

Module 05: 1968 — A Generation in Revolt?

Evidence 34: Statistics: Riot Data From the Walker Report

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Introduction

Due to the brutality of the events in Chicago, a commission was established to investigate what happened and to draft an official report, which became known as the Walker report. The report presented considerable testimony on the events and statistics collected about the violence.

Questions to Consider

- What can we learn from the statistics?
- What conclusions can we draw?
- How can you explain the disparity between the number of police injured and the number of demonstrators treated at hospitals?
- What can we surmise from the ages and occupations of those arrested?

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Injury	Count	Percentage
Hit by thrown objects	122	63.5%
Eyes burned by unknown chemicals	13	6.8%
Injured making arrest	12	6.3%
Kicked	10	5.2%
Injured in crowd control	10	5.2%
Struck	6	3.1%
Assaulted by crowd	4	2.1%
Knocked to ground	4	2.1%
Human bites	4	2.1%
Assaulted leaving vehicle	2	1.0%
Eyes gouged	1	0.5%
Thrown in front of police van	1	0.5%
Struck by bus	1	0.5%
Stab wound	1	0.5%
Fingernail scratches	1	0.5%
Total	192	100.0%

	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Unkn.
Lincoln Park	9	11	—	5	4	—
Grant Park	—	1	—	28	6	—
18th & Michigan	—	—	—	—	6	—
Misc. & Unknown	—	—	1	12	5	13
TOTAL	9	12	1	45	21	13

Age	Arrested	Percentage of Total
17 and Under	64	9.6%
18 - 20	221	33.1%
21 - 25	221	33.1%
26 and Over	157	23.5%
Not Reported	5	0.8%
Total	668	100.0%

Occupation	Arrested	Percentage of Total
Employed	287	43.0%
Student	218	32.6%
Unemployed	133	19.9%
Not Reported	30	4.5%
Total	668	100.0%

Source: Walker, Daniel, *Rights in Conflict: Chicago's 7 Brutal Days* (New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1968).