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JUVENILE
DELINQUENCY
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Walter A. Lunden

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JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
IN
IOWA

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PREFACE

In spite of the current criticism against the statistics on juvenile delinquency it has become quite clear that youthful offenses remain a serious problem in the nation. Limited as the facts may be it behooves all persons concerned to examine more carefully the statistics which are available in order to obtain a better understanding of what the figures do show, what they mean and what they imply for the police, the courts, for correctional workers, and the public. The problem cannot be met with the usual statement, "My mind is made up, do not confuse me with statistics."

Until such time arrives that more adequate means and methods of reporting and recording facts about youthful misconduct are developed those concerned will have to use the meager information now available. If or when better means are created for collecting and analyzing the facts, better data will be available.

The present publication goes beyond several of the earlier studies on delinquency in Iowa prepared for the Governor's Committee on Penal Affairs during 1958 to 1960. The findings provide more information over a longer period of time with more attention to details.

It should be made clear that data covering the juvenile courts and institutional records do not account for all delinquent acts in a state. The findings do, however, present enough evidence to gain an understanding of the problems. All the data in the various tables have been compiled from reports of the Iowa Department of Social Welfare and the Board of Control of Iowa.

In conducting the tabulations of certain parts of this report, the author has had the assistance of two students in the University: Sybil Andrews and Donald Sallade. In addition the author is indebted to the Science and Humanities Institute of Iowa State University for providing the opportunity and the facilities for carrying on the research.

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Department of Sociology
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June 1, 1967

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN IOWA, 1940-65

Each year as regular as the seasons come and go an average of 1,735 children under 18 years of age have become involved in trouble in Iowa serious enough to bring them into the various courts in Iowa in the past quarter century. In the 26 years a total of 45,118 children have been declared delinquent by the courts. The annual number in court has ranged from the lowest of 1,114 in 1950 to the highest of 2,408 in 1964 as shown in Table 1 and Chart 1. Chart 2 shows the number of cases calculated in terms of index numbers together with the population ages 10 to 19 years.

Each of these cases in court involved the life and future of a young person who had been guaranteed "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". For a number of reasons these children have been unable to realize "the pursuit of happiness".

The annual number of children represented by the numbers in the table and on the chart constitute only the more serious cases called "official cases" by the courts. In addition to the "official cases" the same courts have dealt with another large number of less serious cases classified as "unofficial cases". In 1965 when the courts in Iowa reported a total of 2,328 official cases the same courts through the probation departments dealt with 6,068 "unofficial cases" making the total of 8,396 for the year. But of every 100 cases in 1965 twenty-seven were "official" and 73 were "unofficial". When the data are examined by counties in Iowa, as shown in Table 2, the percentage of unofficial cases varies from 51 percent in Woodbury County to 91 percent in Linn County.

Table 1

OFFICIAL JUVENILE COURT CASES IN IOWA, 1940-65

Index Numbers: 1940-100

Year	Cases	Index	
1940	1607	100.0	
1941	1508	93.8	
1942	1402	87.2	
1943	1737	108.1	
1944	1866	116.1	
1945	2073	129.0	
1946	1541	95.9	
1947	1238	77.0	
1949	1220	75.9	
1949	1170	72.8	15,362
1950	1114	69.6	
1951	1427	88.8	
1952	1465	91.2	
1953	1287	80.1	
1954	1549	96.4	
1955	1539	95.8	
1956	1816	113.0	
1957	2213	137.7	
1958	2177	135.5	
1959	2190	136.3	16,777
1960	2056	127.9	
1961	1985	123.5	
1962	2078	129.3	
1963	2164	134.7	
1964	2408	149.8	
1965	2288	142.3	10,691
Total	45,118	142.3	
Average	1735		

Chart 1

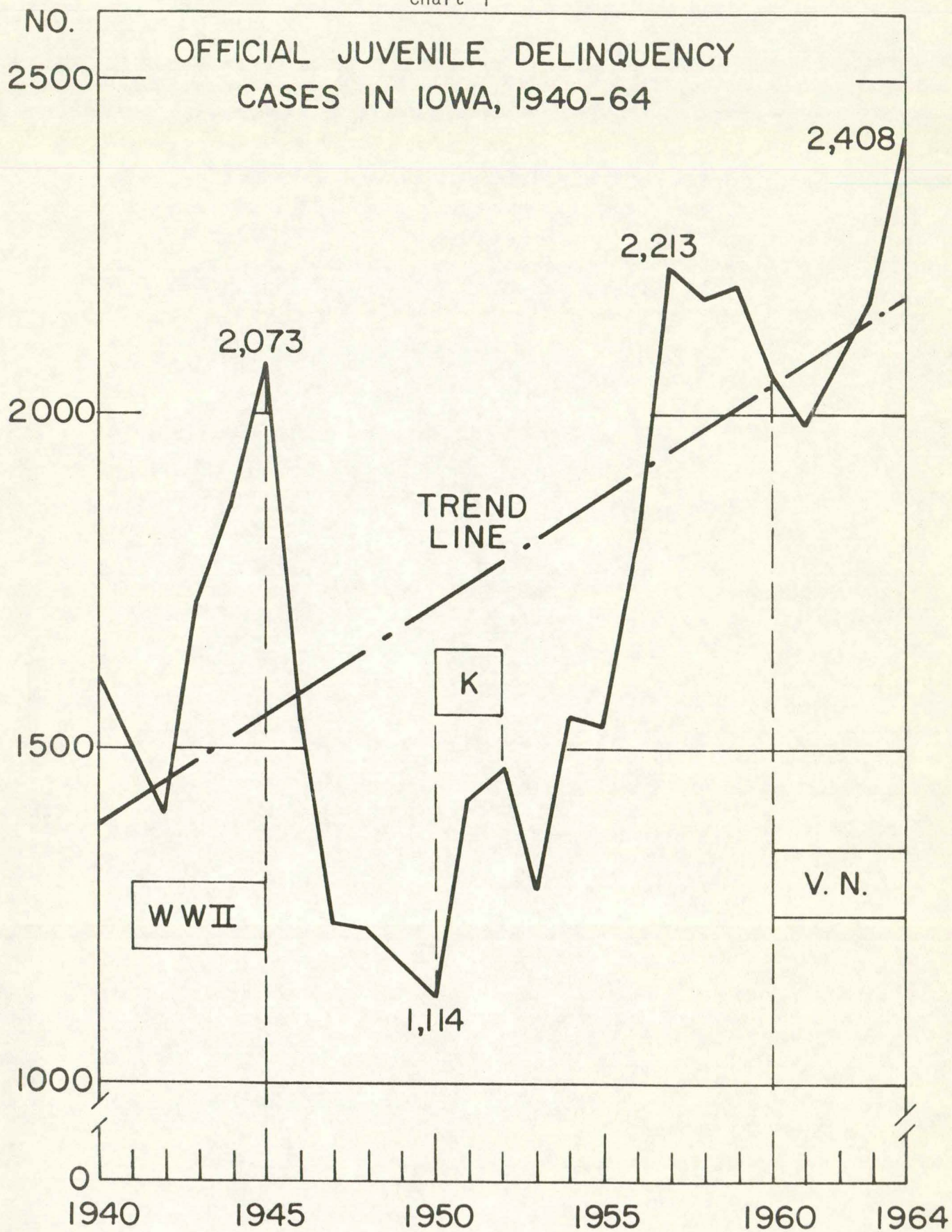


Chart 2

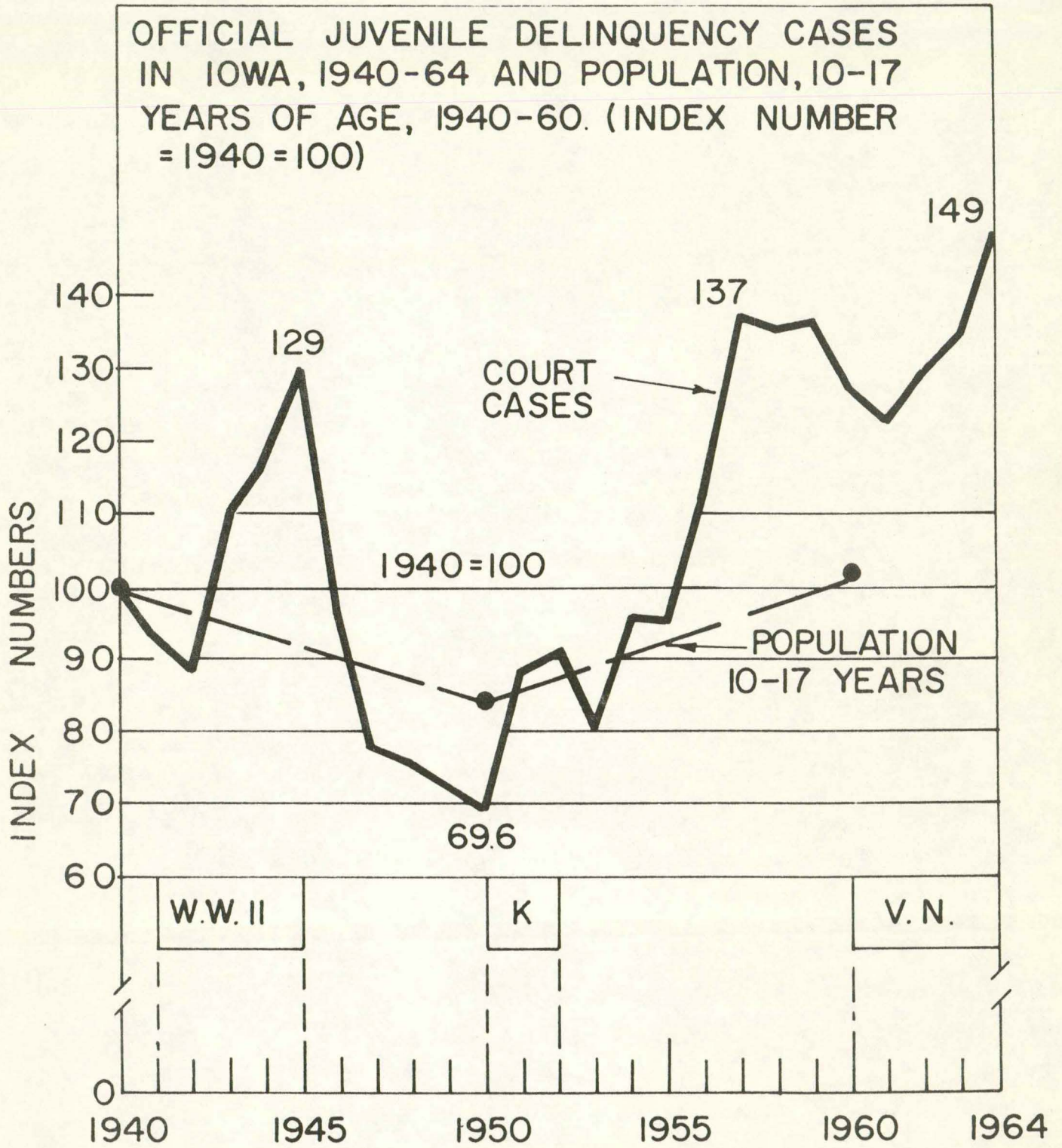


Table 2
 OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
 CASES BY COUNTIES IN IOWA, 1965

Area or County	Official	Unofficial	Total	Percent Unofficial
Black Hawk	135	612	747	82.0
Linn County	192	803	995	91.0
Polk	399	804	1103	72.0
Scott	151	602	753	80.0
Woodbury	220	229	449	51.0
95 Small Courts	1231	3018	4249	71.0
TOTAL	2328	6068	8396	73.0

Source: Juvenile Court Statistics, 1965
 Children's Bureau Statistical Series, #85
 U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare,
 Welfare Department
 Children's Bureau, 1966, page 18

In reality there were almost three times more unofficial cases than official cases. The point to be made clear here is that the data presented in the present analysis includes only official cases and does not cover the unofficial cases. Official cases have been used because courts report these more accurately than the unofficial cases. If all types of cases were calculated, the total number each year would be much larger.

Quite apart from the number of court cases there is a large number of juvenile offenders treated by police or local authorities that are not referred to the courts for consideration. As an example, in 1965 the Police Department in Des Moines, Iowa, dealt with 2,323 juveniles but only 938 or less than half were referred to the juvenile court in Polk County.

If all juveniles apprehended by the police and the number treated as unofficial cases were added to the official cases the total number of youthful malcontents would be much larger. Finally, it should be made clear that not all juvenile offenders come to the attention of the police. Some authorities estimate that one out of five are apprehended.

WAR AND DELINQUENCY IN IOWA

Delinquency increases during wars. The number of delinquents in the courts and the number committed to training schools in Iowa increased during World War I and II. Charts show the number of official cases in court and the number committed to the training schools from 1940 to 1946. In 1940, the year before the war began, there were 1607 court cases. In 1942 the number declined to 1402 and rose rapidly to 2073 in 1945 at the end of the war. In 1946 the number fell to 1541 cases. Commitments increased from 307 in 1942 to 443 in 1944 and then declined to 241 by 1946.

The decrease in court cases in 1941 and 1942 does not follow the changes for the nation as a whole because cases in other parts of the country increased in these years. This lag or difference in Iowa may be due to the fact that the total impact of the war came earlier in the more industrialized areas of the nation. In spite of this situation the number of cases did differ in the rural and urban areas in Iowa.

Chart 3
DELINQUENTS IN IOWA COURTS, 1940 TO 1950
PRE-WAR, WAR AND POST-WAR YEARS

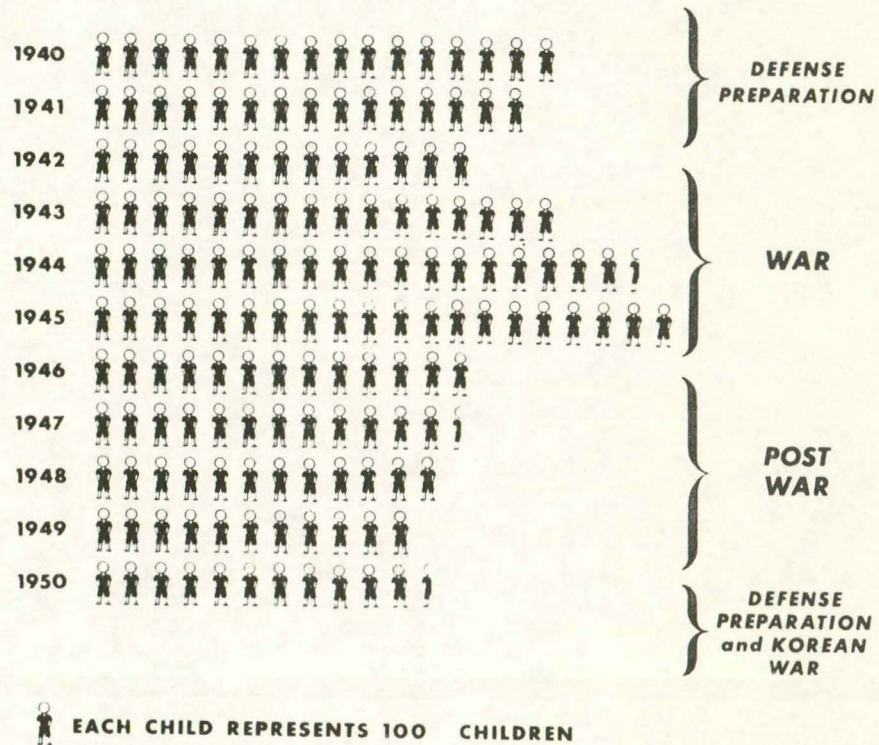
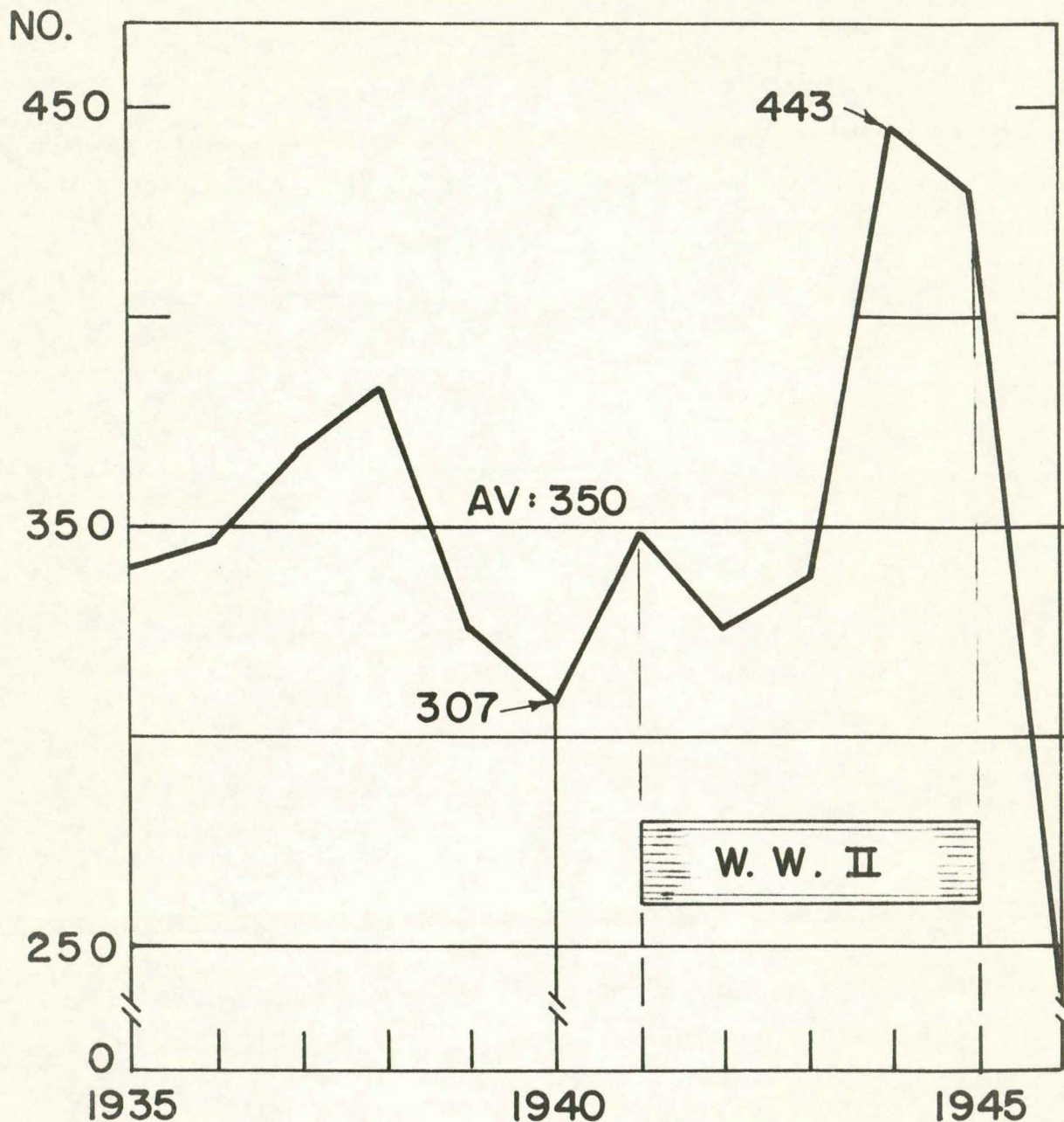


Chart 4

JUVENILES COMMITTED TO TRAINING SCHOOLS IN IOWA, 1935-46 (1st COMMITMENTS)



BOYS AND GIRLS IN JUVENILE COURT, 1952-65

It has been known for a number of years that boys out number girls in delinquent acts, but what is not known is that the ratio of boys to girls changes with changing conditions.

Table 3 shows the number of boys and girls in the juvenile courts of Iowa from 1952 to 1965 together with Index Numbers using 1952 as the Base Year to determine the changes in the 13 year period. In 1952 there were 1152 boys and 310 girls in court or a ratio of 3.7 boys for each girl. In 1957 when there were 1865 boys and 348 girls the ratio changed to 5.3 boys for each girl. In the final year of 1965 with 1883 boys and 405 girls the ratio amounted to 4.6 boys for each girl.

In order to show how the number of boys and girls has changed in the past 13 years the Index Numbers in the table have been placed on Chart 4 using 1952 as 100 or the Base Year. In 1954 the number of cases for both sexes declined but the girls fell to 72.3 or 27.7 percent below 1952 but the number for boys increased to 113.5 or 13.5 percent above the Base Year. By 1957 boys cases rose to 161.9 or 61.9 percent but the number of girls increased to 112.3 or 12.3 percent above 1952. In 1963 the figures for boys rose to 150.6 and for girls to 138.4 above the 1952 amounts. In the final year, 1965, boys cases increased further to 163.4 or 63.4 percent above 1952 and the girls to 130.6 or 30.6 percent above 1952.

These data show that the number of boys in court has increased much faster than the number of girls i.e., boy's cases increased 63.4 percent whereas girl's cases advanced by only 30.6 percent. From 1952 to 1965 the ratio of boys to girls has changed from 3.7 to one, to 4.6 to one and the percentages from 63.4 to 30.6 percent. More boys are appearing in court now than 13 years earlier.

Table 3

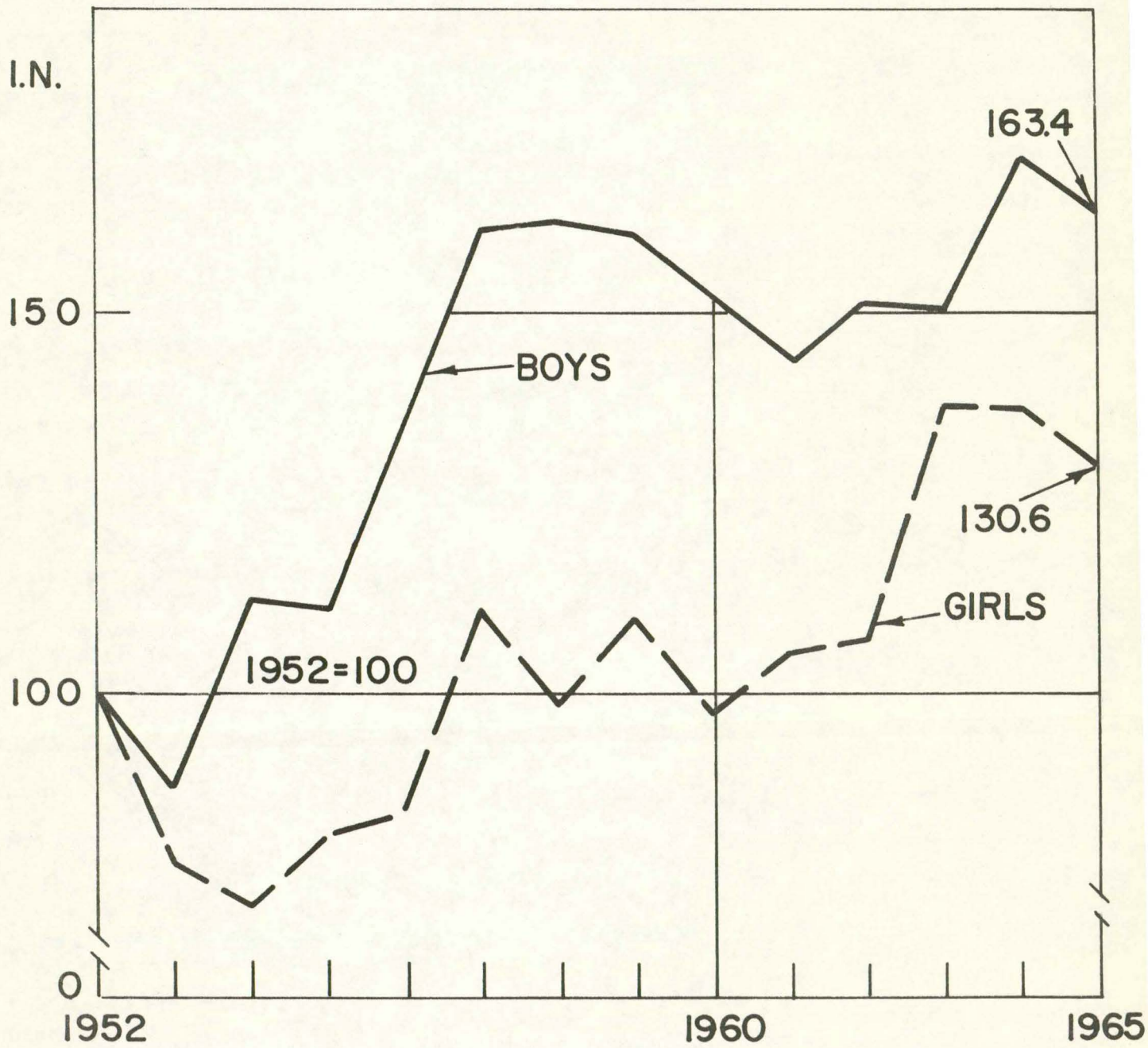
OFFICIAL JUVENILE COURT CASES IN IOWA BY SEX, 1952-1965

(Index Numbers: 1952 = 100)

Year	Boys	Index Number	Girls	Index Number
1952	1152	100.0	310	100.0
1953	1036	89.9	244	78.7
1954	1308	113.5	224	72.3
1955	1289	111.9	253	81.6
1956	1554	134.9	262	84.5
1957	1865	161.9	348	112.3
1958	1872	162.5	305	98.4
1959	1847	160.3	343	110.6
1960	1755	152.3	301	97.1
1961	1659	144.0	326	105.2
1962	1746	151.6	332	107.1
1963	1735	150.6	429	138.4
1964	1983	172.1	425	137.1
1965	1883	163.4	405	130.6

Chart 5

BOYS AND GIRLS IN IOWA
JUVENILE COURTS, 1952-65
(INDEX NUMBERS : 1952=100



DELINQUENCY IN RURAL AND URBAN
COUNTIES IN IOWA, 1940 to 1964

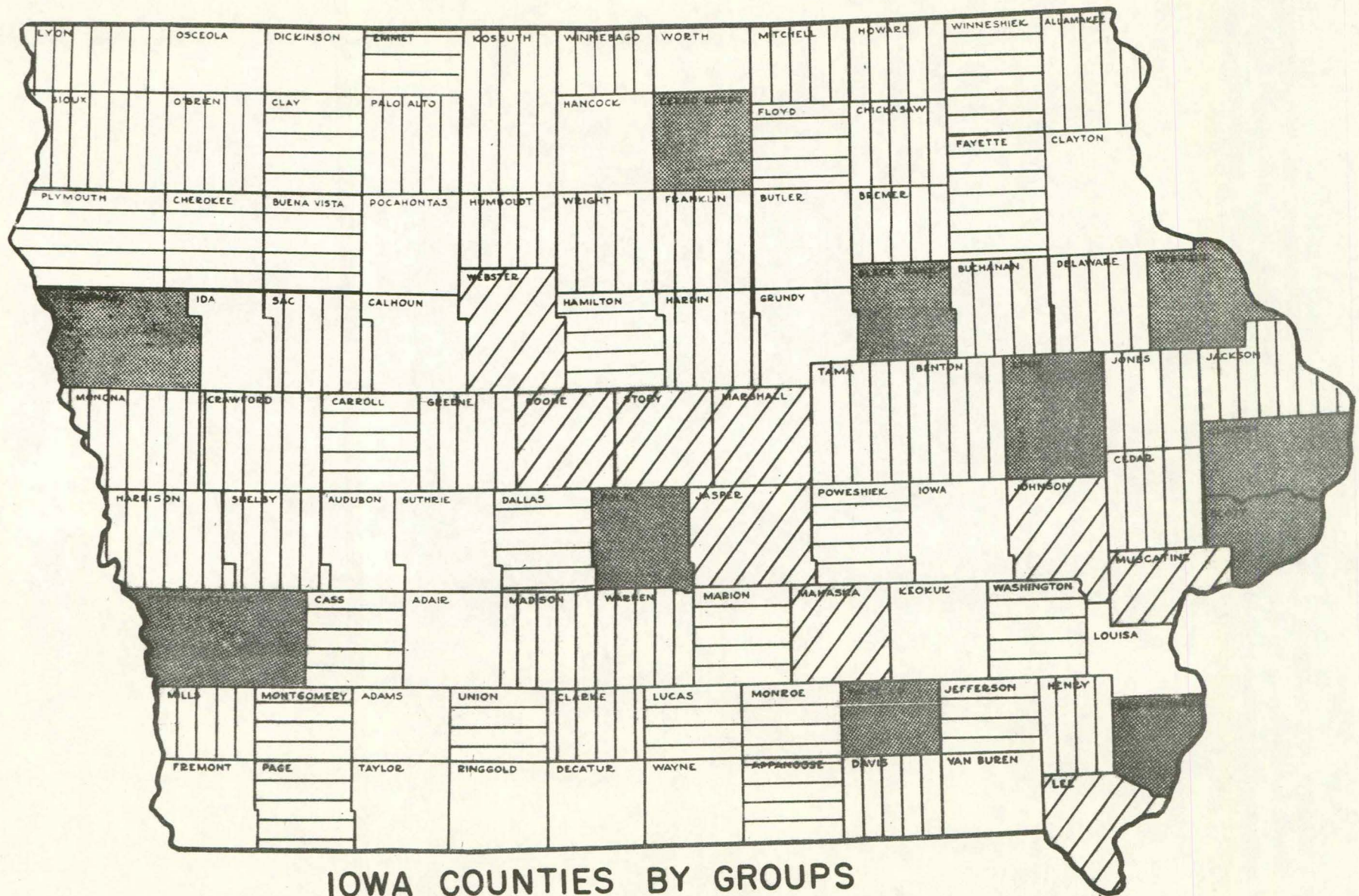
Because delinquency has always been higher in urban-industrial areas than in rural-farm sections it is important that consideration be given to youthful offenders in the various counties in Iowa based on the number of inhabitants.

In order to analyse the differences in delinquency by population the 99 counties in Iowa have been grouped into five classes based on the 1950 U.S. Census data. See the list of counties. Group I Counties are those in which the largest community in the county was less than 2500 persons. The 23 counties were, therefore, 100 per cent rural-farm in character. The 34 counties in Group II are those in which the largest town was between 2500 and 4999 persons. These were called Small-Town Counties. The 22 counties, Large-Town, in Group III are those in which the largest community was between 5000 and 9999 persons. The 9 counties in Group IV, Small-City, are those with cities of 10,000 to 25,000 inhabitants. The 9 counties in Group V, the Large-City, are those in which there were cities of over 25,000 inhabitants. These counties were classified as the urban counties in the state.

Table 4 shows the respective county groups with the population, ages 10 to 19 years, the number of delinquency cases in courts and the rates per 10,000 children in these counties. In Groups I to IV there is only a small difference in the variation of rates ranging from 25 in Group IV to 32.7 in Group II counties. Rates were lower in the Group IV counties than in the Group I counties, but in the Large-City counties of Group V the rate amounted to 68.4 or more than double the rate in the other counties.

IOWA COUNTIES INCLUDED IN FIVE COUNTY GROUPS

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
RURAL-FARM (23) -2500-	SMALL-TOWN (34) 2500-4999	LARGE-TOWN (22) 5000-9999	SMALL-CITY (9) 10,000-25,000
Adair	Allamakee	Appanoose	Boone
Adams	Benton	Buena Vista	Jasper
Audebon	Bremer	Carroll	Johnson
Butler	Buchanan	Cass	Lee
Calhoun	Cedar	Cherokee	Mahaska
Clayton	Chickasaw	Clay	Marshall
Decatur	Clarke	Dallas	Muscatine
Dickinson	Crawford	Emmett	Story
Fremont	Davis	Fayette	Webster
Grundy	Delaware	Floyd	
Guthrie	Franklin	Hamilton	
Hancock	Greene	Jefferson	
Ida	Hardin	Lucas	GROUP V
Iowa	Harrison	Marion	LARGE-CITY (11)
Keokuk	Henry	Monroe	Over 25,000
Louisa	Howard	Montgomery	Black Hawk
Osceola	Humboldt	Page	Cerro Gordo
Pochahontas	Jackson	Plymouth	Clinton
Ringgold	Jones	Poweshiek	Des Moines
Taylor	Kossuth	Union	Dubuque
Van Buren	Lyon	Washington	Linn
Wayne	Madison	Winneshiek	Polk
Worth	Mills		Pottawattamie
	Mitchell		Scott
	Monona		Wapello
	O'Brien		Woodbury
	Palo Alto		
	Sac		
	Shelby		
	Sioux		
	Tama		
	Warren		
	Winnabago		
	Wright		



IOWA COUNTIES BY GROUPS

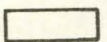
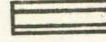

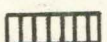

- GROUP I  GROUP III  GROUP V 
- GROUP II  GROUP IV 

Table 4

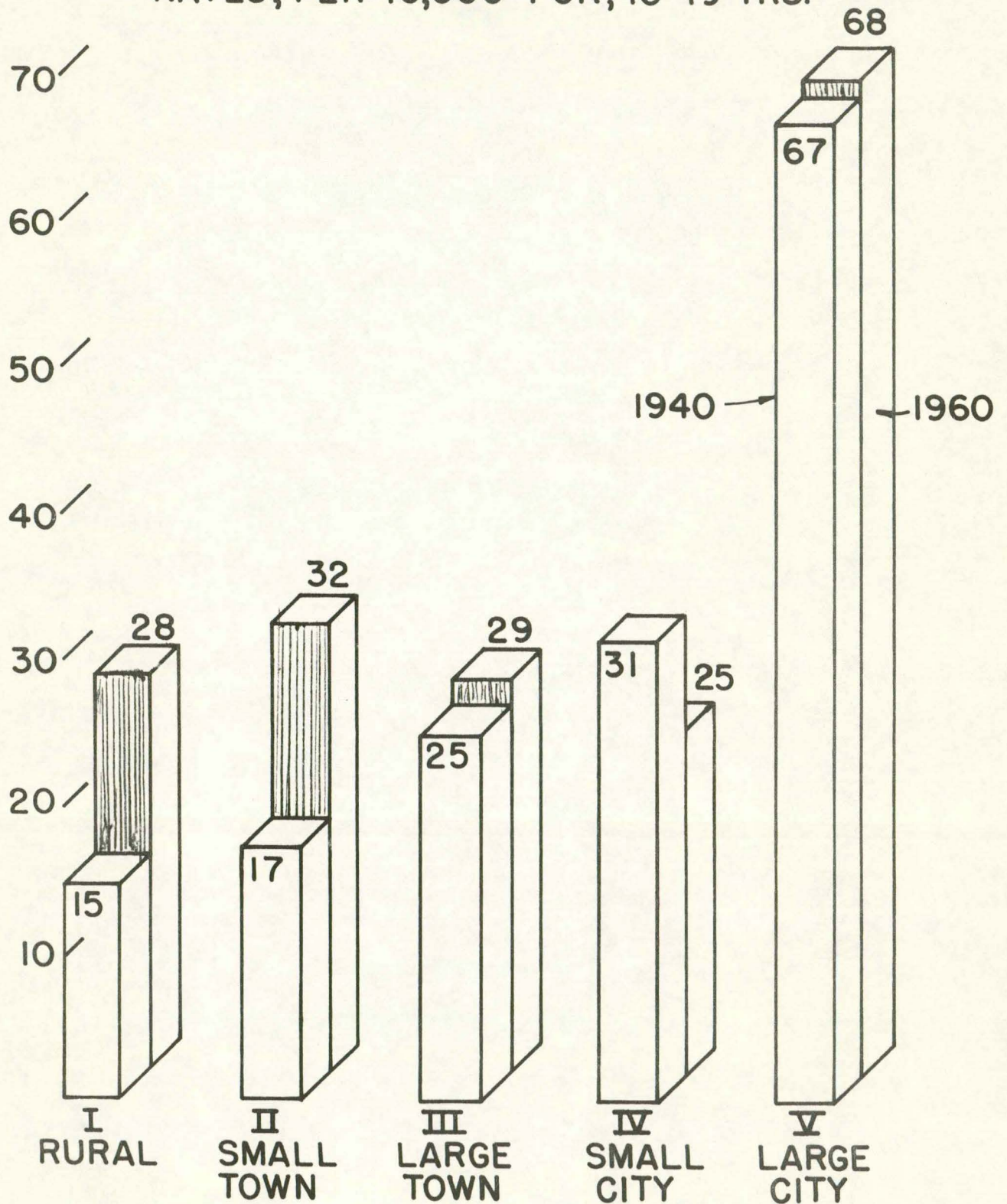
Delinquency Cases By Size of
Counties in Iowa with Population
10 to 19 Years of Age, 1960

County Group	Counties	Population 10 - 19 Years (1,000s)	Cases	Rates Per 10,000 Children
I Rural	23	48.7	138	28.8
II Small Town	34	102.4	333	32.7
III Large Town	22	70.9	208	29.7
IV Small City	9	58.8	145	25.0
V Large City	11	180.7	1231	68.4
TOTAL	99	461.7	2056	44.6

Chart 6

DELINQUENCY IN IOWA BY SIZE OF COUNTIES 1940 AND 1960

RATES, PER 10,000 POP., 10-19 YRS.



DELINQUENCY IN RURAL AND URBAN
COUNTIES IN IOWA DURING WORLD WAR II

For purposes of analysis the 99 counties in Iowa have been grouped into strictly rural counties and urban counties explained above. Table 5 shows the number of official delinquency cases in the 23 rural and the 11 urban counties in Iowa from 1940 to 1950 together with the differences from the average number for the 11 year period. The chart shows the percentage differences for the same years for both groups of counties.

From the table and the chart it is clear that cases increased earlier in the rural counties than in the urban counties. In 1941 cases in the rural counties were 33.8 percent above the average and remained at this rise the next year. In contrast to this rise cases declined 7.6 percent from the average in the urban counties and did not rise until 1945 when the number amounted to 39.1 percent above the average or four years after the rise in the rural areas.

Just why delinquency cases should increase in the rural-farm counties before the change in the urban counties is not clear at present. To be sure the total number of cases and the averages were different in the rural and urban counties. The average in the rural was 71 as against 905 in the urban counties. In 1941 there were 24 cases more than the average in the rural counties. In 1945 there were 354 more cases than the average in the urban counties. The differences in actual numbers are not great in the rural counties but the fact that the count did increase four years earlier in these counties is significant.

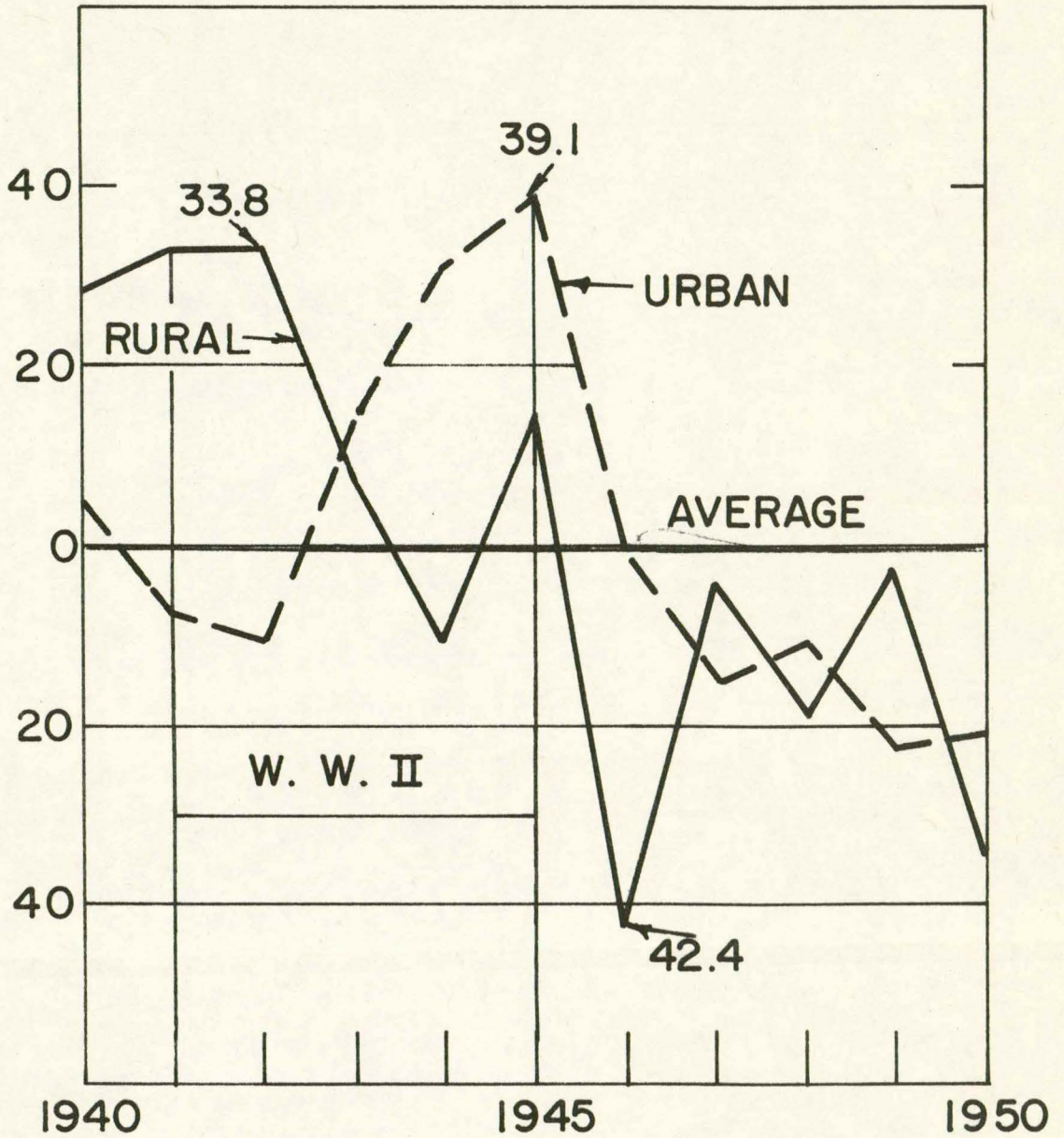
Table 5

Juvenile Delinquency Cases In Rural
And Urban Counties in Iowa 1940-1950

Year	Rural (23)			Urban (11)		
	Number	Difference from Average		Number	Difference from Average	
		No.	Percent		No.	Percent
1940	91	+20	+28.2	954	+ 49	+ 5.4
1941	95	+24	+33.8	836	- 69	- 7.6
1942	95	+24	+33.8	799	-106	-11.7
1943	76	+ 5	+ 7.0	1031	+126	+13.9
1944	63	- 8	-11.3	1165	+260	+28.7
1945	82	+12	+15.5	1259	+354	+39.1
1946	41	-30	-42.4	902	- 3	- 0.3
1947	68	- 2	- 4.2	785	-120	-13.3
1948	57	-13	-19.7	807	- 98	-10.8
1949	69	- 2	- 2.8	703	-202	-22.3
1950	45	-26	-36.6	716	-189	-20.9
TOTAL	782			9957		
AV.	71			905		

Chart 7

DELINQUENCY CASES IN RURAL AND URBAN COUNTIES IN IOWA, 1940-50



CHANGES IN DELINQUENCY CASES
IN RURAL AND URBAN COUNTIES, 1940-64

Changes in the number of delinquency cases in the respective counties have been analysed in decennial periods annually for a period of 25 years.

DECENNIAL CHANGES

On the two decennial years of 1950 and 1960 significant changes have taken place in the various counties in Iowa. Table 6 shows the distribution of the population 10 to 19 years of age and delinquency cases on a percentage basis for the two census years.

From 1950 to 1960 the total number of children 10 to 19 years of age increased from 383,390 to 461,760 or by 20.5 percent. For the same years delinquency cases advanced from 1,114 to 2,056 or by 84.5 percent or more than four times faster than the population in the comparable age group.

In 1950 of the total number of children 10 to 19 years 12.1 percent lived in the rural farm counties where 4.1 percent of the delinquency cases occurred. In 1960 the child population in these same counties decreased to 10.3 percent of the total but delinquency cases increased to 6.7 percent of the total in the state. Population decreased by 2 percent but cases increased by 2.6 percent of the total.

Table 6

Children 10 to 19 years of age and Delinquents
In Courts of Iowa by County Groups, 1950 and 1960

County Group	Percent in 1950		Percent in 1960	
	Children (383,390)	Delinquents (1114)	Children (461,760)	Delinquents (2056)
I Rural	12.2	4.1	10.3	6.7
II Small Town	24.3	13.1	22.1	16.1
III Large Town	16.8	9.6	15.1	10.1
IV Small City	12.2	9.0	12.3	7.0
V Large City	34.3	64.2	40.2	60.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

In 1950, 34.3 percent of the child population lived in the nine large-city counties of group V where 64.2 percent of the delinquency cases appeared. In other words about one-third of the population accounted for two-thirds of the delinquents in court. Ten years later the number of children in these same counties increased to 40.2 percent of the total but court cases in the same decreased to 60.0 percent of all cases in the state. Child population increased 6 percent but cases decreased by about 4 percent for the same years.

The percentage changes in the other county groups for the same years were noticeable but not significant.

LONG-TIME CHANGES, 1940-64

In order to determine the long-time changes in delinquency cases in the rural and urban counties the data for the respective five groups have been tabulated and the actual figures evaluated in terms of Index Numbers using the year 1940 as the Base Year or the starting point. Table gives the actual number of cases and the Index Numbers for the 25 year period. Chart 8 shows the actual figures and charts 9 and 10 the same based on Index Numbers together with changes in population.

From 1940 to 1964 the number of court cases in the urban counties increased from 954 to 1,388 or by 45.5 percent. Cases in the rural-farm counties advanced from 91 to 123 or by 35.2 percent.

In 1941 and 1942 cases in the rural counties increased

Table 7

Delinquents in Juvenile Courts
In Rural and Urban Counties in Iowa, 1940-64

Year	Rural Group I		Urban Group V	
	Cases	Index	Cases	Index
1940	91	100.0	954	100.0
1941	95	104.4	836	87.6
1942	95	104.4	799	83.8
1943	76	83.5	1031	108.1
1944	63	69.2	1168	122.4
1945	82	90.1	1281	134.3
1946	41	45.1	1149	120.4
1947	68	74.7	785	82.3
1948	57	62.6	807	84.6
1949	69	75.8	703	73.7
1950	45	49.5	716	75.1
1951	75	82.4	794	83.2
1952	68	74.7	887	93.0
1953	79	86.8	702	73.6
1954	87	95.6	926	97.1
1955	109	119.8	870	91.2
1956	113	124.2	1045	109.5
1957	146	160.4	1222	128.1
1958	135	148.4	1307	137.0
1959	124	136.3	1285	134.7
1960	138	151.6	1231	129.0
1961	124	136.3	1159	121.5
1962	116	127.5	1231	129.0
1963	112	123.1	1266	132.7
1964	123	135.2	1388	145.5

Chart 8

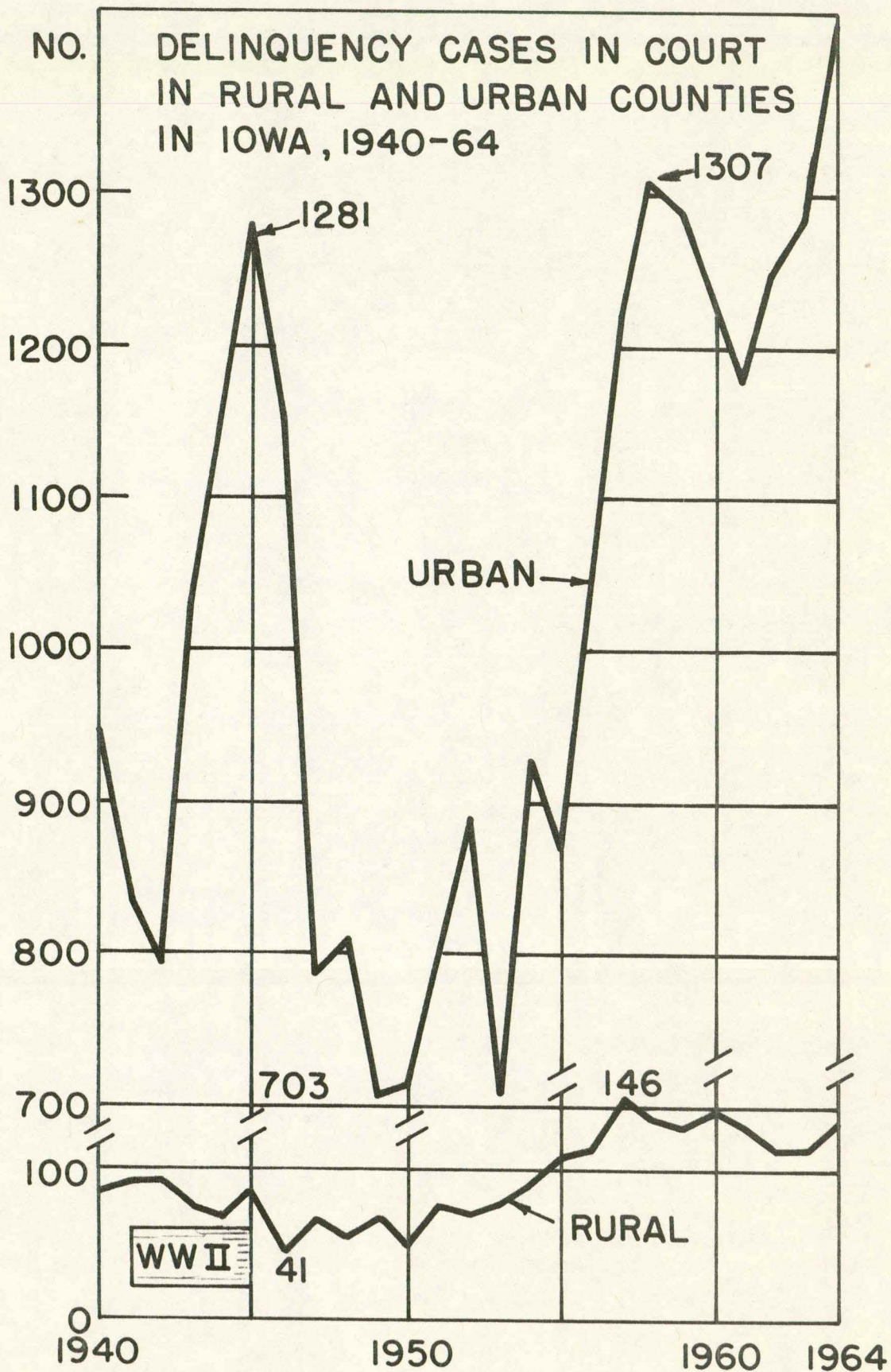


Chart 9

COURT CASES AND POPULATION IN IN RURAL COUNTIES, 1940-64 (INDEX NUMBERS: 1940 = 100)

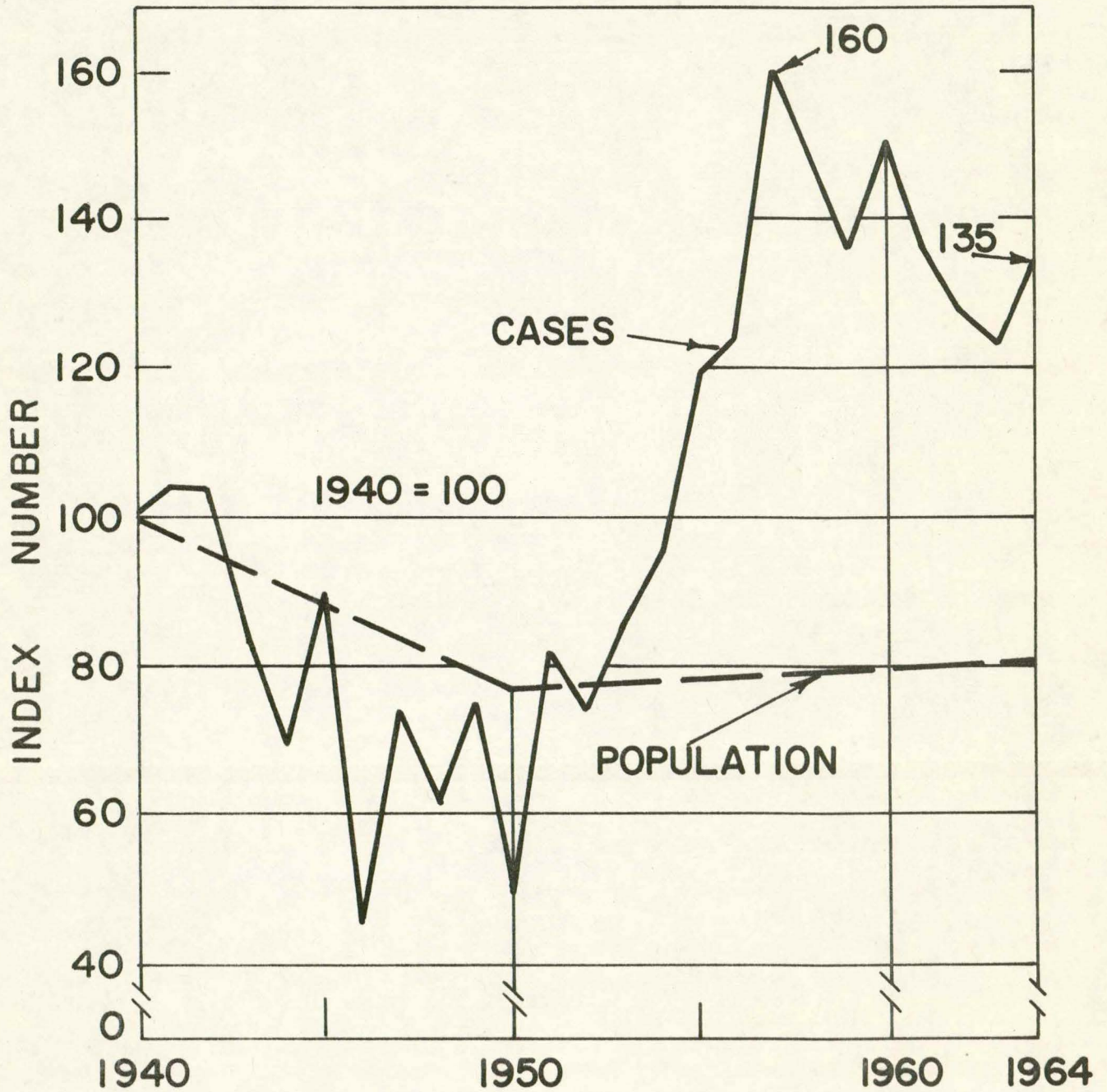


Chart 10

**COURT CASES AND POPULATION IN
URBAN COUNTIES, 1940-64
(INDEX NUMBER: 1940=100)**

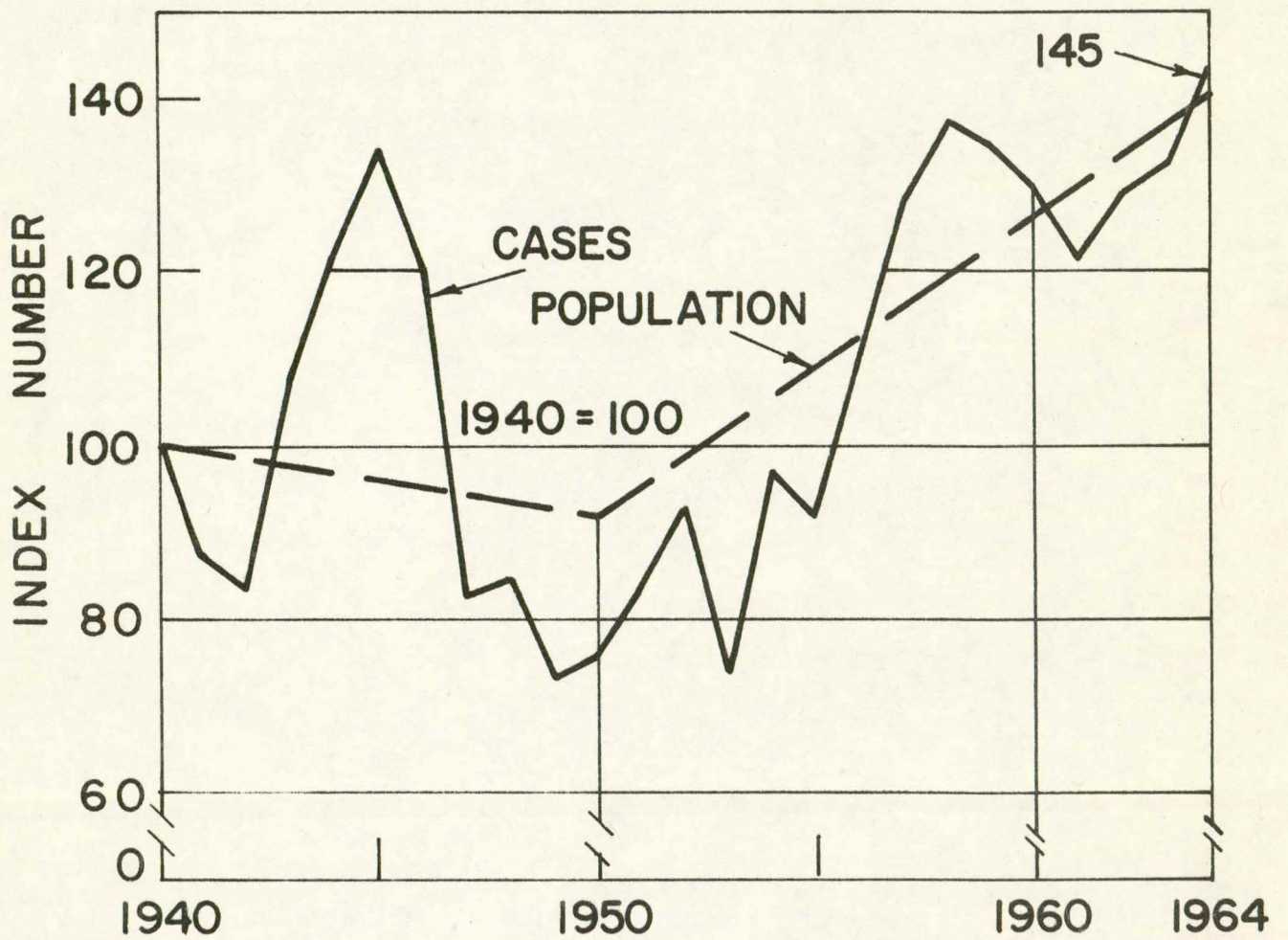
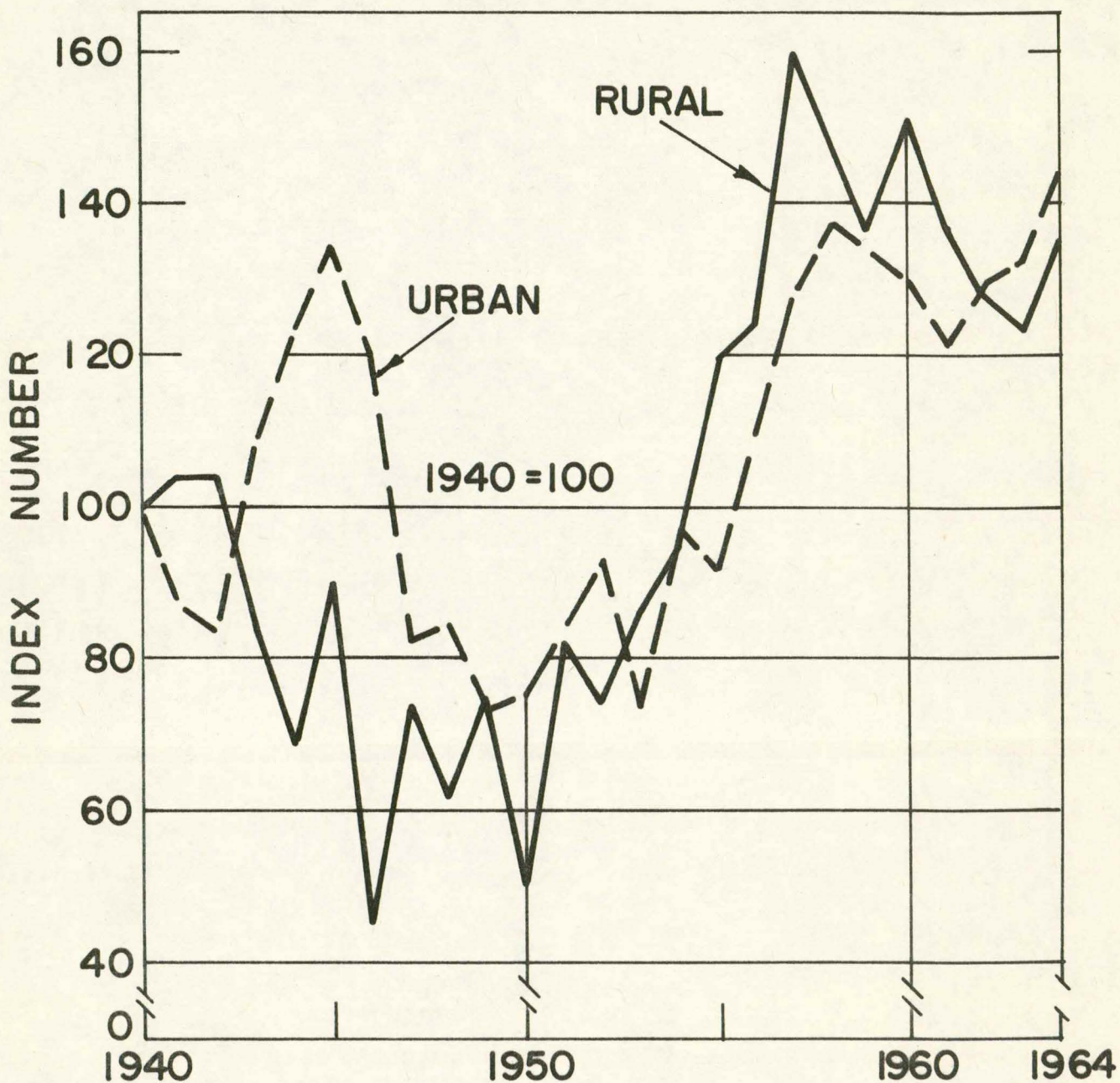


Chart 11

COURT CASES IN URBAN AND RURAL
COUNTIES, 1940 - 64
(INDEX NUMBERS : 1940 = 100)



to 104.4 or by 4.4 percent but in the urban counties the number fell to 83.8 in 1942 or a decline of 16.2 percent. In 1944 rural cases declined to 69.2 or 30.8 percent below 1940 whereas in urban counties the number advanced to 122.4 or by 22.4 percent. The next year cases rose to 1,281 or 34.3 percent above the initial year.

After 1942 the number of cases in the rural areas remained below the 1940 level until 1955 when the Index rose to 119.8 or almost 20 percent above the Base Year. Subsequent to 1946 the Index in the urban counties remained low until 1956 when the number advanced to 109.5 or 9.5 percent above the 1940 numbers.

From 1955 until 1962 the Index number in the rural counties rose more rapidly than in the urban counties. In 1957 the rural Index amounted to 160.4 but the urban figure amounted to only 128.1 or 28.1 percent above the Base Year.

In the remaining years both Index Numbers decreased and in 1964 the urban number rose 145.5 which was higher than the rural figure of 135.2 or 35.3 percent above the 1940 number.

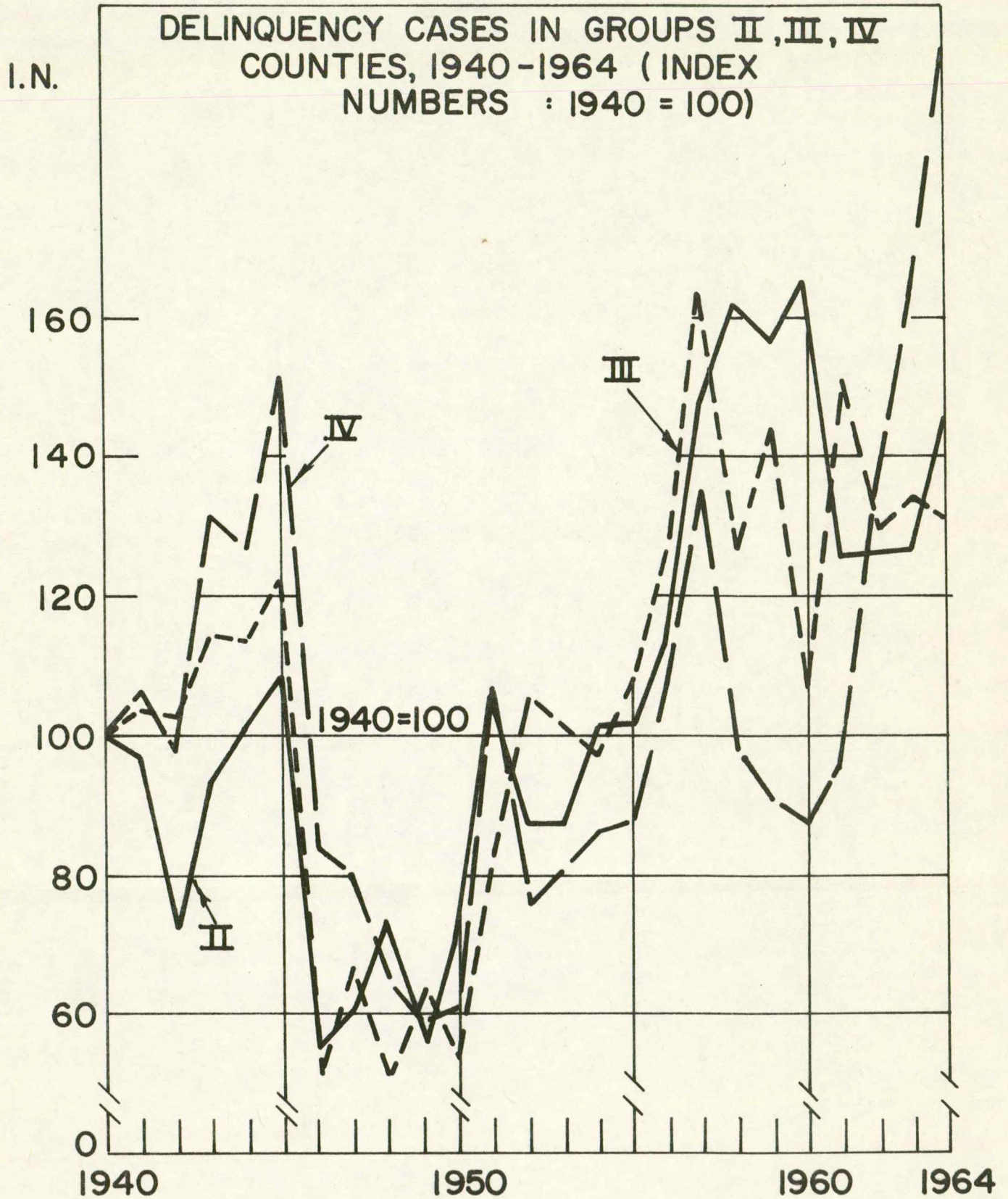
From these data it appears that delinquency cases were higher in the late years of the war in the urban areas than in the rural areas. In contrast to this situation it appears that in the last decade cases in the rural areas have been rising faster than in the urban areas. In stating this it should be clear that urban areas still have the greater number

Table 8

OFFICIAL JUVENILE COURT CASES BY COUNTY GROUPS
IN IOWA, 1940 TO 1964

Year	II		III		IV	
	Court Cases	Index	Court Cases	Index	Court Cases	Index
1940	201	100.0	196	100.0	165	100.0
1941	196	97.5	203	103.6	178	107.9
1942	145	72.1	200	102.0	163	98.8
1943	187	93.0	224	114.3	219	132.7
1944	203	101.0	222	113.3	210	127.3
1945	220	109.5	240	122.4	250	151.5
1946	112	55.7	100	51.0	139	84.2
1947	122	60.7	131	66.8	132	80.0
1948	148	73.6	100	51.0	108	65.5
1949	113	56.2	125	63.8	97	58.8
1950	145	72.1	107	54.6	101	61.2
1951	214	106.5	166	84.7	178	107.9
1952	176	87.6	207	105.6	124	75.2
1953	175	87.1	197	100.5	134	81.2
1954	203	101.0	191	97.4	142	86.1
1955	205	102.0	213	108.7	145	87.9
1956	229	113.9	249	127.0	180	109.1
1957	299	148.8	323	164.8	223	135.2
1958	327	162.7	254	125.0	163	98.8
1959	315	156.7	284	144.9	149	90.3
1960	333	165.7	208	106.1	145	87.9
1961	252	125.4	298	152.0	157	95.2
1962	252	125.4	253	129.1	226	137.0
1963	254	126.4	263	134.2	269	163.0
1964	296	147.3	258	131.6	343	207.9
TOTAL	5322		5203		4340	
AVERAGE	212.88		208.12		173.60	

Chart 12



DISPOSITION OF DELINQUENCY CASES

IN THE COURTS OF IOWA, 1958-64

Once a juvenile has been taken into custody and declared delinquent the Juvenile court must decide what shall be done with the offender. As may be assumed the disposition depends upon the nature of the act committed and the general character of the youth, whether first offense or repeater.

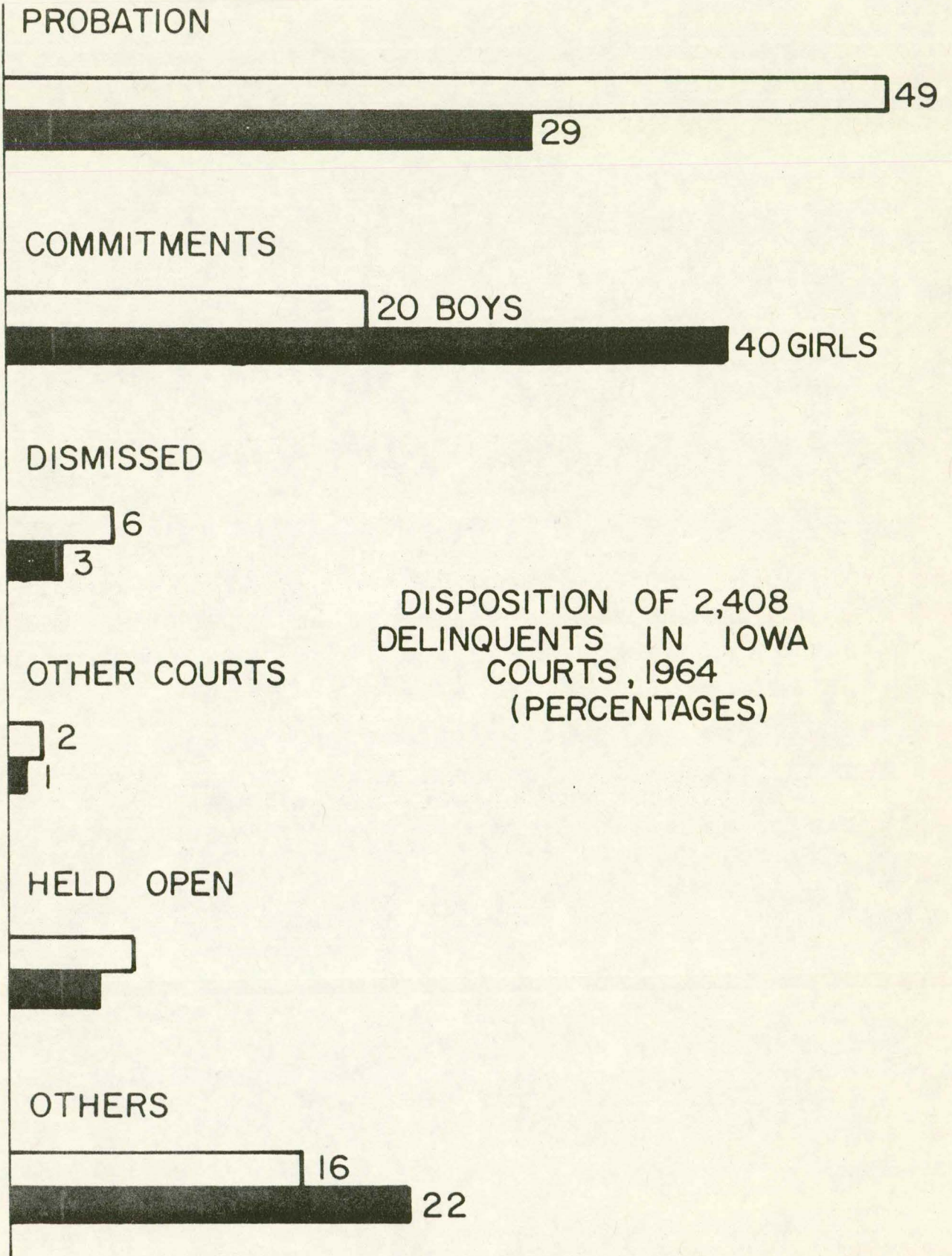
If the case, even though official, is not serious, it may be dismissed. If further information is needed, the case may be "held open" and reported as such for the year to be settled at some future date. Of the total cases in Iowa from 1958 to 1964, (15,065) 6 percent were dismissed and 7 percent were held open. In some instances, one percent of the cases were transferred to other courts because of age or conditions of the act. In a few cases the child was assigned to the county welfare authorities for care or treatment. See table 9 .

If neither of these actions were taken, the court used probation or commitment to institutions. Of the total cases shown in the table 7,561 or 50 percent were granted probation to remain under supervision

Table 9
DISPOSITION OF JUVENILE COURT
CASES IN IOWA BY SEX, 1958-64

Disposition	Boys		Girls		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Dismissed	734	6	111	5	845	6
Held Open	890	7	128	5	1,018	7
Probation	6,742	53	819	33	7,561	50
Committed to:						
Public	2,118	17	710	29	2,828	19
Private	392	3	342	14	734	5
Other Courts	220	2	20	1	240	1
County Welfare	59	--	26	1	85	--
Others	1,449	12	306	12	1,755	12
TOTAL	12,623	100.0	2,462	100.0	15,065	100.0

Chart 13



DISPOSITION OF 2,408
DELINQUENTS IN IOWA
COURTS, 1964
(PERCENTAGES)

for a period of time. For the more serious cases the court made commitments, 3,562 or 24 percent of the total. Of those committed, 2,828 or 19 percent were to public and 5 percent (734) of the total cases to private institutions.

DISPOSITIONS BY SEXES

Although boys (2,510) out numbered girls (1,052), commitments were higher for girls (43 percent) than for boys (20 percent). In contrast to this, more boys (53 percent) were granted probation than girls (33 percent). These differences in dispositions were due in part to the nature of the acts and the youth. Boys tend to commit acts of theft, whereas girls are usually involved in acts relating to sex or running away.

As further evidence of the differences in dispositions, more girls (32.5 percent) were committed to private institutions than boys (15.8 percent).

COMMITMENTS BY COUNTY SIZE

Table 10 shows the percentage of commitments from the courts in the five county groups with the child population in each group as of 1960. Of the total commitments (3,562) 129 or 3.5 percent were in the rural-farm counties where 10.3 percent of the total

Table 10

COMMITMENTS TO STATE TRAINING SCHOOLS IN
IOWA BY COUNTY SIZE, 1958-64
WITH TOTAL POPULATION, 1960

County Group	1958-64		Percent of population 1960
	Number	Percent	
I Rural-Farm (23) (-2,500)	129	3.5	10.3
II Small-Town (34) (2,500-5,000)	399	11.4	22.1
III Large-Town (22) (5,001-10,000)	344	9.6	15.1
IV Small-City (11) (10,001-25,000)	352	9.8	12.3
V Large-City (+25,000)	2338	65.7	40.2
TOTAL (99)	3562	100.0	100.0

Commitments are from courts and not by numbers received at the schools.

Population figures are for children 10-19 years of age.

number of children 10-19 years of age lived. Commitments in the large city counties amounted to 2,338 or 65.7 percent where 40.2 percent of the children lived. In the small town counties commitments comprised 11.4 percent in which 22.1 percent of the youthful population resided. The group III, large-town counties, accounted for 9.6 percent of those committed and 15.1 percent of the population. The group IV, small-city counties made up 9.8 percent of those committed and 12.3 percent of the population. Here it is evident that more commitments come from the urban counties than from the rural areas. Forty percent of the children in the urban areas accounted for 65.7 percent of those committed to institutions and 10.3 percent in the rural for 3.5 percent.

As further evidences of differences in court practices, the courts in the urban areas commit more to private institutions. In the rural areas only 14.7 percent of the 129 cases resulted in commitment to private institutions whereas in the urban areas, 26.3 percent were sent to similar institutions.

In the large-city counties of group V, 37.2 percent of the girls and 19.2 percent of the boys were sent to private institutions.

COMMITMENT TO TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1930-65

In the 36 years from 1930 to 1965 annual commitments to the two training schools in Iowa have varied widely with conditions in the state and in the institutions. Table 11 and chart 14 supply data for the period under observation.

During the years of the Great Depression (1930-38) the average number of commitments amounted to 354 with the highest number of 381 in 1938. In 1940 the number decreased to 307 and advanced sharply to 443 in 1944 but declined rapidly to 241 after the Eldora Riot in August of 1945. Commitments of boys decreased from 343 in 1944 to 181 in 1946 and then declined further to 136 in 1949.

The riot occurred at the Eldora School after an employee had beaten one of the boys who died later. The incident brought a quick rebellion among the boys in the school. Serious disorders took place and 190 boys "ran away" from the school. The National Guard was called in and later the director was relieved of his position.

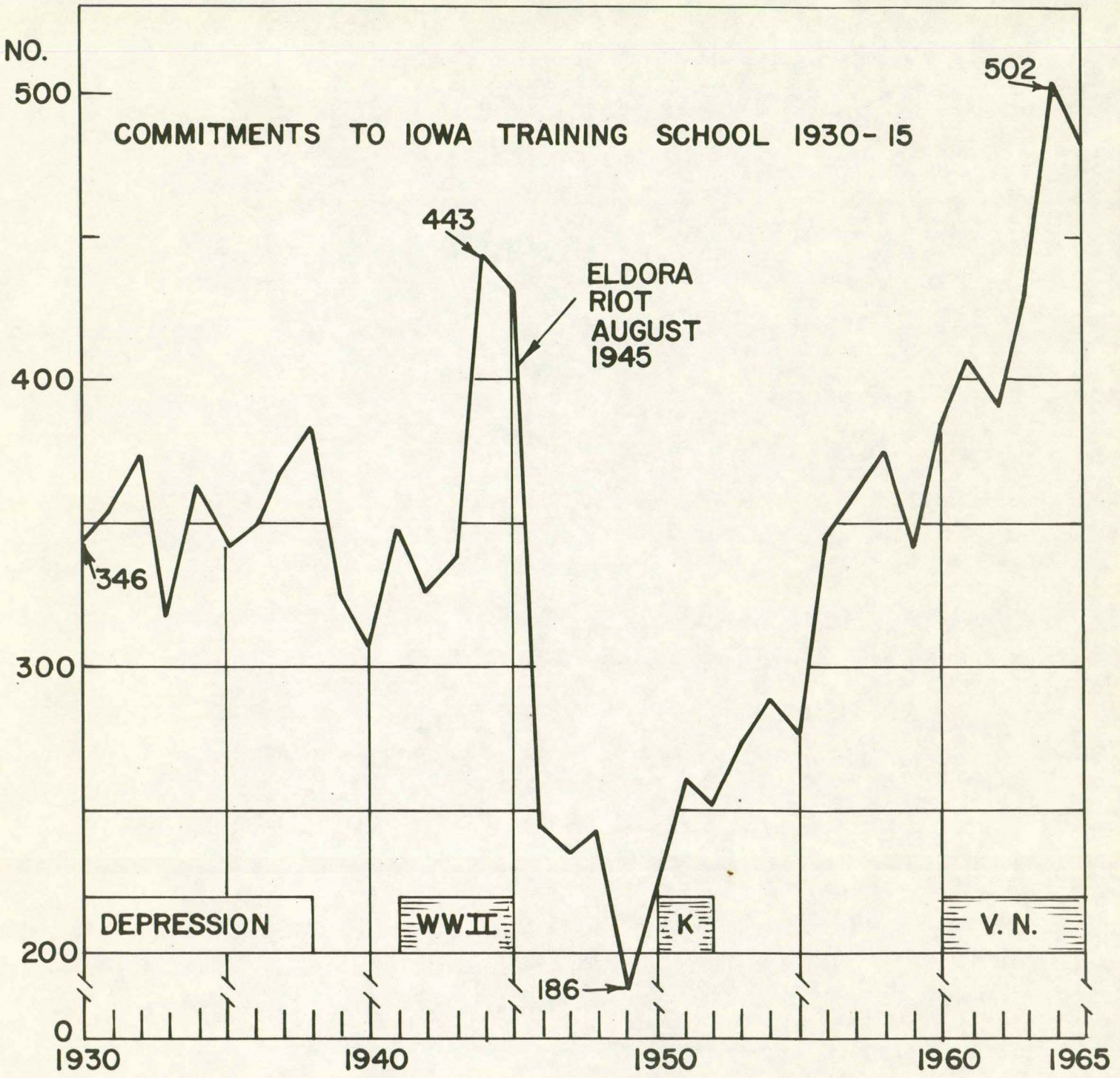
The riot had far reaching effects on commitments and institutional policy. Some judges in the state refused to committ boys until they were assured of a better program at the school. Newspaper accounts at the time compared the boy's school to concentration camps in Europe. With the appointment of a new head other programs were developed at the school.

By 1950 conditions improved at the school and commitments rose again to 223 with 155 at the boy's school. Within the last 10 years total commitments increased sharply reaching 502 in 1964 which was 59 more than the peak year at the end of World War II.

Table 11
 JUVENILE DELINQUENTS COMMITTED TO
 STATE TRAINING SCHOOLS IN IOWA, 1930-1965
 FIRST COMMITMENTS AS OF JUNE 30th FOR EACH YEAR

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
1930	246	100	346
1931	273	81	354
1932	277	94	371
1933	241	77	318
1934	273	91	364
1935	274	67	341
1936	257	91	348
1937	270	98	368
1938	292	89	381
1939	251	72	323
1940	247	60	307
1941	284	65	349
1942	256	70	326
1943	263	75	338
1944	336	107	443
1945	343	88	431
1946	181	60	241
1947	179	56	235
1948	172	69	241
1949	136	50	186
1950	155	68	223
1951	196	64	260
1952	169	82	251
1953	181	91	272
1954	212	77	289
1955	221	57	278
1956	262	84	346
1957	286	74	360
1958	301	76	377
1959	263	77	340
1960	260	125	385
1961	306	100	406
1962	392	98	390
1963	323	108	431
1964	357	145	502
1965	357	129	486

Chart 14



CHANGES IN THE USE OF PROBATION IN IOWA,
1957-64

In the 8 years from 1957 to 1964, there has been a tendency for Iowa courts to place fewer juveniles on probation. In 1957 and 1958 of the total cases in court 53 percent were given probation. The next year the percentage increased to 56 percent and then fell to 49 percent the next year. In 1963 the percent declined further to 44 percent and then rose to 45 percent in the final year. See table 5 for percentage for the 8 year period.

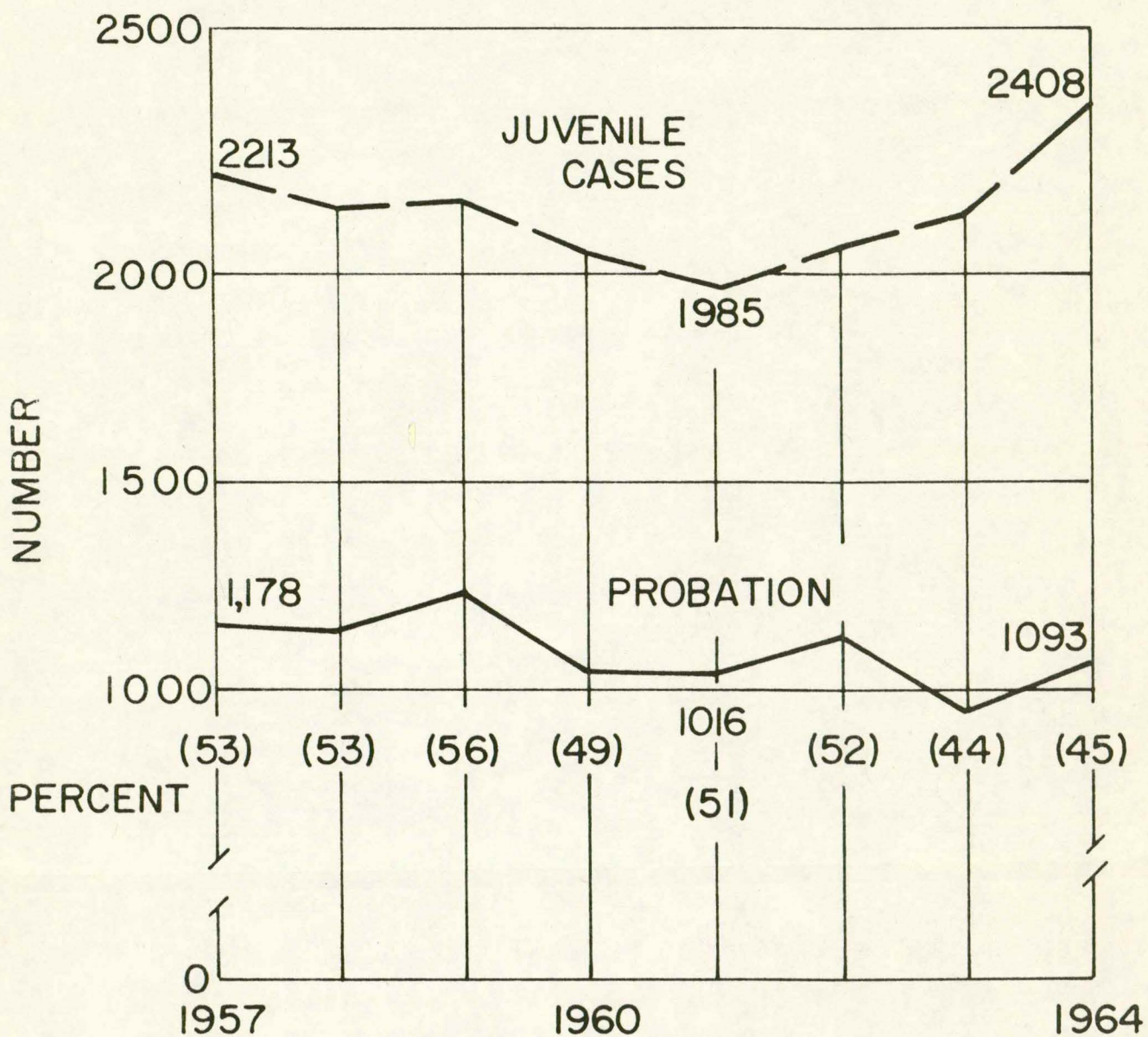
Table 12

Official Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Courts
in Iowa and Number Placed on Probation, 1957-64

Year	Number	Placed on Probation	
		Number	Percent
1957	2,213	1,178	53
1958	2,177	1,146	53
1959	2,190	1,223	56
1960	2,056	1,015	49
1961	1,985	1,016	51
1962	2,078	1,104	52
1963	2,164	964	44
1964	2,408	1,093	45
Total	15,058	7,561	50

Chart 15

OFFICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES
IN IOWA COURTS AND NUMBER
PLACED ON PROBATION, 1957-64



PROBATION IN RURAL AND URBAN
COUNTIES IN IOWA, 1964

The available data for 1964 show that the courts in the 23 rural counties in Iowa placed more juveniles on probation than the courts in the larger urban counties. In the rural counties 54 percent of the 123 juveniles were given probation but only 42 percent of the 1,388 in the urban counties. In the rural counties the courts committed 22 percent of the offenders to institutions but in the urban counties the courts committed 25 percent to the same.

Table 13

Disposition of Official Delinquency Cases
in 23 Rural and 11 Urban Counties in Iowa, 1964

Disposition	23 Rural Counties		11 Urban Counties	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Probation	67	54	581	42
Dismissed	4	3	74	5
Commitment	26	22	357	25
Other Court	5	4	14	1
Others	15	12	53	4
Held Open	6	5	319	23
Total	123	100	1,388	100

Note: Rural counties were 100 percent rural, no community in the county over 2,500 population. Urban counties had one or more cities over 25,000 inhabitants.

COMMITMENTS IN TERMS OF COURT CASES, 1952-64

In the 11 years from 1952 to 1964, there has been a tendency for commitments to increase in relation to the number of cases in court. Also, commitments to private and public institutions has varied within the period.

In 1952, with 1,152 cases in court, 199 or 17.3 percent terminated in commitments, 14.7 percent to public and 2.6 to private institutions. In 1958, the courts committed 516 or 23.7 percent to training schools, 17.7 percent to public and 6.0 percent to private institutions. By 1964, the courts committed 562 or 23.3 percent with 19.6 percent going to public and 3.7 percent to private places.

For the entire 11 years, the courts commitments amounted to 4,472 or 22.6 percent with 3,610 or 18.1 percent to public and 862 or 4.5 percent to private schools.

Table 14
 DELINQUENCY COURT CASES AND
 COMMITMENTS TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
 INSTITUTIONS IN IOWA 1952-1964(*)

Year	Court Cases	Committed to		Total	
		Public	Private	Number	Percent
1952	1152	170	29	199	17.3
1953	1036	158	18	176	17.0
1954	1308	250	47	297	22.7
1955	1289	211	35	246	19.1
(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
1958	2177	385	131	516	23.7
1959	2190	357	101	458	20.9
1960	2056	367	129	496	24.1
1961	1985	337	121	458	23.1
1962	2078	475	81	556	26.8
1963	2164	428	80	508	23.5
1964	2408	472	90	562	23.3
TOTAL	19,823	3610	862	4472	22.6

(*) Data are from court dispositions and not from numbers received at the Institutions.

(a) No data available for 1956 and 1957.

These figures differ in amounts because the data used in the previous pages were from delinquents admitted to the schools as of June 30th each year. The above data are from court dispositions in the calendar year.

Chart 16

PERCENT OF DELINQUENTS COMMITTED
TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS
IN IOWA, 1952-55 AND 1958-64

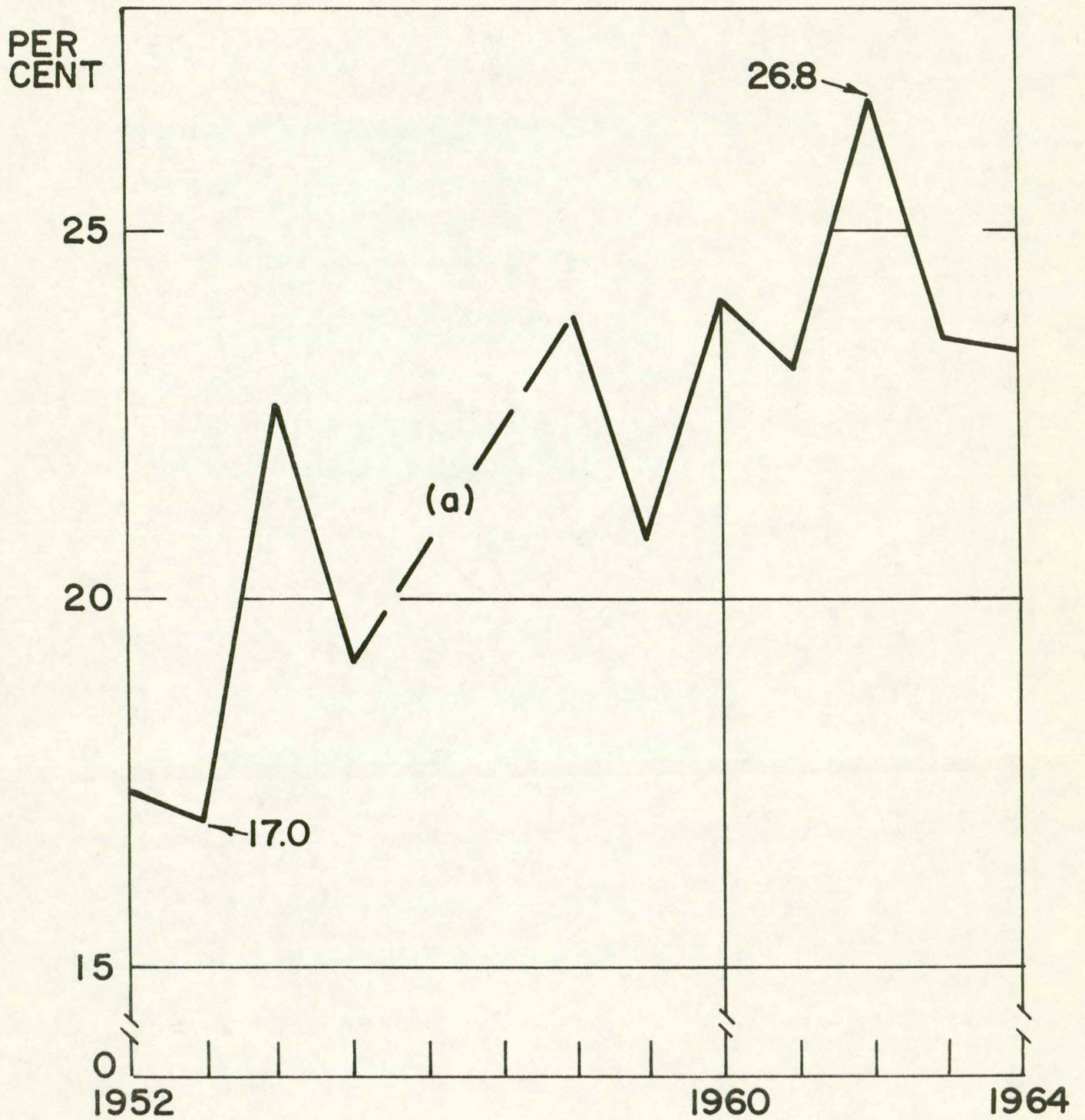


Chart 17

COMMITMENTS OF DELINQUENTS TO
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS
IN IOWA, 1952-64

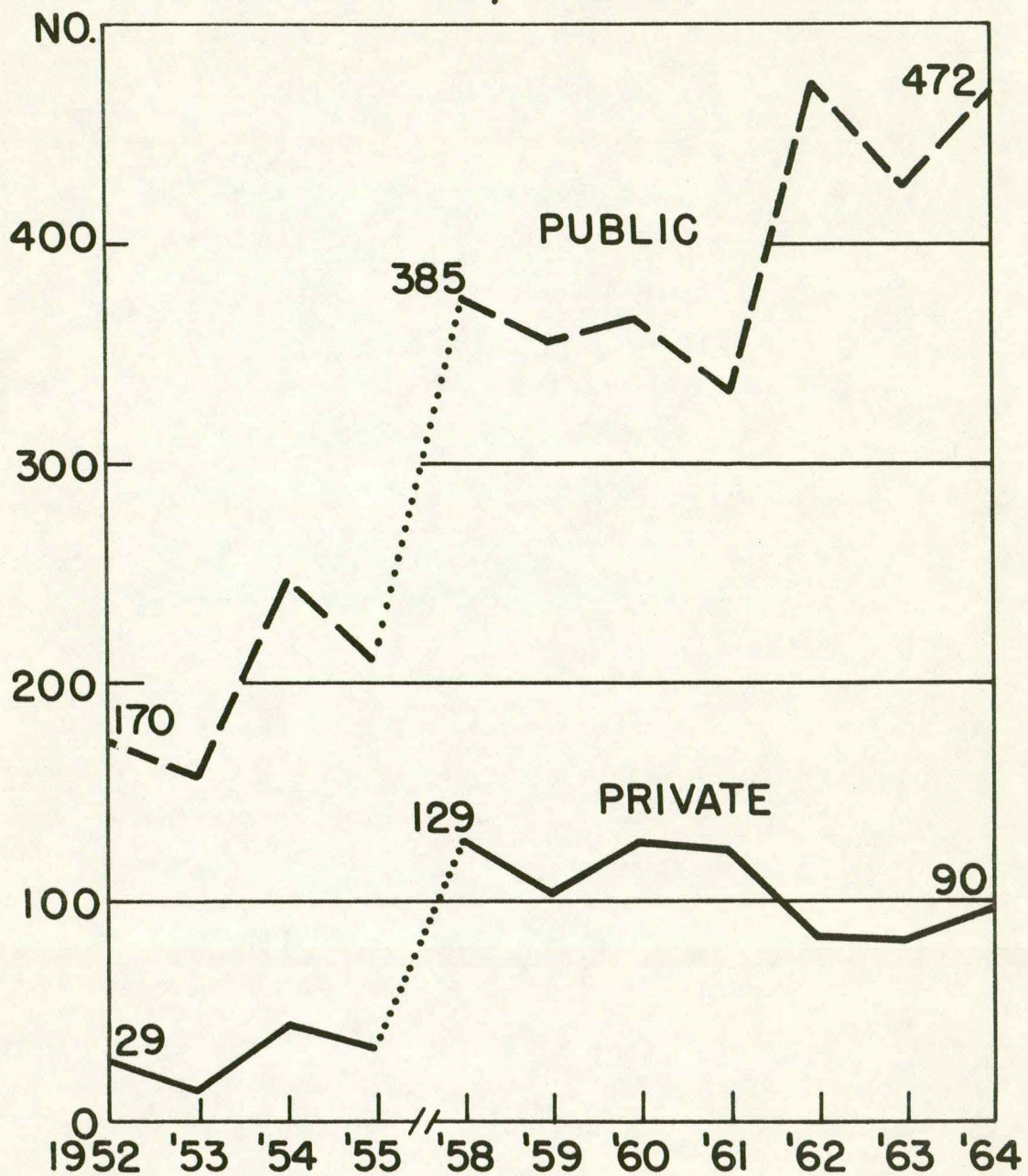


Table 14
 JUVENILES COMMITTED TO PUBLIC AND
 PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS BY SEX IN IOWA, 1958-64

Area and Type	Boys	Girls	Total
I Rural			
Public	89	21	110
Private	7	12	19
Total	96	33	129
II Small Town			
Public	269	82	351
Private	31	17	48
Total	300	99	399
III Large Town			
Public	232	74	306
Private	20	18	38
Total	252	92	344
IV Small City			
Public	238	75	313
Private	17	22	39
Total	255	97	352
V Large City			
Public	1290	458	1748
Private	317	273	590
Total			
Public	2118	710	2828
Private	392	342	734
GRAND TOTAL	2510	1052	3562

DELINQUENTS COMMITTED AND THE
NUMBER PLACED ON PROBATION

When the number of delinquents placed on probation is compared to the number committed to the state training schools, it becomes evident that commitments have increased more than probation. In order to examine the relationship between commitments and probation, the data for 1952 through 1964 have been arranged in table 15 together with Index Numbers using 1952 as the base year (100). These Index Numbers have been placed on the accompanying chart.

During the first six years of the period the two lines on the chart remain close together except for 1954 when the Index for probation amounted to 107.8 (7.8 percent above 1952) and commitments increased to 149.2 (49.2 percent above 1952). After 1957 commitments exceeded probation each year. In 1964 the Index for commitments reached 282.4 (182.4 percent above 1952) whereas the Index for probation amounted to 185.6 (85.6 percent above 1952). Here it is clear that commitments have risen more than the number placed on probation.

Table 15
 Delinquents Placed on Probation and
 Committed to Institutions in Iowa, 1952-64

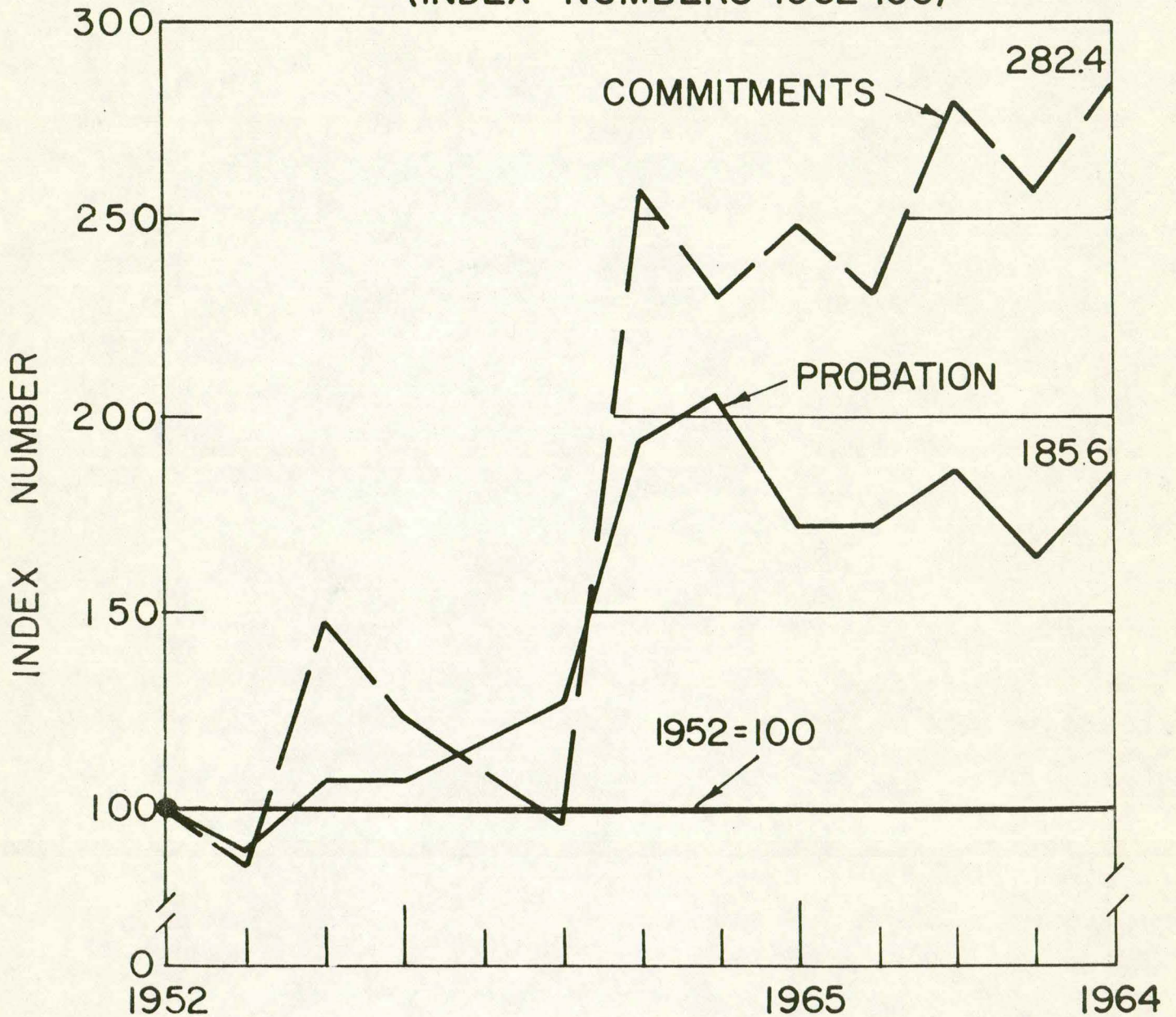
(Index Number: 1952=100)

Year	Probation		Committed	
	Number	Index	Number	Index
1952	589	100.0	199	100.0
1953	530	90.0	176	88.4
1954	635	107.8	297	149.2
1955	641	108.8	246	123.6
1956	(a)		(a)	
1957	756	128.4	189	95.0
1958	1146	194.6	516	259.3
1959	1223	207.6	458	230.2
1960	1015	172.3	496	249.2
1961	1016	172.5	458	230.2
1962	1104	187.4	556	279.4
1963	964	163.7	508	255.3
1964	1093	185.6	562	282.4

(a) Data not available.

Chart 18

DELINQUENTS COMMITTED AND PLACED
ON PROBATION IN IOWA 1952 - 64.
(INDEX NUMBERS=1952=100)



SCHOOL POPULATION AND COMMITMENTS, 1953-64

In spite of the increase in the annual number of commitments in the past decade, the number of juveniles in the training schools has not changed as much as might be assumed. From 1953 to 1965, commitments increased from 272 to 486 or by 78 percent, whereas the school population rose from 310 to 377 or by only 21 percent.

The comparative stable number in the two schools in face of increased commitments has been due to policy changes within the institutions, i.e. short stay in the school and increased use of parole. Subsequent material will clarify the situation.

Table 16 and chart show the commitments and the average annual population for 1953 to 1965. Since 1960, the curve of commitments has been above the line for school population.

Table 16

IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65

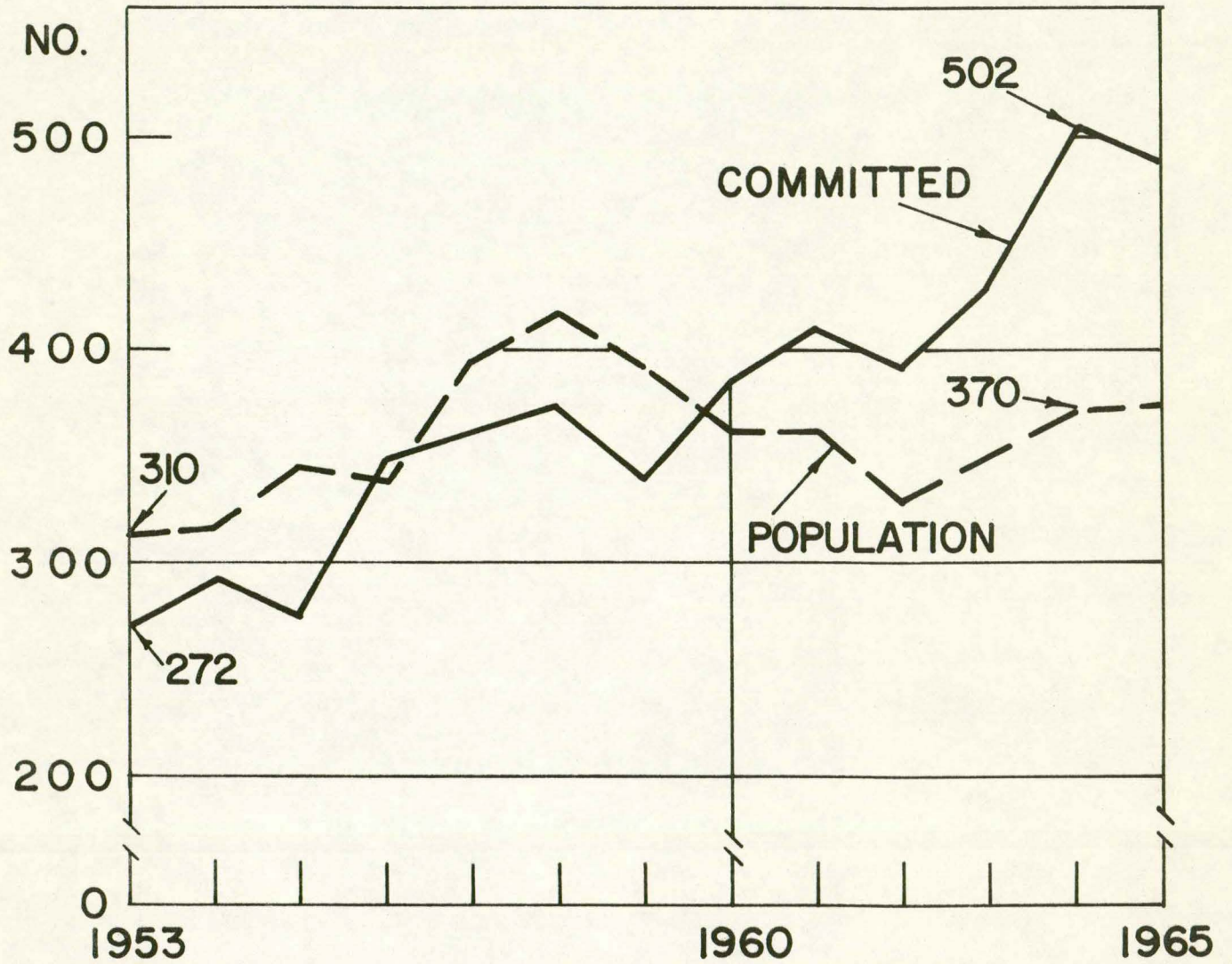
NUMBER COMMITTED AND AVERAGE ANNUAL POPULATION

Year	Committed	Population
1953	272	310
1954	289	317
1955	278	343
1956	346	329
1957	360	397
1958	377	419
1959	340	392
1960	384	360
1961	406	361
1962	390	331
1963	431	353
1964	502	370
1965	486	377

The population differs from previous amounts because the above is the average annual number.

Chart 19

COMMITMENTS AND AVERAGE POPULATION IN IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65



COMMITMENTS OF BOYS AND GIRLS, 1940-65

In the 26 years from 1940 to 1965, the courts in Iowa committed a total of 8,693 juveniles to the two public training schools. Of these 6,638 or 76 percent were boys and 2,155 or 24 percent were girls.

Table 17 shows the annual number committed together with Index Numbers for the boys and the girls using 1950 as 100 or the Base Year. During World War II, commitments for boys ran as high as 343 or 221.3 (121.3 percent above 1950) whereas the highest figure for girls was in 1944 with 107 or 157.4 or 57.4 percent above the Base Year. After the 1945 riot commitments for boys fell to 181 or 116.8 in 1946, whereas the number for girls declined to 60 or 88.2 below 1950.

After 1954, commitments for boys moved faster than for girls, reaching 301 or 194.2 for the former with only 77 or 113.2 for girls. Commitments for boys was 94.2 percent above 1950 but only 13.2 percent for the girls. In the remaining five years, commitments rose sharply for both, reaching 357 or 230.3 for boys and 145 or 213.2 for girls in 1964. In the final year, commitments for boys was 130.3 percent above 1950, but only 90.0 percent for girls.

Table 17

COMMITMENTS TO IOWA STATE TRAINING
SCHOOLS, 1940-64

First Commitments for each year ending June 30th.
(Index Numbers: 1950 = 100)

YEAR	BOYS	INDEX NUMBER	GIRLS	INDEX NUMBER	TOTAL	INDEX NUMBER
1940	247	159.4	60	88.2	307	137.7
1941	284	183.2	65	95.6	349	156.5
1942	256	165.2	70	102.9	326	146.2
1943	263	169.7	75	110.3	338	151.6
1944	336	216.8	107	157.4	443	198.7
1945	343	221.3	88	129.4	431	193.3
1946	181	116.8	60	88.2	241	108.1
1947	179	115.5	56	82.4	235	105.4
1948	172	111.0	69	101.5	241	108.1
1949	136	87.7	50	73.5	186	83.4
1950	155	100.0	68	100.0	223	100.0
1951	196	126.5	64	94.1	260	116.0
1952	169	109.0	82	120.6	251	112.6
1953	181	116.8	91	133.8	272	122.0
1954	212	136.8	77	113.2	289	129.6
1955	221	142.6	57	83.8	278	124.7
1956	262	169.0	84	123.5	346	155.2
1957	286	184.5	74	108.8	360	161.4
1958	301	194.2	76	111.7	377	169.0
1959	263	169.7	77	113.2	340	152.5
1960	260	167.1	125	183.8	385	172.6
1961	306	197.4	100	147.1	406	182.1
1962	392	252.9	98	144.1	390	174.9
1963	323	208.4	108	158.8	431	193.3
1964	357	230.3	145	213.2	502	225.1
1965	357	230.3	129	190.0	486	215.6
TOTAL	6638		2155		8693	
AV.	255.2		82.9		334.3	

Chart 20

COMMITMENTS TO STATE
TRAINING SCHOOLS IN IOWA
1940 - 1965

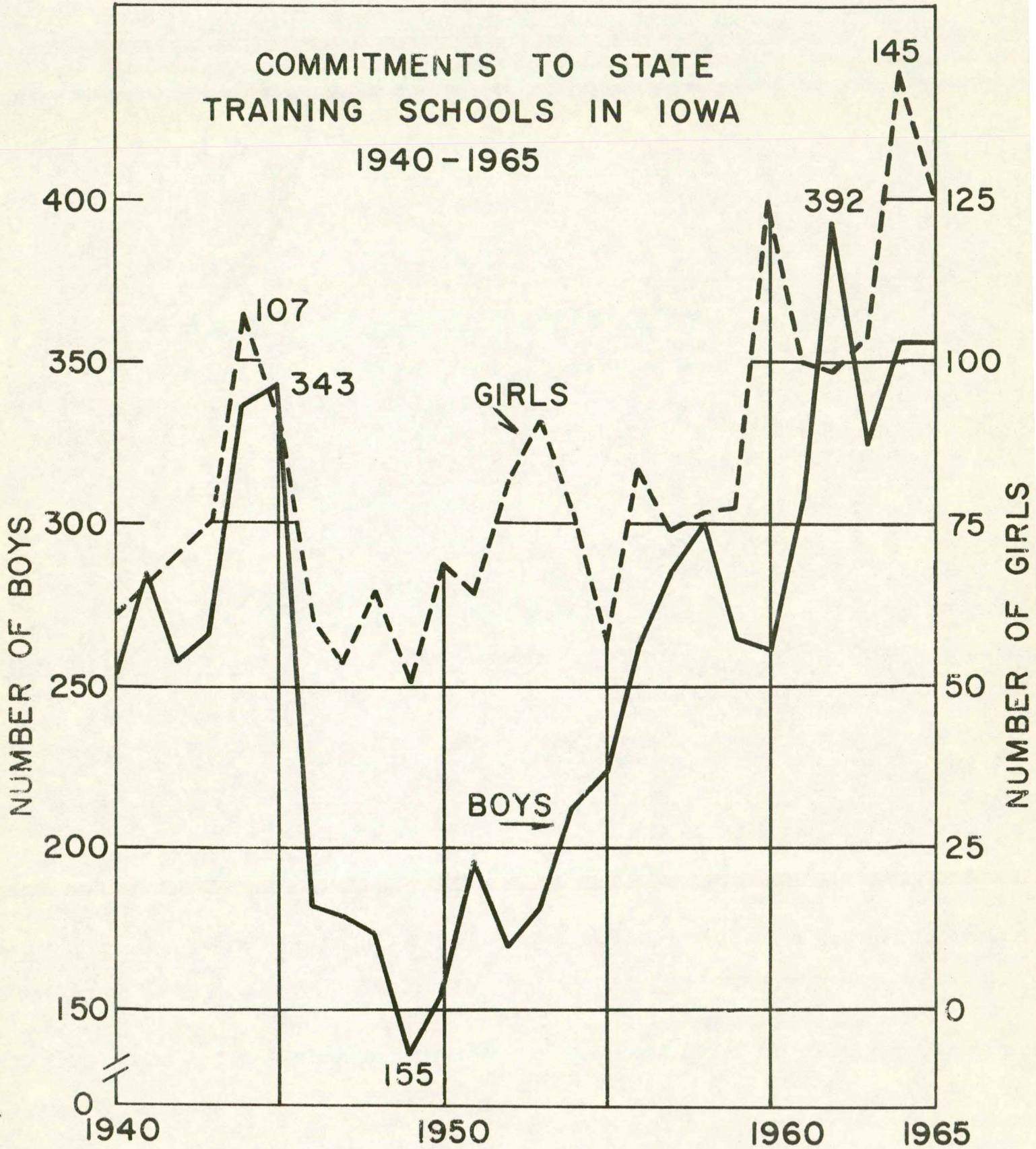
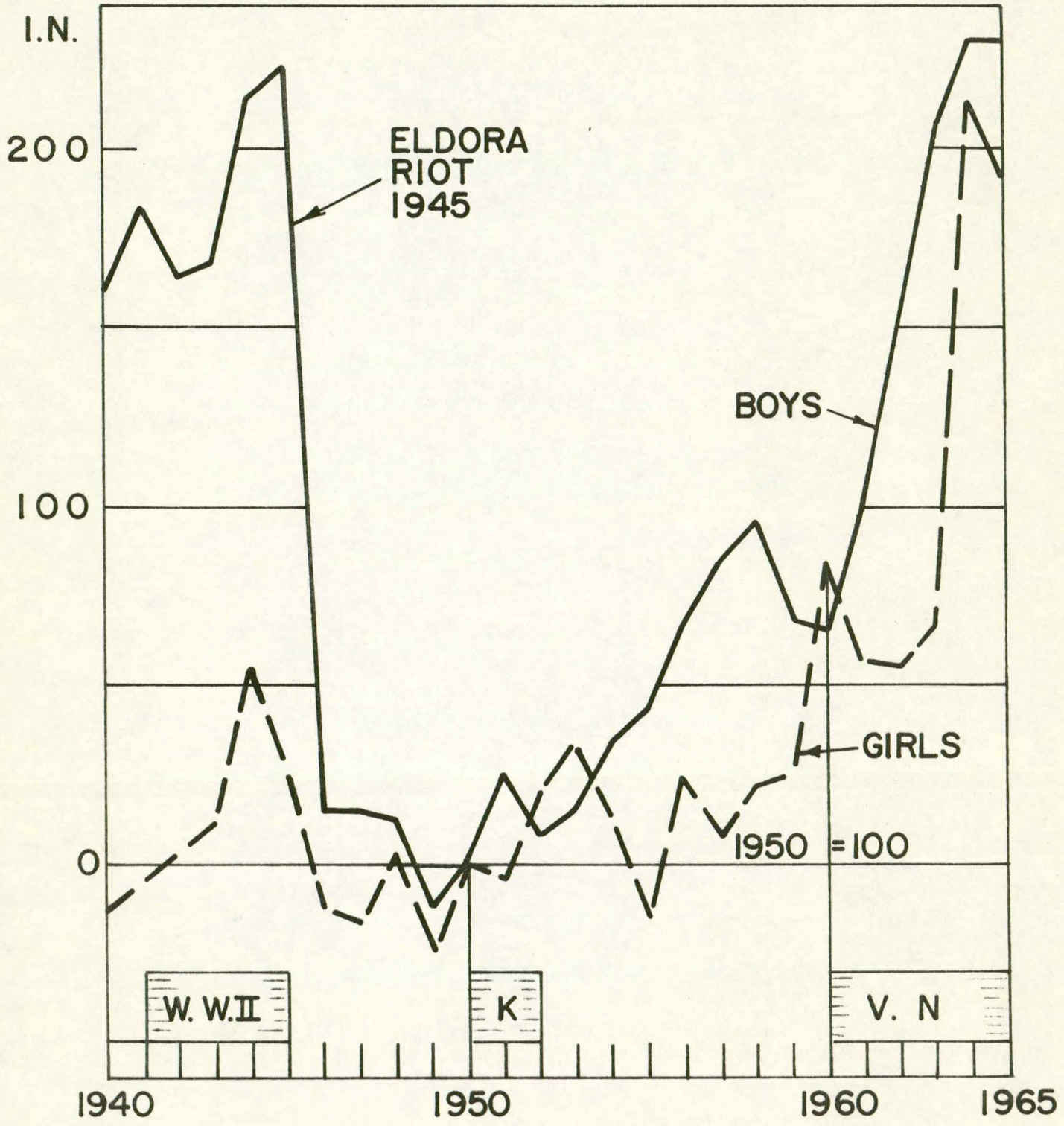


Chart 21

COMMITMENTS TO IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1940-65 (INDEX NUMBERS : 1950 = 100)



DELINQUENTS IN PUBLIC TRAINING

SCHOOLS IN IOWA, 1910-66

The number of juveniles in the two state training schools in Iowa has varied much as the commitments with some changes in the past decade. Table 18 and chart give the number of boys and girls in both schools from 1910 to 1966.

During World War I (1917-18 for the United States), the population in both schools increased from 473 in 1912 to 645 in 1918 or by 36 percent. The increase for girls (10.9 percent) was less than for boys (17.5 percent). By 1924, the total decreased to 532 and then increased rapidly, reaching 808 (615 boys and 193 girls) in 1938 at the end of the Great Depression. The number remained above 700 until the sharp drop in 1946 after the Eldora Riot in 1945. The count in the boy's school fell from 555 in 1944 to 248 in 1946 but the decrease at the girl's school changed less from 175 to 123 girls.

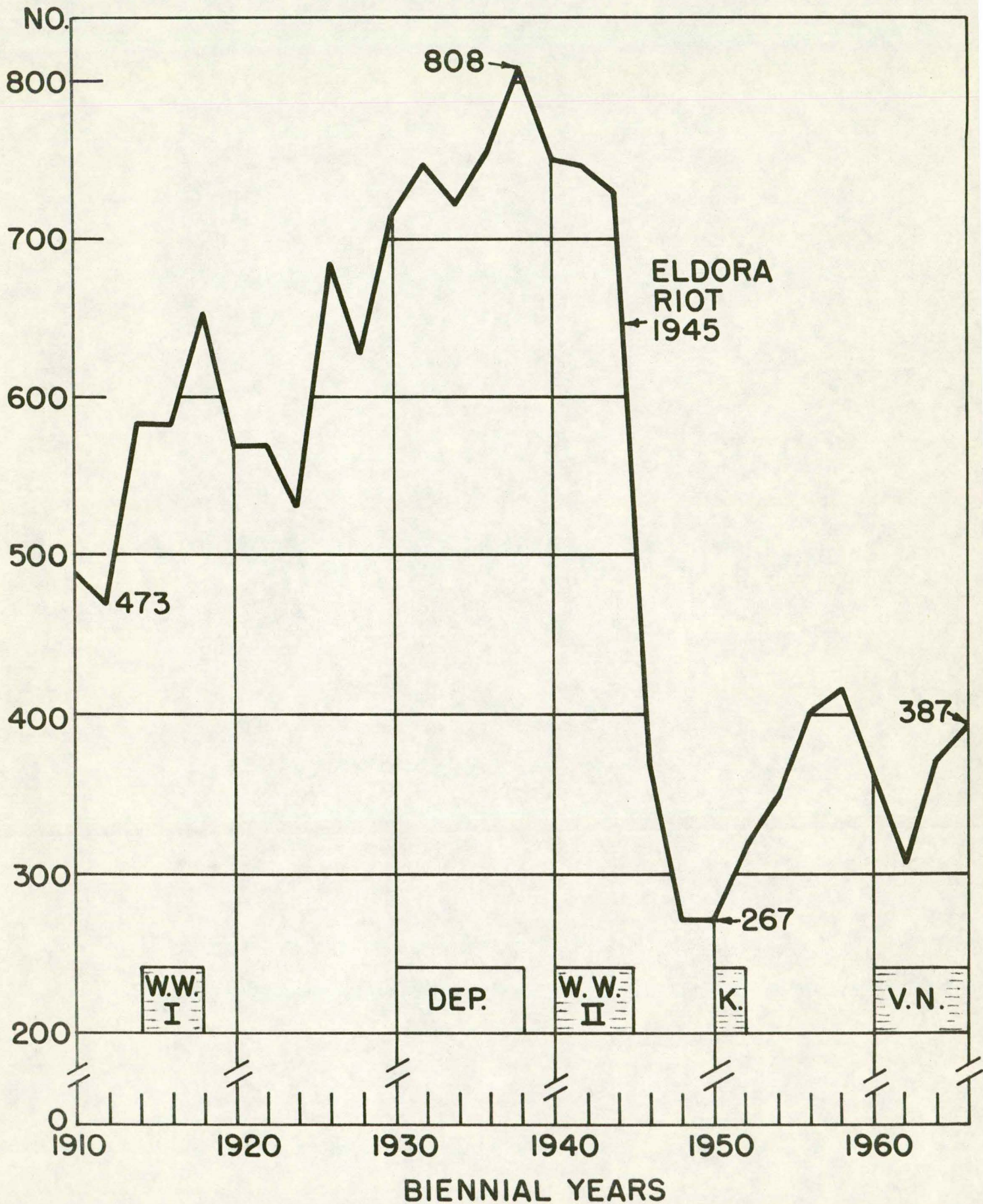
By 1950, the number decreased further to 267 and then rose to 418 in 1958. In 1966 there were 387 in both schools, 292 boys and 95 girls.

Table 18

Delinquents in State Training Schools in Iowa, 1910 to 1966
Biennial Year Ending June 30th

Biennium	Boys	Girls	Total
1910	361	123	484
1912	308	165	473
1914	435	146	581
1916	415	167	582
1918	462	183	645
1920	412	158	570
1922	362	208	570
1924	354	178	532
1926	481	200	681
1928	461	165	626
1930	516	197	713
1932	561	180	741
1934	542	179	721
1936	585	172	757
1938	615	193	808
1940	587	160	747
1942	574	169	743
1944	555	175	730
1946	248	123	371
1948	170	99	269
1950	183	84	267
1952	229	89	318
1954	256	87	343
1956	314	86	400
1958	328	90	418
1960	288	72	360
1962	228	82	300
1964	276	95	371
1966	292	95	387

DELINQUENTS IN IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1910-66



TURNOVER OF JUVENILE POPULATION
IN THE TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65

The rise in commitments, the increase in paroles and the decrease in the time spent in the schools shows that more juveniles are being treated in the state schools than in previous years. More delinquents are passing in and out of the institutions and remaining a shorter period of time. This change in traffic may be verified by calculating the percent of turnover or the number entering and leaving the schools in terms of the number present each year.

Table 19 shows the annual number committed, paroled and present with the percentages of turnover from 1953 to 1965. In 1953, 272 were committed and 258 were paroled, making a total of 530 entering and leaving in one year. By using the average of these two figures and dividing the same by the average population, the percent of change or turnover amounted to 85.5 percent. The traffic in and out amounted to 85.5 percent of the number present.

By using the same procedure, the turnover in 1957 amounted to 95.2 percent and then rose to 110.8 two years later. In 1965, a total of 1,196 juveniles entered or

left the schools when the average population was 377 or a turnover of 158.3 percent. In the years under observation, the average turnover amounted to 112.3 percent. From 1953 to 1965, the number entering and leaving has risen from 530 to 1,196 whereas the population has changed from 310 to 377 juveniles. The number treated has more than doubled with only a small change in population.

Table 19
 PERCENT TURNOVER OF DELINQUENTS
 IN IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-1965

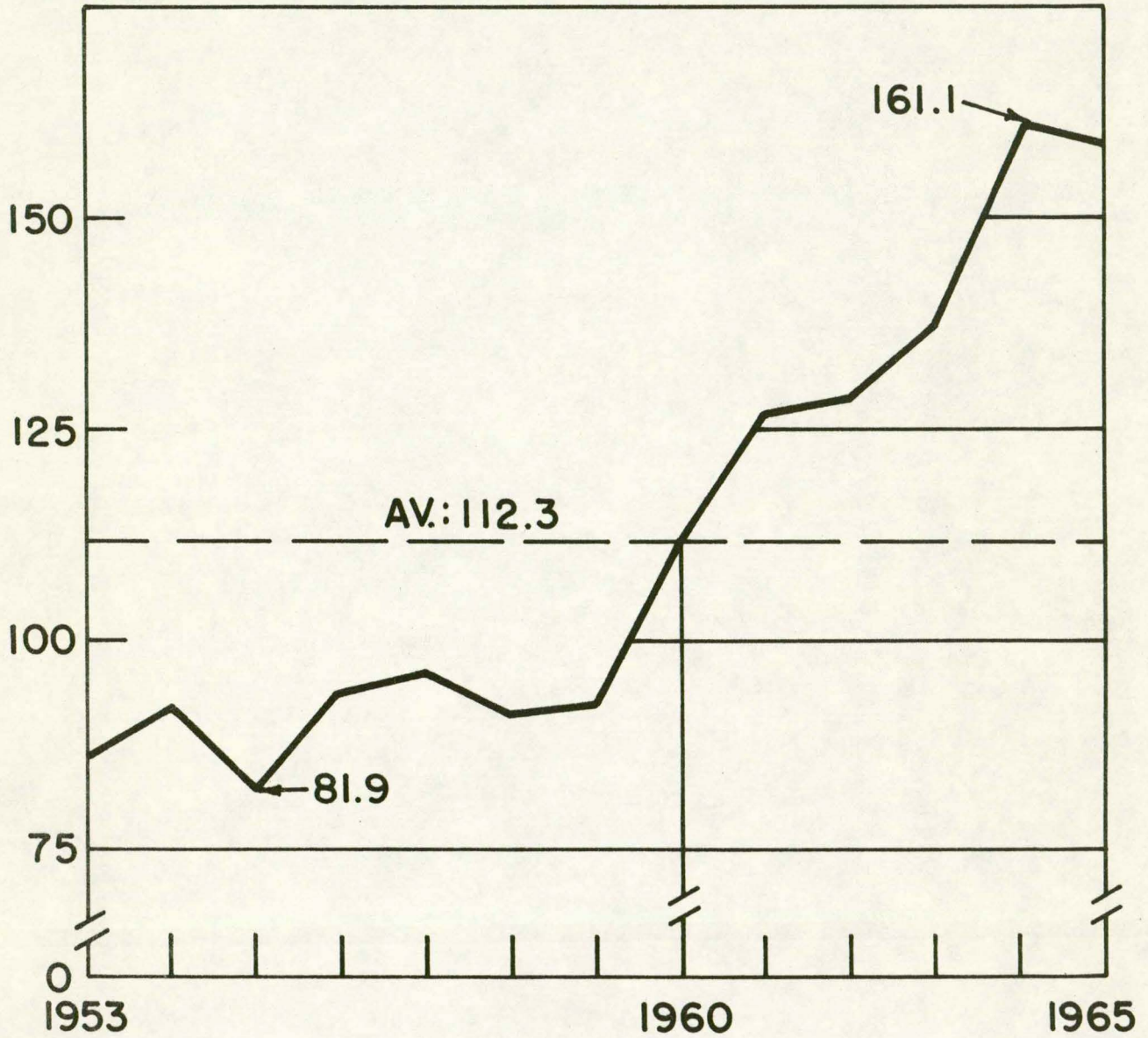
Year	Committed*	Paroled*	Total	Average	Population	Percent turnover
1953	272	258	530	265	310	85.5
1954	289	299	588	294	317	92.7
1955	278	285	563	281	343	81.9
1956	346	270	616	308	329	93.6
1957	360	397	757	378	397	95.2
1958	377	396	773	386	419	92.1
1959	340	389	729	364	392	92.9
1960	384	414	798	399	360	110.8
1961	406	507	913	456	361	126.3
1962	390	459	849	424	331	128.1
1963	431	539	970	485	353	137.4
1964	502	690	1192	596	370	161.1
1965	486	710	1196	598	377	158.6
TOTAL	4861	5613	10,474		4659	
AVERAGE	373.5	431.8	805.7	402.8	358.4	112.3

* The above data do not include those entering or leaving for home visits, transfers, discharges, returned replacements or parole violators.

Chart 23

PERCENT TURNOVER OF DELINQUENTS IN IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-1965

PERCENT



POPULATION AND PAROLES, 1953-1965

Table 20 and chart show the population in both schools and the numbers paroled each year from 1953 to 1965. When the schools had a population of 310 juveniles, there were 258 paroles. The number paroled constituted 83.2 percent of the population. In 1960, the number paroled (414) constituted 115 percent of the number present (360). By 1965, paroles (710) made up 188.3 percent of the school population.

From 1953 to 1965, the total number in both schools rose from 310 to 377 or by 21 percent but in the same years commitments increased from 258 to 710 or by 178 percent.

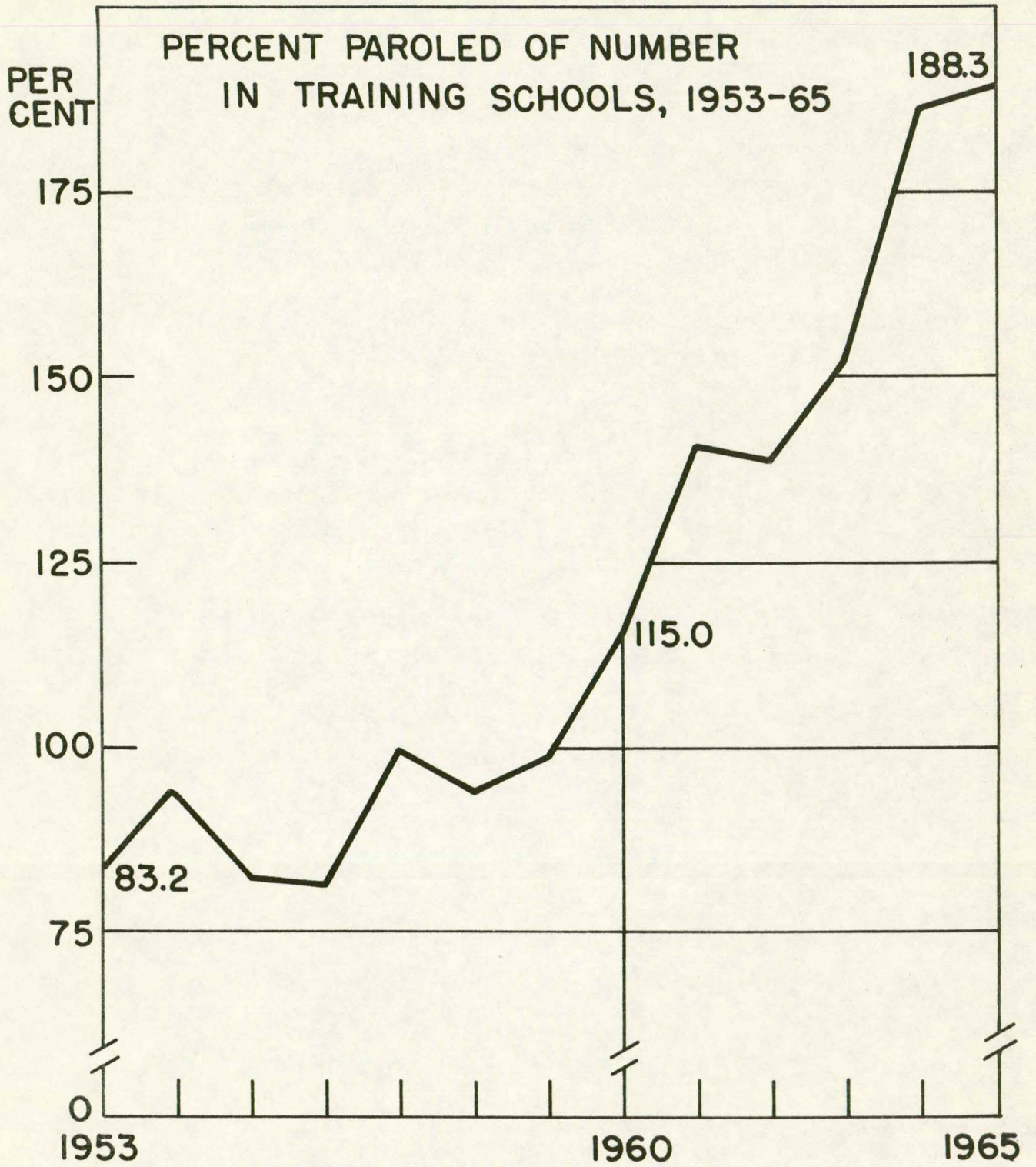
Table 20

IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65

POPULATION, NUMBER PAROLED WITH PERCENTAGES

Year	Population	Paroled	Percent paroled of population
1953	310	258	83.2
1954	317	299	94.3
1955	343	285	83.1
1956	329	270	82.1
1957	397	397	100.0
1958	419	396	94.5
1959	392	389	99.2
1960	360	414	115.0
1961	361	507	140.4
1962	331	459	138.7
1963	353	536	152.7
1964	370	640	186.5
1965	377	710	188.3

Chart 24



JUVENILE PAROLE VIOLATIONS, 1953-65

Not all juveniles treated in the two training schools make satisfactory adjustment after release from the schools. Each year a given number violate parole and are returned to the schools for further training.

In the 13 years from 1953 to 1965, 25.1 percent of all boys and 21.8 percent of all girls paroled violated parole and were returned to the respective school. Table 21 and chart 25 show the annual number of boys paroled and the number returned with the percent of violations.

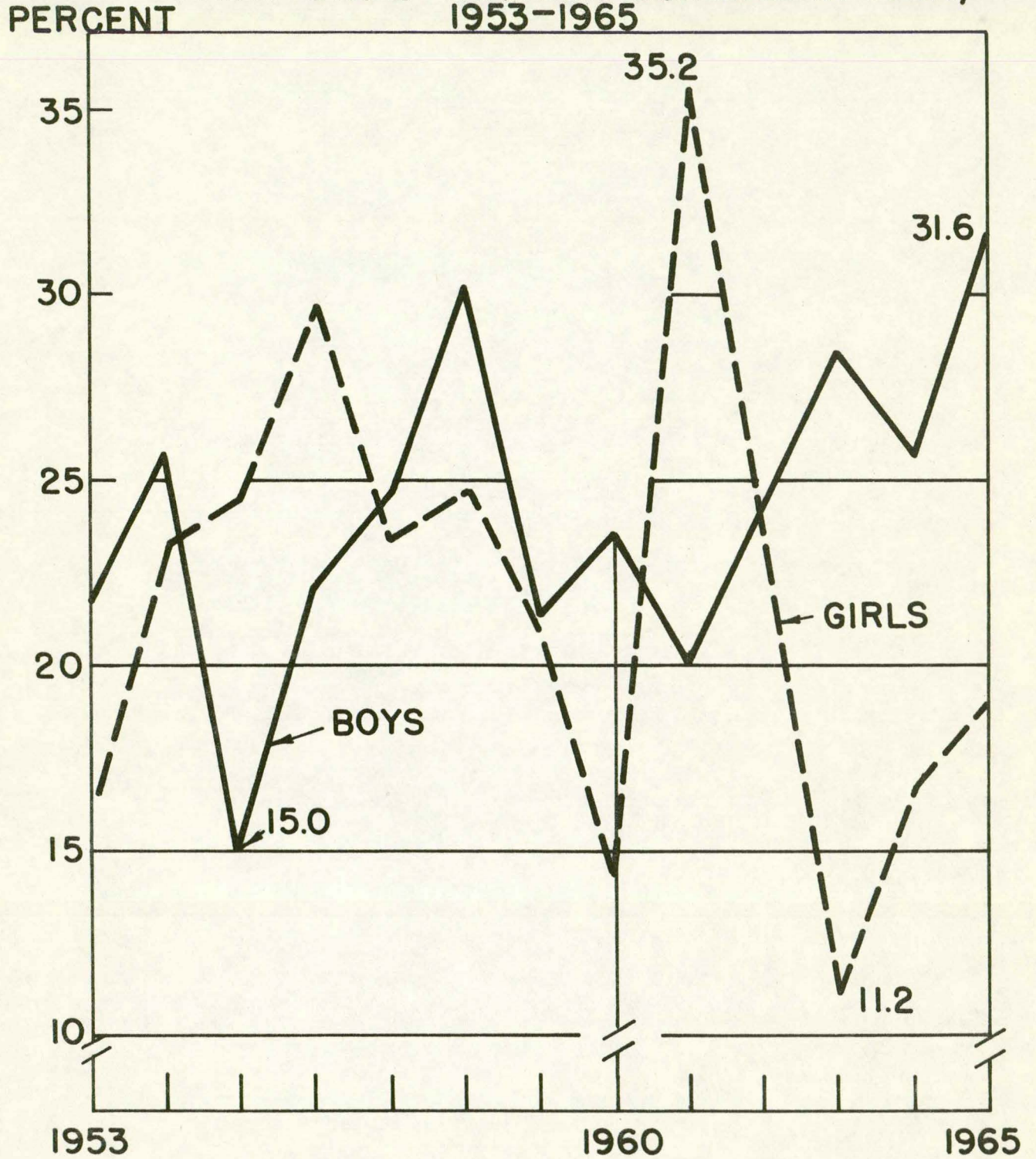
Parole violations for boys have ranged from 15 percent in 1955 to 31.6 percent in 1965. The second high year was 1958 with 30.1 percent. Among girls violations have varied from 11.2 percent in 1963 to 35.2 percent in 1961. The second high year was in 1956 with 34.7 percent. In general, parole violations for boys have risen but remained at about the same level for girls.

Table 21
IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65
NUMBER PAROLED AND RETURNED FOR PAROLE VIOLATIONS
FOR YEARS ENDING JUNE 30th

Year	Boys			Girls		
	Paroled	Parole violators	Percent	Paroled	Parole violators	Percent
1953	161	35	21.7	97	16	16.5
1954	191	49	25.7	108	25	23.1
1955	187	28	15.0	98	24	24.5
1956	195	43	22.1	75	26	34.7
1957	286	71	24.8	111	26	23.4
1958	309	93	30.1	87	26	29.9
1959	293	62	21.2	96	20	20.8
1960	284	67	23.6	130	19	14.6
1961	385	77	20.0	122	43	35.2
1962	337	83	24.6	122	30	24.6
1963	411	117	28.5	125	14	11.2
1964	524	135	25.7	166	28	16.7
1965	537	170	31.6	173	33	19.0
TOTAL	4100	1030	25.1	1510	330	21.8

Chart 25

PERCENT PAROLE VIOLATORS OF NUMBER PAROLED FROM STATE TRAINING SCHOOLS IN IOWA, 1953-1965



TIME SPENT IN TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1940-65

In the past 25 years, an important change has occurred in the amount of time juveniles remain in the training schools prior to release. Table 22 shows the length of time 865 juveniles spent in the two schools in 1940 and 1965.

In the pre-war years of 1939-40, only 13 of the total 865 were released in less than one year. In 1965 of the total released 698 were paroled in less than one year and only 37 remained for more than one year. In the earlier period, 31 were held in the schools for 5 years or more, 4 girls and 27 boys.

The next Table 23 reveals the time spent in both schools by months ranging from less than two and more than 13 months. Of the 550 boys, 40.4 percent were released in 4 months or less. Of the 185 girls, 21.1 percent were released in the same time. Almost three-fourths (70.4 percent) of the boys and half (57.4 percent) of the girls were released in 6 months or less. The average time in the schools was 5 months for boys and 6 months for the girls.

The second chart reveals the average number of weeks boys have remained in the Eldora School when released. In 1953, the average time was 55 weeks after which the time decreased to 42 in 1960 and then to 20 weeks in 1965 or about 5 months.

Table 22
 TIME IN TRAINING SCHOOLS AT
 TIME OF PAROLE OR RELEASE, 1939-40 and 1965

Time Months	1939-40			1965		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
6 or Less	6	1	7	389	106	495
7 - 12	5	1	6	131	72	203
Total	11	2	13	510	178	698
Years						
1 - 2	381	88	469	30	7	37
2 - 3	135	83	218	--	--	--
3 - 4	61	35	96	--	--	--
4 - 5	32	6	38	--	--	--
5 - 6	13	3	16	--	--	--
6 - 7	7	1	8	--	--	--
7 - 8	5	--	5	--	--	--
8 - 9	2	--	2	--	--	--
Total	636	216	852	30	7	37
TOTAL	647	218	865	550	185	735

Table 23

Time in Training Schools
At Time of Releases, 1965

Months	BOYS		GIRLS	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
4 or Less	222	40.4	39	21.1
5 - 6	167	30.4	67	36.3
7 - 8	83	15.1	50	27.0
9 - 10	36	6.5	11	5.9
11- 12	12	2.2	11	5.9
13 +	30	5.4	7	3.8
TOTAL	550	100.0	185	100.0
AVERAGE	5 mos.		6 mos.	

Chart 26

**TIME IN TRAINING SCHOOLS
WHEN RELEASED, 1965
(PERCENTAGES)**

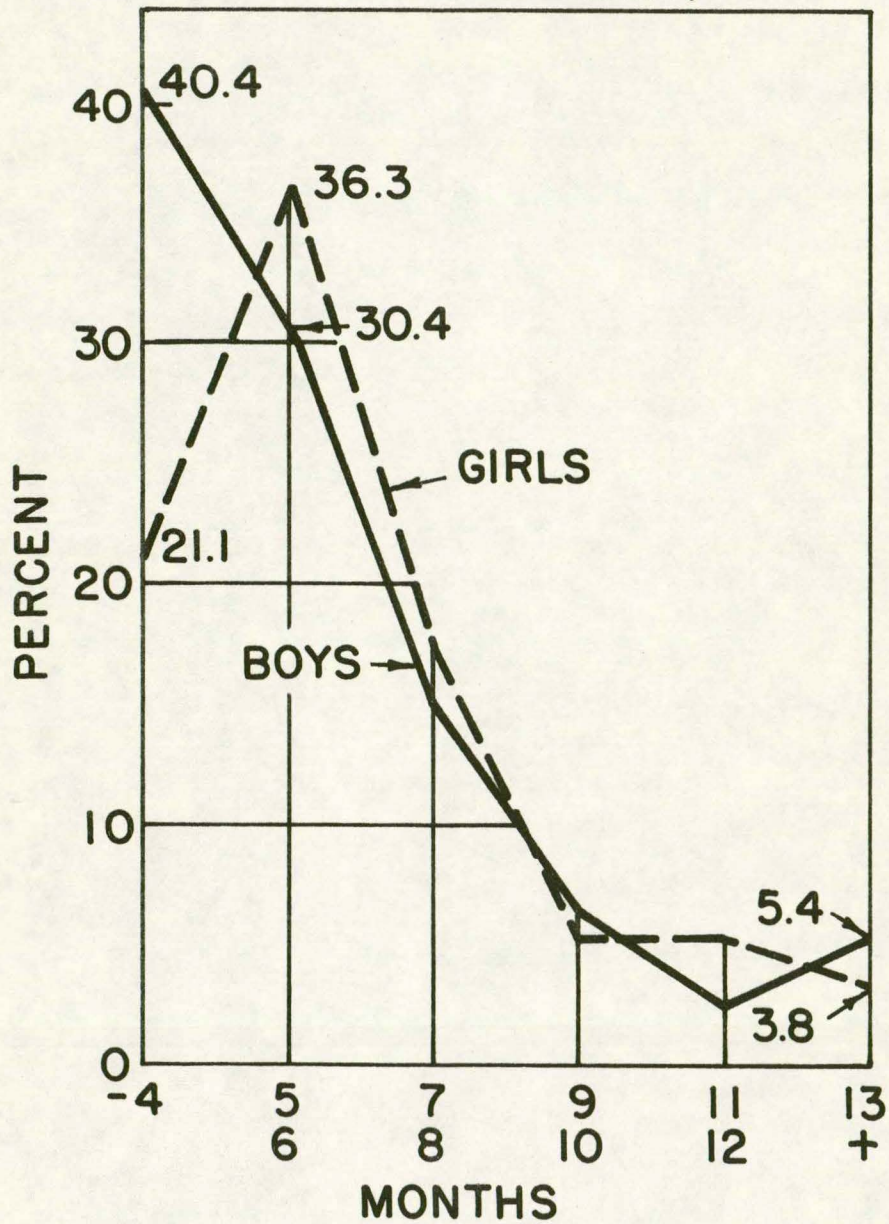
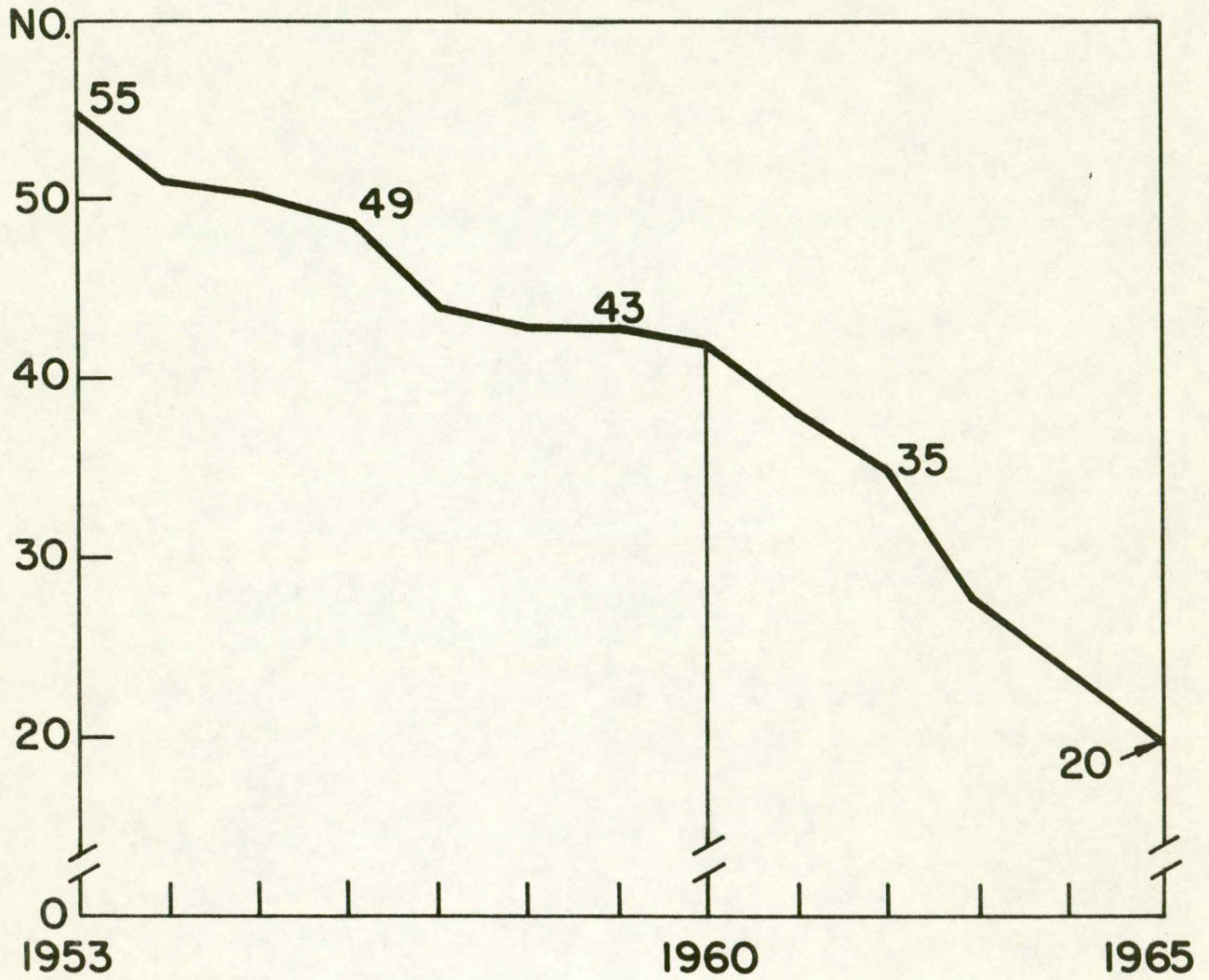


Chart 27

**AVERAGE WEEKS BOYS REMAINED
IN TRAINING SCHOOL, 1953-65**

TIME IN TRAINING SCHOOL AND
PAROLE VIOLATIONS, 1953-65

As the number of paroles has increased and the number of weeks in the training school has decreased, parole violations have increased. Table 24 and chart shows the average time in the Boys Training School prior to release and the number of boys returned to the school for parole violations. From 1953 to 1965, the average number of weeks in the school declined from 55 to 20 weeks or by 63.4 percent. For the same years, the number of parole violators returned has risen from 35 to 170 or by 385.7 percent. In the same years, the number of boys paroled has advanced from 161 to 537 or by 233.5 percent.

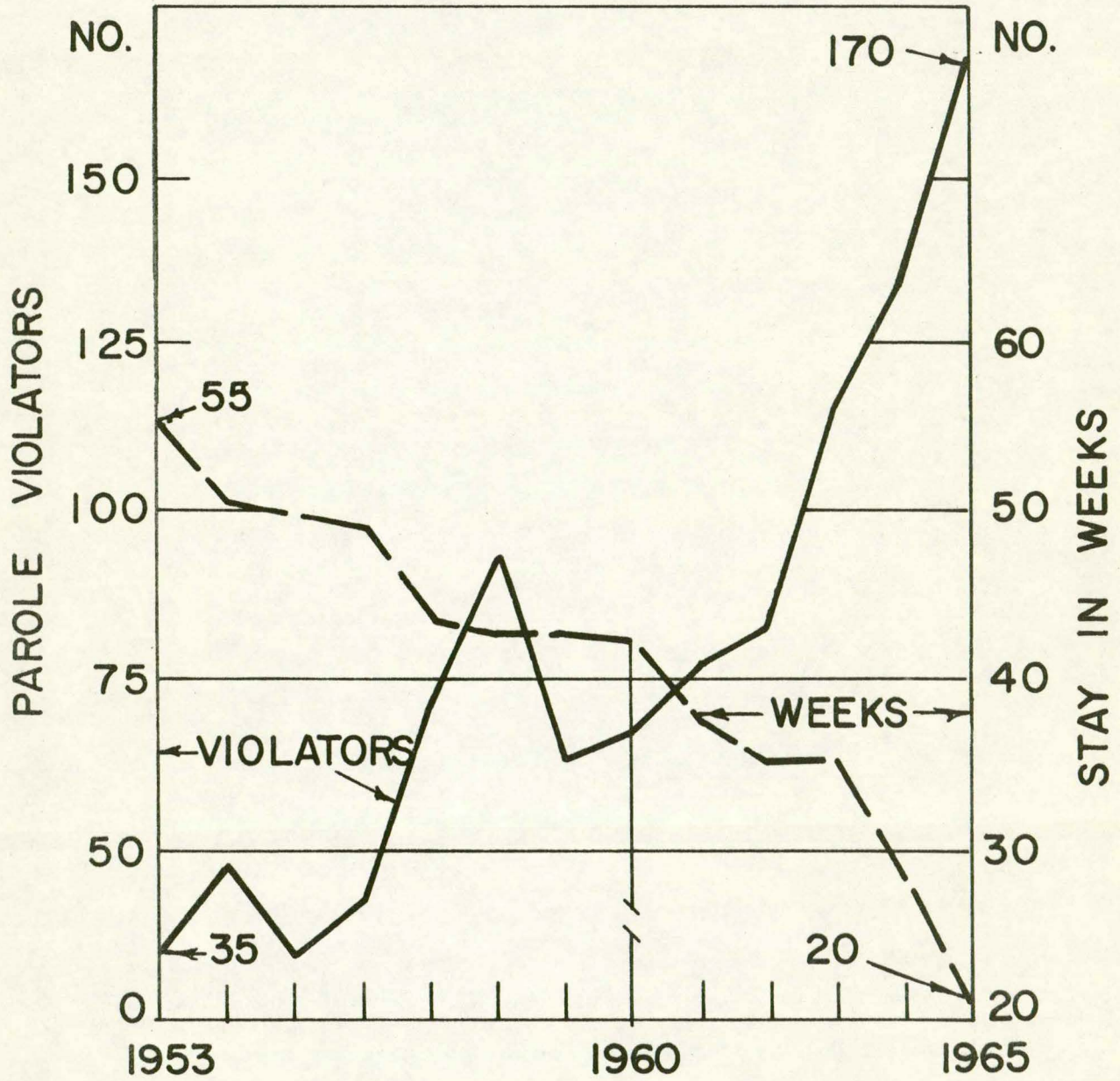
It is evident from these data that as the time spent in the school has decreased, parole violations have increased. As another factor in the problem, it should be seen that the number of boys paroled has risen. It can be assumed that if more boys are paroled and the time spent in the school before release is shortened, the number of parole violations would increase.

Table 24
AVERAGE WEEKS IN BOY'S TRAINING SCHOOL
AND PAROLE VIOLATORS RETURNED, 1953-65

Year	Average Stay in Weeks	Violators Returned
1953	55	35
1954	51	49
1955	50	28
1956	49	43
1957	44	71
1958	43	93
1959	43	62
1960	42	67
1961	38	77
1962	35	83
1963	35	117
1964	28	135
1965	20	170

Chart 28

IOWA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS PAROLE VIOLATORS RETURNED AVERAGE WEEKS OF STAY, 1953-65



of cases but the percentage of increase is larger in the farm areas.

Any interpretation of these results is open to a number of possibilities. If it is assumed that authorities in both the urban and rural counties were equally concerned about delinquency it could be that the rural youth reacted to war conditions earlier.

Delinquency cases increased later in the urban areas and became much more serious than in the rural sections.

In the last half of the period it is evident that rural youth are finding it more difficult to adjust, based on the Index Numbers, than the urban youth although both curves have increased well above the amounts in the war years. A more detailed analysis of the changes in both areas appears in subsequent pages.

TIME LAPSE BETWEEN PAROLE AND RETURN
FOR PAROLE VIOLATION, 1964-65

If juveniles violate parole supervision, they usually do so within the first few months after parole. Out of every 100 juveniles paroled, about 25 are returned within two months or less for breaking parole.

Table 25 and the chart supply data on the time between parole and return for parole violation for juveniles returned in 1964-65, 391 boys and 103 girls.

More girls, 28.2 percent, were returned within two months or less than boys, 22.2 percent. Of the boys 61.4 percent were returned within six or less as were 59.2 percent of the girls. At the upper limits, 20.2 percent of the boys and 23.4 percent of the girls remained on parole before violations and return to the schools.

Whether a juvenile violates parole depends on the individual, the parole placement and the degree or kind of supervision given by the parole officer.

Table 25

Time on Parole for Juveniles Returned
To Training Schools for Parole Violations and Replacement,* 1964-65

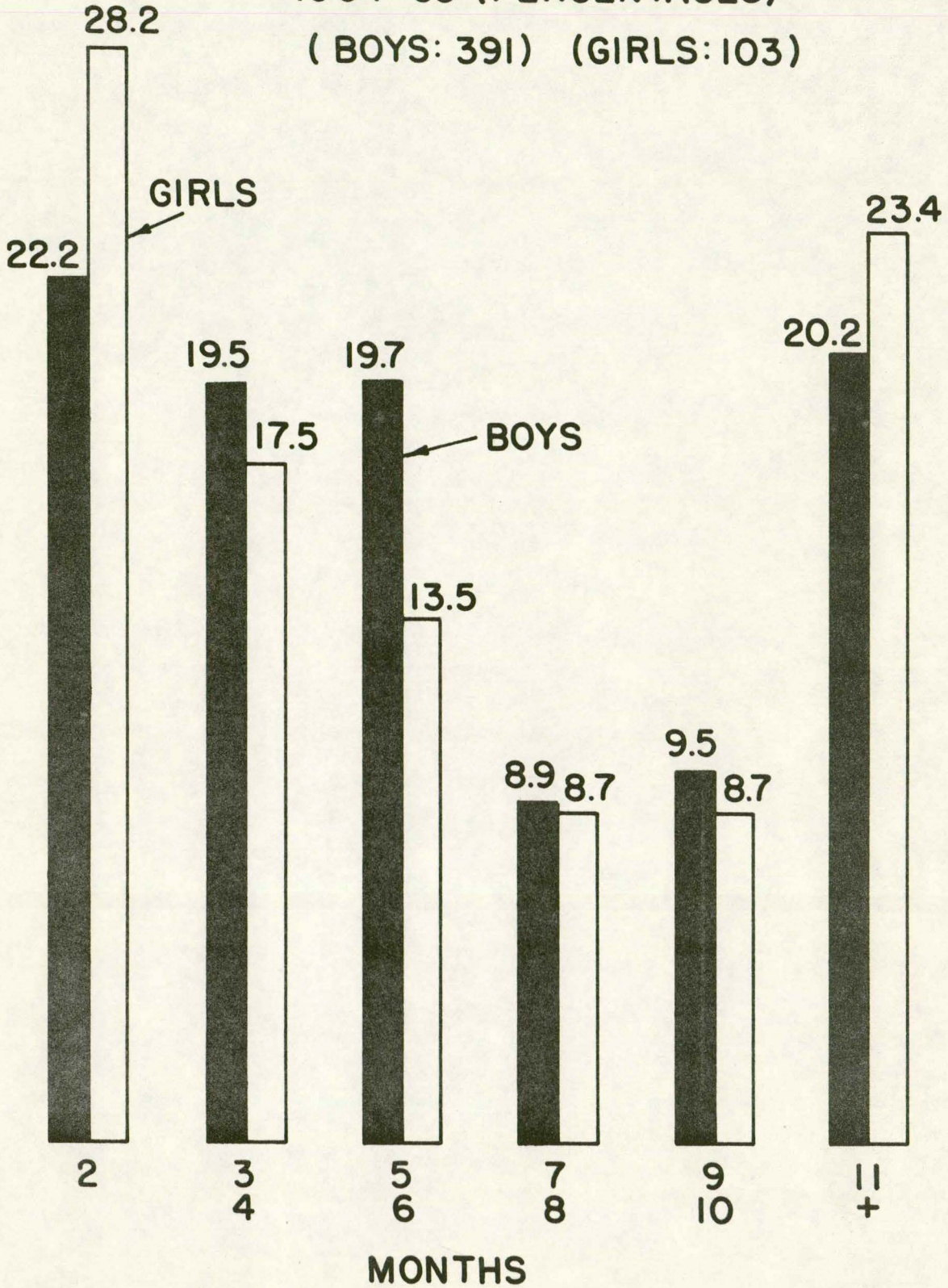
MONTHS	BOYS		TOTAL		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	1964	1965	Number	Percent	1964	1965	Number	Percent
2 or less	34	53	87	22.2	18	11	29	28.2
3 - 4	38	38	76	19.5	8	10	18	17.5
5 - 6	33	44	77	19.7	7	7	14	13.5
7 - 8	17	18	35	8.9	7	2	9	8.7
9 -10	19	18	37	9.5	6	3	9	8.7
11+	32	47	79	20.2	7	17	24	23.4
TOTAL	173	218	391	100.0	53	50	103	100.0

*In 1964 "replacements" made up 38 of the boys and 25 of the girls. In 1965 there were 48 boys and 17 girls.

Chart 29

**MONTHS JUVENILES WERE ON PAROLE
WHEN RETURNED FOR PAROLE VIOLATIONS,
1964-65 (PERCENTAGES)**

(BOYS: 391) (GIRLS: 103)



TRAINING SCHOOL ESCAPES, 1953-65

In the 13 years from 1953 to 1965, 840 juveniles have escaped from the two training schools in Iowa or an average of 65 a year. Of the total number of escapes, 828 were boys and 12 were girls or a ratio of almost 69 boys for each girl. The number escaping within a year do not always involve different individuals. In some years, the same juvenile may escape more than once but each escape is counted separately.

Table 26 shows the annual number of escapes and the number returned for both schools. Escapes among girls have never exceeded more than three in any one year. Escapes among boys have ranged from 36 in 1953 to 114 in 1962, the highest number for the period. Within the period, there has been a slight upward trend in the number of escapes from the Eldora School for boys.

Table 26

IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65

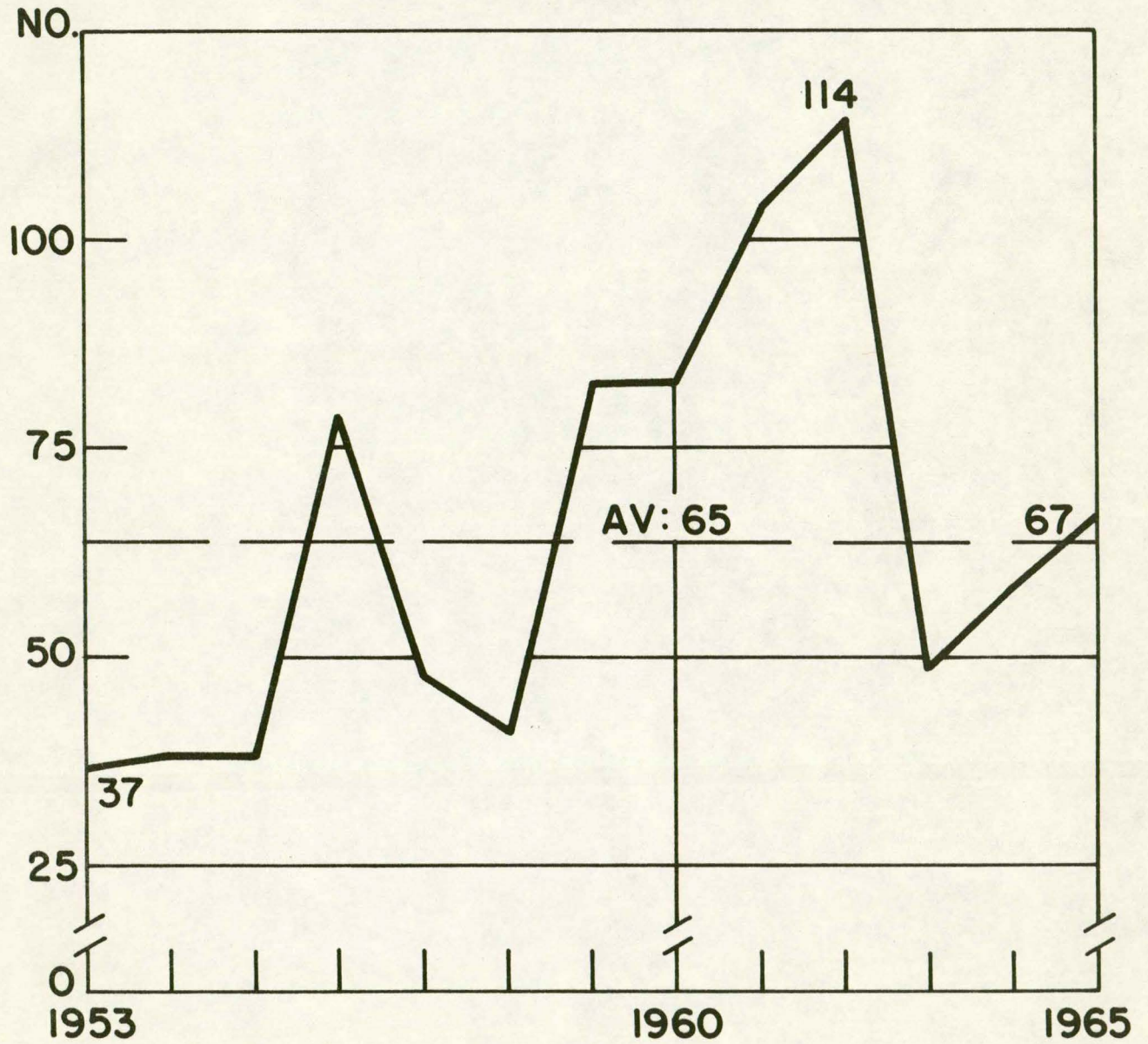
NUMBER OF ESCAPES FROM BOTH SCHOOLS

(Figures in parenthesis are the number returned)

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
1953	36 (36)	1 (1)	37 (37)
1954	38 (38)	0 (0)	38 (38)
1955	38 (29)	0 (0)	38 (29)
1956	78 (71)	1 (1)	79 (72)
1967	48 (46)	0 (0)	48 (46)
1958	39 (36)	2 (2)	41 (38)
1959	83 (81)	0 (0)	83 (81)
1960	81 (71)	3 (3)	84 (74)
1961	101 (98)	3 (3)	104 (101)
1962	114 (116)	0 (0)	114 (116)
1963	47 (45)	2 (2)	49 (47)
1964	59 (57)	0 (0)	59 (57)
1965	66 (67)	0 (0)	66 (67)
TOTAL	828 (791)	12 (12)	840 (803)

Chart 30

ESCAPES FROM IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1953-65



THE COST OF MAINTAINING JUVENILES
IN IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1952 AND 1966

In the 14 years from 1952 to 1966, the average annual per capita cost of maintaining a juvenile in the training schools has risen with the increase in other costs in the state.

In 1952 when there were 239 boys in the Eldora School with a staff of 102, the per capita cost amounted to \$1,648.88. In 1966, with 274 boys and 197 employees, the cost advanced to \$5,161.85 or by more than 200 percent.

At the girl's school, the population increased from 85 to 93 and the number of employees from 48 to 55, with the per capita change from \$2,010.48 to \$4,790.64 for the same years.

Table 27

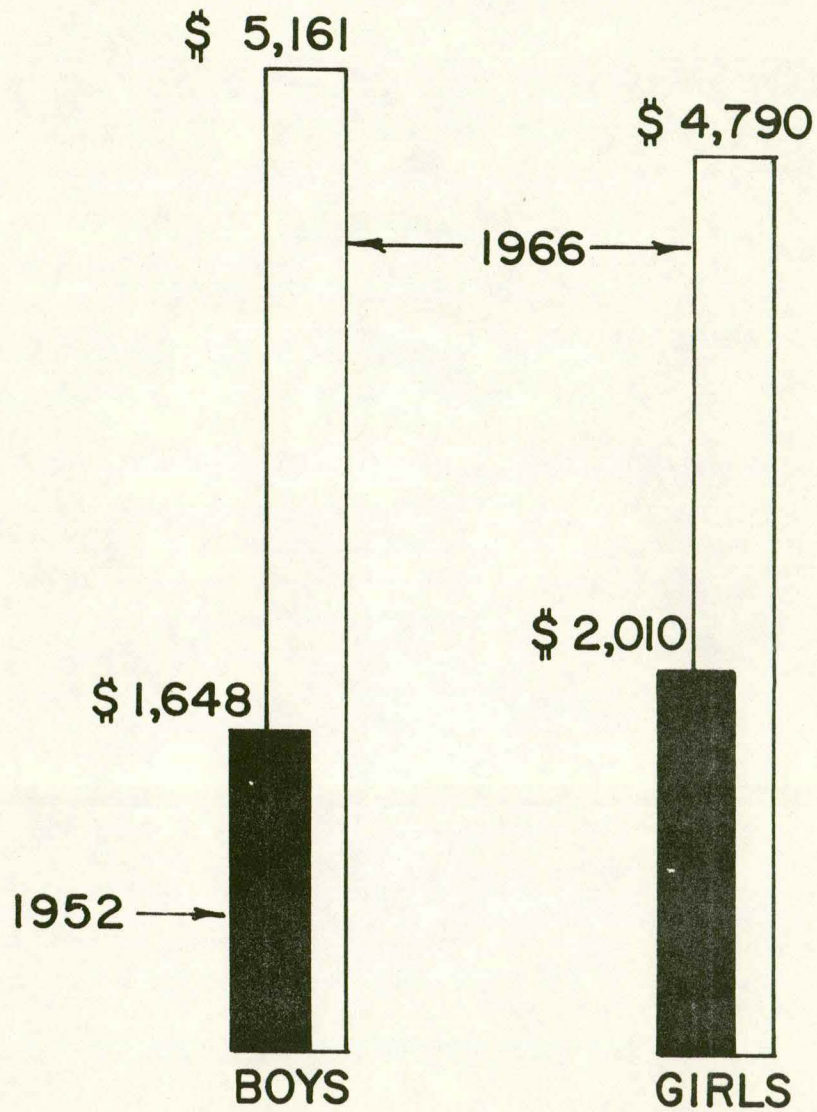
IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS, 1952 and 1966
 POPULATION, STAFF AND AVERAGE PER CAPITA BY SCHOOLS

School	1952	1966
<u>Eldora</u>		
Boys	239	274
Staff	102	197
Monthly Cost	\$ 137.24	\$ 430.15
Annual Cost	\$1,648.88	\$5,161.85
<u>Mitchellville</u>		
Girls	85	93
Staff	48	55
Monthly Cost	\$ 167.54	\$ 399.22
Annual Cost	\$2,010.48	\$4,790.64

Source: Board of Control of State Institutions
 for respective years. Population and staff
 are based on averages for years.

Chart 31

**AVERAGE PERCAPITA COST
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN
IOWA TRAINING SCHOOLS 1952
AND 1966**



THE WHY

As the problem of delinquency has arisen at various times and in different places, a number of reasons have been advanced to explain the anti-social behavior of youth. The reasons have ranged from a lack of certain kinds of food to the lack of recreational facilities and a number of other conditions in the life of the child and the community. Each reason has a given amount of validity but none actually explain the WHY. Not long ago two boys grew up in two large cities under very much the same social conditions. One became Al. Smith, the governor of New York State and the other became Al. Capone, the Number One gangster of the Twenties and the Thirties. Both Als. were from similar American cities but their life-patterns were built upon different molds.

If we are to understand the WHY of delinquency, the problem must be considered in the light of a number of known social conditions and relationships. These can be summarized briefly as follows.

1. The Mirror Concept. The child is but a mirror which reflects the character of the society where the child lives. The character of the adult society can be seen in the actions of the child.

2. When the behavior of adults is discordant and disordered, the behavior of the child is likewise disordered and anti-social.

3. The personality of the child has as many "sides" as the child has contacts with other people and groups. The child has a playground self and a family self. The behavior of a boy in the movies on a Saturday afternoon in the midst of a Wild West Show is entirely different for the same boy in Sunday School the next day. Each situation brings out a different kind of behavior from the same boy.

4. Every child has given biological needs which are to be satisfied in one way or another. The urge for play is but one evidence of this. If the child attempts to satisfy its needs in a manner not approved by society, the behavior becomes "wrong" and the child may become delinquent. The urge to play, if allowed certain conditions, may become improper. Petty thieving may be as much of a game as "Cops and Robbers". Both activities have a certain common element of physical exertion and adventure.

5. A child learns what is "right" and what is "wrong" from the collective experience with people. If adults or groups condone or approve the "wrong" kind of acts, the child soon adopts those improper patterns of behavior. Likewise, if the group approves "good" conduct, the child soon takes

on "good" behavior. The child, as the adult, desires the approval of a group. If he can gain that approval by doing the "wrong" he will do that just as he will do the "right" when the group approves.

6. The child acquires his standards of right and wrong from the images of other persons he sees around him. If the child sees unsound behavior in his father, mother or other persons close to him, most likely he will follow that pattern. On the other hand, a good father or mother pattern usually results in good child behavior. These "pictures" which a child carries around in his mind of how other people act play an important part in how he acts.

7. As long as a child matures in a sound and "right" social condition which is consistent with the "good", the child's behavior will be "good". One of the first shocks to the growing child arises when he encounters dishonesty or deceit in the behavior of others. "The simple faith of a child" becomes shattered when he sees others violating the "good" things in life. In time this shattered faith develops a certain degree of relativity. Things become relatively "good" or relatively "bad" and there is no one or proper standard of conduct to follow. Under such conditions it is impossible for a child to be imbued with a universal standard or norm to control his actions. In other words, ethical moorings are absent.

8. The degree to which the child behaves "badly" or "good" depends on how fixed the "good" has become integrated into the whole personality of the child. A child may learn what is "right" in a certain superficial sense and yet do the "wrong" because the idea of right has been acquired as a veneer and not as a basic part of his personality. Good conduct is the result of "goodness" which has reached the deeper and more basic recesses of the child's personality. Bending "the Twig" therefore is something more than superficial training in the right ideas. It must enter the emotional, moral, ethical and religious nature of the child if the "bending" is to become actual and real.

9. The degree to which a child becomes "good" or "bad" depends on how well he can meet life situations with the set of standards he possesses. If the "good" is deeply imbedded in the child's total personality and the "force" of the "goodness" overcomes the "bad" elements he experiences the conduct will be good. In a real sense the child needs to know what is "good" and to do that which is good. If the child has experienced the knowing and the doing of the good, his knowing and doing will be good. In this sense ideals and actions cannot be separated. On the other hand, if rewards and success go to the selfish and unscrupulous, he will follow their actions.

10. In spite of good ideals and actions a child, as an adult, has a certain "breaking point" at which bad conduct may arise even though goodness may have played a large part in his life. If the social conditions surrounding the growing child are such that wrong influences are stronger than good conduct, improper actions may follow. Not all people can say in reality "Get thee Behind me". At this point it becomes the duty and the obligation of the community and the whole society to make it possible for the child to say "No" when he might say "Yes" to the "wrong". If it appears to the child that there are more opportunities and more rewards for delinquent acts there will naturally be more delinquency. In this sense delinquency or non-delinquency is very largely a matter of alternatives in a difficult situation. That is why a certain great religious leader once said "There but for the grace of God go I" when he saw a man paying the price for certain anti-social acts.

In the end it should be made clear that a delinquent act is something which a child does. The "badness" of the act is in the action itself which is judged according to the standards of the place where the child lives. That which society condemns, is the act.

When it is understood that a delinquent act is a matter of conduct then the next question arises, "What causes the child to act in an anti-social manner?" One of the basic

answers to this question rests in the fact that a child learns how to conduct himself from the behavior of others. Imitation plays an important part in the life of the growing child. He imitates because he wants to know how things are done and because he gains a certain amount of recognition by acting in a manner approved by others. Actions, therefore, are learned. Each child is born with certain physical equipment but whether he uses his hand to strike or to caress depends on whether others around him strike or caress under the same conditions.

The second basic element in determining the child's conduct is related to the emotional make-up of the child or his emotional condition at a given time. A child who has had the warmth and affection of a good family is of necessity going to act differently than a boy who has never known these things. Undesirable family life or group experiences, therefore, determine how a child acts in a given situation. The past emotional experiences of a child carry over into the future. If those experiences have been disturbing and unstable the child cannot face new experiences with assurance any more than an adult.

Another element in the field of emotions centers around the emotional condition of child at the time it is confronted with a given situation. An emotionally disturbed child cannot make sound judgements any more than

a disturbed adult. A child who senses the fact that he is insecure, unwanted or disliked will do any number of things which he would not do if he were secure, loved and wanted. This is especially true for the child because he lives more by his emotions and the way he feels than the adult.

One of the better methods of understanding why a child acts as he does under given conditions is to appreciate how the world looks to the child through the child's eyes and how he feels about what he sees. Individuals may not understand why a child "runs away" or becomes "incorrigible" but if adults could see the child's viewpoint, the action may be understood. For this reason it should be made clear that the child's world is entirely different than the adult's world. What may be unimportant to the adult often is very important to the child.

SUMMARY

The problem of delinquency in Iowa in this brief analysis has covered the fluctuations of delinquency in time during the years of the Great Depression of the Thirties and those of World War II as well as the variations within different districts of the state, urban and rural, metropolitan and non-metropolitan. In examining the material, in time as well as according to the different areas, certain questions have arisen which may be stated as follows:

1. Do Economic Depressions increase delinquency among children?
2. Did World War II actually cause an increase in delinquency?
3. How can the wide differences in the rural and urban rates of delinquency be explained?

Each of these questions will be discussed very briefly.

1. The Depression and Delinquency.

In attempting to explain social conditions it often happens that individuals seek a simple explanation for a given problem. As an example most people maintain that "Poverty is the mother of

delinquency" and that "Hunger is a Bad Counselor". This type of reasoning implies that poverty causes delinquency and that economic depressions, therefore, bring more juvenile problems. When this method of thinking has been reduced still further it simply means that poor people's children commit more delinquent acts than the children of people better situated. Actually there is no evidence to prove that poor children commit more offenses than other children. It is true that more poor children do come before the courts and do enter the training schools in the country, but it should not be overlooked that children from better homes may have parents who have other means of taking care of their children, either to keep them out of trouble or to help them when they do become involved. Another point which has become apparent in the past few years is that a larger proportion of boys causing trouble in local communities are no longer the children of poor parents but in some cases from families which cannot be classified as "poor".

Prior to the Great Depression of the Thirties it has been assumed that depressions always increase delinquency. Careful investigations during the years of 1930 through 1938 have shown that delinquency did not increase during the "hard times" of the Great Depression. Actually in some areas the amount of delinquency among young children decreased. It is true that petty crimes among boys 17 and 18 years of age did increase but not for all children. A recent investigation made by S.S. and E.E. Glueck on the careers of 500 delinquent and 500 non-delinquent boys (Unravelling Juvenile Delinquency, 1951) showed that the main differences between the two groups was not that there was a difference in the economic standings of boys but that their home life differed significantly. All of this leads to the conclusion that poor surroundings may be a part of the social background of a boy but it cannot be said with any certainty that poverty is the cause of delinquency.

2. World War II and Delinquency

All available evidence points definitely to that fact that juvenile delinquency increased during the years of World War II in every country involved in

the war. Military activities and industrial mobilization of the nations dislocated large numbers of people for a relatively long period of time. War in itself may not be the cause for the rise in delinquency but the social circumstances brought about by the war did bring an increase in juvenile offenses. Almost without exception every large city and many smaller communities found that they had a juvenile problem on hand during the years of 1941 through 1945. In most instances the people in these areas became so aware of the conditions that many of them set up youth programs to deal with the problem. Delinquency became a real and genuine problem during the war.

3. Rural and Urban Delinquency

All known evidence in the United States reveals that delinquency has been and still is higher in urban than in rural areas. Some people have maintained that the low rates in rural areas are due to the fact that delinquent acts are not reported as they are in urban areas. However, there are as many unreported cases in the city as there are in the country sections. It is not a matter of reporting or more attention by the police. Again, some persons have assumed that the high rates in the cities may be due to that fact that cities are more prone to make all

or most delinquent acts "official" where as rural areas may have the same problems but the cases are treated "unofficially", or out of court. Here again there is no evidence to support this contention. City courts do hear unofficial cases and in many instances the local authorities handle a large number of delinquent acts which never come to the attention of the court because some understanding policeman has had the wisdom to handle the situation on his "beat" without referring the matter to the court. Therefore, the difference cannot be explained in terms of "good or bad" reporting. The basic reasons for the low rural rates is due to a number of known social differences which exist between the life patterns of rural and urban peoples.

1. Rural families as families are much more closely bound together than urban families.
2. The division of work on a farm requires that the children share in the work of the family whereas the city child seldom has much work that is home centered. If he works he most likely works outside the home. This tends to separate family life and work patterns.

3. The recreational habits of city children take them out of the home into more non-family recreational centers. In the rural areas recreation is a family concern. It is true that in recent years the rural youth have been going outside their family and own community for recreation but in as much as this has occurred there has been a real increase in delinquency among the rural youth.
4. There are more opportunities for delinquency in the city than in the country because of increased social activity. In addition the social control in a city is much less than it is in the rural areas. Also the isolation of the city allows each person to do much as he pleases.
5. Because adult crime is higher in the city than it is in the country there is more opportunity for the city child to acquire delinquent habits.
6. Records also reveal that where rural boys have become involved in delinquent acts these have almost always occurred in or near a larger community or city.

7. It is a known fact that divorces are much higher in cities than in rural areas. The shattered home is directly related to the amount of delinquency in a given area.
8. Some welfare people have assumed that the better welfare programs in the cities make it possible for them to uncover much more delinquency which would otherwise go unnoticed if there had been no worker in the area. The assumption is built on the idea that if rural areas had more social workers they too would uncover delinquency that now goes unnoticed. The fact that cities do have welfare workers and that rural areas do not, or very few, indicates that social problems are more serious in city areas than in rural areas. Rural people do have problems but they do not have as many problems among their youth which require police or court action. If the differences in the numbers and rates of delinquent acts in the rural and urban areas are to be explained these must be explained in terms of the social differences which exist between two patterns of life. The problem of delinquency, therefore, is a part of the total life pattern of people.

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