this neighborhood to community concerns? Are they...

- Very responsive
- Somewhat responsive
- Somewhat unresponsive
- Very Unresponsive
- Don't Know

25. During the past 2 years, have you attended or participated in any of the following events in this neighborhood?

a) Antidrug rally, Vigil, or march? YES NO DON'T KNOW

b) Citizen patrol? YES NO DON'T KNOW

c) Neighborhood watch program? YES NO DON'T KNOW

d) Neighborhood cleanup project? YES NO DON'T KNOW

In general, how satisfied are you with the following programs that are in this neighborhood? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

26. The availability of sports, recreation, and other programs for youth

- Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- DON'T KNOW

27. The availability of drug treatment services

Very Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

28. Job opportunities

Very Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

29. WIC-Women, Infants & Children

Very Satisfied Somewhat atisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

30. Assistance from the Department of Health

Very Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

31. Assistance from the Texas Workforce Commission

Very Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

32. T.A.N.F.-Texas Assistance for Needy Families

Very Satisfie Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

33. Assistance to earn a G.E.D.

Very Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied DON'T KNOW

I am going to read some names of programs. Tell me if you are aware that the program is available in this neighborhood, tell me if you have ever participated in the program, and please rate the program in your opinion.

34. Have you ever heard of the Weed and Seed Program? _____Yes _____No

34a. (IF YES) In your opinin, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

35. Have you ever heard of the Boys & Girls Club-3902 Teen Program?

_____Yes _____No

35a. (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?

_____Yes _____No

35b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

36. Have you ever heard of "Fighting to Rid Gangs in America-Life Skill Class Regarding Substance Abuse?"

_____Yes _____No

36a (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?

_____Yes _____No

36b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

37. Have you ever heard of the Gulf Coast Council of La Raza-Counseling & Education program?

_____Yes _____No

37a. (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?

_____Yes
_____No

37b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

38. Have you ever heard of the City of Corpus Christi Park & Recreation Dept.-Free Swimming at the Joe Garza Community Pool, H.E.B. Community Swimming Pool, and T.C. Ayers Recreation Center programs?

_____Yes _____No

38a. (IF YES) Have you participated in these programs?

_____Yes
_____No

38b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

39. Have you ever heard of the South Texas Institute for the Arts-Summer Arts Program?
_____Yes _____No

39a. (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?
_____Yes _____No

39b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

40. Have you ever heard of the Tejano Academy of Fine Arts program?
_____Yes _____No

40a. (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?
_____Yes _____No

40b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

41. Have you ever heard of the YMCA Northside Outreach Program-Northside Night Basketball League program?
_____Yes _____No

41a. (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?
_____Yes _____No

41b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

42. Have you ever heard of the Youth Odyssey-Outdoor Program?
_____Yes _____No

42a. (IF YES) Have you participated in the program?
_____Yes _____No

42b. (IF YES) In your opinion, how would you rate this program: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

43. In what year were you born?
_____Year _____Refused

44. What is your current employment status?

- Working full time
- Working part time
- Unemployed and looking for work
- Retired and otherwise not looking for work
- Other
- Refused
- Don't know

45. How many adults in this household are employed?

Number _____
Refused _____
Don't Know _____

46. How many of the adults in this household are employed in this neighborhood?

Number _____
Refused _____
Don't Know _____

47. Which of the following describes your current situation?

- Homemaker
- Disabled
- Full time student
- Part time student
- Other
- Refused
- Don't know

48. How many people less than 18 years old (including yourself) live in this household?

Number under 18 _____
Refused _____
Don't know _____

49. How many people older than 18 years old (including yourself) live in this household?

Number of adults _____
Refused _____
Don't know _____

50. How many of the adults in this household are in job training?

Number of adults _____
Refused _____
Don't know _____

51. How many of the adults in this household are in job training in this neighborhood?

Number of adults _____
Refused _____
Don't know _____

52. How many of the adults in this household are in college?

Number of adults _____
Refused _____
Don't know _____

53. For transportation, do you use
(interviewer: check all that apply)

Public _____
Carpool _____
Your own vehicle _____
Other _____

54. How would you rate the availability of public transportation: excellent, good, average, fair, or poor?

EXT GOOD AVGE FAIR POOR

55. Do you take your child/children to a day care facility?

_____ Yes _____ No

56. Do you think that day care is affordable?

_____ Yes _____ No

57. Do you think that the hours that the day care provides are convenient for you and your family?

_____ Yes _____ No

Do you know if the following business exist in your neighborhood:

58. Coin laundry mats
_____ Yes _____ No

59. Grocery stores
_____ Yes _____ No

60. Gas stations
_____ Yes _____ No

61. Dentist office
_____ Yes _____ No

62. Doctor's office
_____ Yes _____ No

63. Pharmacy
_____ Yes _____ No

64. Do you attend a house of worship?
_____ Yes _____ No

64a. (IF YES) How often do you attend?

1+ times per week _____
1+ times per month _____
Only a few times per year _____

64b. (IF YES) Is it located in this neighborhood?
_____ Yes _____ No

65. Do you consider yourself to be...

Black _____
White _____
Hispanic _____
Asian/Pacific Islander _____
American Indian _____
Something Else _____
Refused _____
Don't know _____

66. (INTERVIEWER COMPLETE): Respondent's gender:
_____ Male _____ Female

67. What is your zip code?
784 _____

(Read the following to the respondent.)

This concludes the survey. Thank you very much for your participation. If you have any questions, you may call Professor Philip Rhoades at 825-2637 or George Hodge at 880-3419. Once again, thank you. Bye!

(DO NOT READ THE FOLLOWING THE TO THE RESPONDENT.)

Reporting District# _____

