

**City of Youngstown Police Department's
Weed and Seed Strategy
Year Four Evaluation Report**

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Introduction

The Center for Human Services Development at Youngstown State University was contracted by the Youngstown Police Department to conduct a program evaluation of the Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy. The purpose of the evaluation is to provide data for those involved with the Weed and Seed Strategy in order to determine the overall strengths and weaknesses of the program.

The goals of the Weed and Seed Strategy consisted of four categories:

Law enforcement- The goal of law enforcement included reducing the high incidence of crimes related to drug use, eliminating substandard housing, and eliminating the high homicide rate.

Community policing- The goal of community policing was reducing apathy among residents and eliminating the fear of crime in the target area.

Prevention, intervention, and treatment- The goal of prevention, intervention, and treatment involved offering educational experiences, reducing the incidents of substance abuse, and providing constructive activities for youth.

Neighborhood restoration- The goal of neighborhood restoration included reversing the trend towards neighborhood decline and eliminating blight.

Methodology

The current evaluation consists of information related to the Weed and Seed Strategy, such as crime rates, housing records, and youth programs, which has been collected and compared to baseline data from the previous three years of the program. This data has been collected in order to determine if the Weed and Seed Strategy has reached its outline goals for the fourth year of the program and if improvements have been made since the implementation of the program.

The evaluation also consists of surveying the residents and businesses in the target area in order to assess their views of crime and safety on the South Side of Youngstown. The survey's goals included the following:

1. An assessment of the business and community awareness concerning crime within

the target area.

2. An assessment of Weed and Seed's activities and projects.
3. An assessment of law enforcement services provided by the city within the target area.

The results of the 2003 community and business surveys will be compared to the survey results from the three previous years in order to determine a change in the community's views.

Weed and Seed Partnerships-Linkages

The Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy continues to make partnerships and linkages in order to successfully reach the goals of the program. The following are the partners made through Weed and Seed.

Law Enforcement

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- United States Attorney's Office
- Mahoning Valley Violent Crimes Task Force
- Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
- Adult Parole Authority
- Mahoning County Drug Task Force
- Youngstown City Prosecutor's Office
- Housing Code Enforcement and Demolition
- Youngstown Board of Education
- Juvenile Justice Center
- Elkton Federal Correctional Institution
- U.S. Department of Justice
- Youngstown Police Department
- U.S. Marshall's Office

Community Policing

- Tri State Regional Community Policing Institute
- Mayor's Task Force on Crime and Violence Prevention
- S.I.D. Block Watch
- Sheridan Block Watch
- Fosterville Block Watch
- Four Square Block Watch
- Judson Citizens Watch
- Judson Oval Block Watch

- Southern Boulevard Block Watch
- Indian Village Block Watch
- Lansingville Block Watch
- CPR Block Watch
- YPD Juvenile Diversion
- Solid Rock Church
- Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- Martin Luther Lutheran Church
- St. Dominic's Church
- Nemenz's Food Store
- OCCHA
- Youngstown Rotary

Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment

- Girl Scouts of Lake to River
- Martin Luther Lutheran Church
- OSU Extension/Jubilee Gardens
- Youngstown Board of Education
- Youngstown Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program
- Holy Trinity Missionary Baptist
- Uptown Kiwanis
- Jorgine's Deli
- Boy Scouts of Greater Western Reserve Council
- Kid's Grieve Too
- Prevention Partners Plus
- Youngstown Vindicator Newspapers-In-Education
- Neil Kennedy Recovery Clinic
- Lutheran Brotherhood

Neighborhood Restoration

- Seventh Ward Citizen's Coalition
- Jubilee Gardens
- The Himrod Company
- CCA Rehabilitation
- Youngstown Housing Code Enforcement
- Community Development Agency
- Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber of Commerce

Leverage Resources

- Jorgine's Deli
- Girl Scouts of Lake to River
- Uptown Paint
- Home Savings and Loan
- U.S. Attorney's Office

- Youngstown City Council
- Martin Luther Lutheran Church
- The *Vindicator* Newspaper-In-Education Program
- Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management
- Jubilee Gardens - Ohio State University Extension
- Economic Development Department - City of Youngstown
- Youngstown City Housing Department
- Nemenz Food Stores
- CCA Education and Rehabilitation
- YSU Police Department
- Youngstown Housing Code Enforcement and Demolition
- A.C.T.I.O.N.
- Youngstown City Schools Security Department
- South Avenue Merchants Association
- Mayor's Task Force on Crime and Violence Prevention
- The Golden Gazette/YPD
- Greater Youngstown Crime Stoppers
- Sheridan Elementary School
- YSU Center for Human Services Development
- Youngstown Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program, Inc.
- Ohio Crime Prevention Association
- Mahoning County Distributing Agency

Year Four Weed and Seed Strategy Highlights

Law Enforcement

- Since the implementation of the Weed and Seed Strategy in 2000, the Youngstown Police Department (YPD) has seen a 55.3% reduction in the annual number of drug complaints in the target area.
- Since 2002, there has been a 65.7% increase in the number of YPD Vice Squad drug buys made in the target area as a result of investigations funded by grant money.
- Operating out of the satellite office located in the target area, the Adult Parole Authority conducted 2,339 spot checks in 2003.
- The Weed and Seed area was designated as part of the V-GRIP program, resulting in aggressive local, state, and federal law enforcement investigations in the target area.
- Since the Strategy's implementation, the overall crime rate has been reduced by 9.6% in the Weed and Seed target area.

Community Policing

- Eleven block watches are active in the target area and have formed the Association of South Side Block Watches.
- Mini-grants were made available to target area block watches. Funded projects include purchasing flashlights, trees, trash cans, and American flags.

Prevention/Intervention/Treatment

- In 2003, 145 target area youth participated in after school programs, a 40.7% increase over the previous year.
- Two hundred thirty one target area youth participated in three Weed and Seed sponsored summer camps in 2003.

Neighborhood Restoration

- The Youngstown Demolition Department completed 39 demolitions in target area during 2003. Since the implementation of the strategy, 229 homes have been demolished.
- Eight neighborhood clean-ups were completed in the target area by block watches.

Law Enforcement Goals

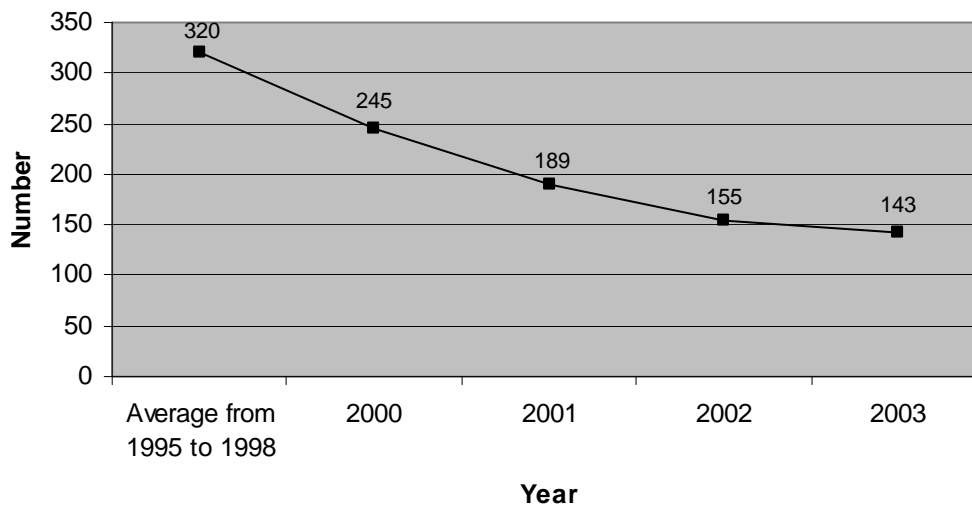
Goal 1

Reduce the number of dealers and drug house complaints by 5% in year 2003.

Number of drug complaints in the target area

Figure 1

Annual Number of Drug Complaints in the Target Area



Source: Youngstown Police Department

The average number of drug complaints a year within the Weed and Seed target area from 1995 to 1998 was 320. During the first year of the Weed and Seed Strategy's implementation, drug complaints were reduced to 245. Only 189 complaints were made in 2001. In 2002, the number of drug complaints decreased to 155. This marked a 51.6% reduction after the first three years. In 2003, the number of drug complaints was further reduced to 143. This is a decline of 7.7% in the number of reported drug complaints in the Weed and Seed target area between 2002 and 2003. Since the Weed and Seed Strategy, the Youngstown Police Department has seen a 55.3% reduction in the target area.

Number of investigations and arrests in target area

Collaborations were created in order to attack the drug problem in the Weed and Seed target area. The following list contains the federal, state, county, and local agencies involved in the collaborations:

- Adult Parole Authority
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Mahoning County Juvenile Office
- Mahoning County Prosecutor’s Office
- U.S. Attorney’s Office
- U.S. Marshall
- Youngstown City Schools
- Youngstown Code Enforcement and Demolition
- Youngstown Police Department
- Youngstown Probation Department

Youngstown Police Department

Table 1

**Youngstown Police Department
Weed and Seed Drug Investigations**

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Vice Unit Investigations with Grant Money				
Drug teams scheduled	30	21	24	41
Drug buy attempts made	152	105	142	197
Drug buys made	46	48	70	116
Vice Squad and Patrol Division Investigations				
Under cover buys in target area	108	83	97	102
Vice squad searches in target area	70	161	17	35
Drug raids in target area	19	21	27	30
Vice/patrol related arrests in target area	625	483	433	468

Source: Youngstown Police Department

A team of Youngstown Police Department vice officers was assigned to address the drug house complaints in the Weed and Seed target area. During 2002, 24 drug teams were scheduled to conduct drug buys in the target area. As shown in Table 1, the number of drug teams scheduled increased to 41 in 2003. The team attempted 197 drug buys in 2003, with 116 resulting in successful narcotics purchases. There was a 65.7% increase in the number of successful drug buys since 2002.

The vice squad and patrol division of the Youngstown Police Department also conducted many drug investigations in the Weed and Seed target area during 2003. These units, using city funding, conducted 102 undercover drug buys. The vice squad conducted 35 searches and carried out 30 drug raids. In 2003, the vice squad and patrol division made 468 vice related arrests in the target area. The number of vice related arrests in 2003 continues to be below the number prior to the implementation of the Weed and Seed Strategy.

The Youngstown Police Department continued “knock and talks” in the Weed and Seed target area in 2003. The vice squad conducted this strategy in order to investigate alleged drug houses reported by citizens. The officers knocked on the door of the suspected drug house and asked the occupant for consent to search the home. In 2001, 43 “knock and talks” were conducted, which resulted in the arrest of eight individuals. In 2002, “knock and talks” were conducted on 33 homes, resulting in 16 arrests. During these operations, two homes were tagged for housing violations and two marijuana grow lights, seven marijuana plants, drug paraphernalia, oxycontin, and crack cocaine were seized. In 2003, 4 “knock and talks” were scheduled, resulting in the search of 23 homes and 10 arrests. Reasons for arrest included drug trafficking, mishandling a firearm, liquor violations, and cultivating marijuana. Seven Southside Soldier Gang members were interviewed in their homes with parents present.

The Vice Bureau was responsible for conducting sting operations on local liquor establishments located in the Weed and Seed target area. The bureau received numerous complaints from residents regarding the sale of alcohol to underage youths. The operations involved sending underage adults into liquor establishments to purchase alcohol. If an illegal purchase was made, the officers arrested the sales person for selling alcohol to a minor. In 2002, a total of four businesses in the target area were cited for selling alcohol and cigarettes to minors.

In 2003, the Vice Bureau conducted a prostitution sting in the Weed and Seed target area. Eight males were arrested for soliciting sex from an undercover officer. One subject was arrested for felony receiving stolen property and another for child endangering. Three females were arrested for loitering for prostitution.

Table 2

Youngstown Police Department Saturation Patrols

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Arrests/Citations				
Total Individuals Arrested	261	168	178	209
Adults	NA	154	165	195
Juveniles	NA	14	13	14
Type of Crime				
Felonies	NA	37	36	43
Misdemeanors	NA	216	199	250
Minor Misdemeanors	209	154	132	57
Citations	NA	546	277	432
Parking Tickets	NA	293	167	288
Weapon Seized				
Handguns	20	18	14	14
Shotguns	2	1	0	2
Rifles	1	0	0	0
Knives	0	2	0	1
Narcotics Seized				
Powder Cocaine (grams)	5	0	0	1.6
Crack Cocaine (ounces)	2.7	6.5	1.8	2.2
Heroin (packs)	49	0	0	0
Marijuana (pounds)	11	1.6	3.5	0.7
Other				
Investigative Stops (traffic stops)	511	687	516	553
Field Interviews (pedestrian stops)	456	394	288	225
Stolen Vehicles Recovered	13	9	4	4
Towed Vehicles	88	89	100	118

Source: Youngstown Police Department

The Youngstown Police Department continued to conduct saturation patrols in the target area during the fourth year of the Weed and Seed Strategy. The officers were responsible for reducing drug sales on street corners and addressing problems reported by the block watches. In 2001, there were 92 saturation patrol teams scheduled, while 72 were scheduled in 2002. A smaller number of saturation patrols were conducted during 2002 due to the steering committee's decision to continue saturation patrol funding into the next fiscal year. Thus, 98 saturation patrols were scheduled in 2003.

During 2003, 209 arrests were made as a result of the saturation patrols, with 195 adults and 14 juveniles. There were 43 felonies and 250 misdemeanors observed by saturation patrol teams. A total of 14 handguns, 2 shotguns, and 2.2 ounces of crack cocaine

were seized during the 2003 saturation patrols. Other items seized and citations given out by saturation patrols since the implementation of the Weed and Seed Strategy are listed on the previous page in Table 2. Other confiscations during the 2003 saturation patrols include drug paraphernalia, liquor, and \$1,250 in U.S. currency.

In 2002, two new Youngstown Police Department bicycle patrols were initiated as part of the community policing effort to reduce drug activity in the Weed and Seed target area. The unit conducted 31 house inspections on suspected drug houses. The officers issued summons to individuals loitering on the streets and reported suspected drug activity to the Vice Bureau. In the first half of 2002, the unit reported seven drug houses to the Vice Bureau. The unit also assisted the Vice Bureau with four “knock and talks” and monitored the homes activity levels after inspections were made. Unfortunately, the bike unit was transferred back to the Youngstown Police Department Patrol Division in mid 2002.

Collaborations with Local Task Force

The drug problem in the Weed and Seed target area was also attacked by the investigations of major drug dealers operating in the area. This was accomplished by utilizing the investigative efforts of the federal, state, and county law enforcement Weed and Seed partners. In 2001, the Mahoning County Drug Task Force (MCDTF) was responsible for opening 33 cases in the target area. During 2002, the task force opened 12 cases and, in the spring of 2002, the MCDTF closed two major drug operations. The FBI Gang Unit indicted eight individuals in the Weed and Seed target area for conspiracy to distribute cocaine. Also in 2002, the local DEA office conducted an investigation into a regional cocaine distribution enterprise. Over 7.5 kilos of cocaine, with a street value of 2.5 million dollars, were seized in the target area. As a result, seven individuals were indicted for conspiring to possess with intent to distribute cocaine. The MCDTF opened 13 cases in the target area during 2003. Also, the Mahoning Valley Violent Crimes Task Force arrested 18 fugitives and conducted 62 investigative stops/fugitive searches in the target area last year.

Adult Parole Authority

In 2002, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation opened an Adult Parole Authority (APA) satellite office in the Weed and Seed target area. This satellite office, the first of its kind in the state, is responsible for monitoring one geographic location. One supervisor and three parole officers are assigned to the satellite office and they are responsible for monitoring the 220 probationers and parolees living in the area. The majority of the paroles released in the Weed and Seed neighborhoods are convicted drug offenders. The APA is working with the law enforcement subcommittee to address the drug activity in the area.

Table 3

Adult Parole Authority Activity in the Weed and Seed Area

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Saturation patrol participation	28	NA	12	NA
Office checks	NA	NA	NA	2,002
Home spot checks	1,133	543	501	2,339
Liquor establishment checks	NA	NA	11	NA
Tested for alcohol/drugs	NA	NA	52	763
Arrests/Violations				
Sanctioned/Arrested for parole violations	27	21	15	172
Arrested for new charges	18	NA	NA	NA
Items seized				
Handguns	NA	4	2	NA
Marijuana	NA	NA	2.5 lbs	NA

Source: Youngstown Police Department

Over the past four years, the APA has conducted numerous checks on parolees and probationers living in the Weed and Seed area. In 2000, APA officers conducted 1,133 home spot checks, which resulted in 27 individuals being arrested or sanctioned for parole violations and 18 individuals being arrested for new charges. During the following year, 543 spot checks were conducted. Twenty-one individuals were sanctioned or arrested for parole violations and four handguns were seized. In 2002, officers conducted 501 home spot checks and 11 liquor establishment checks. They also conducted 52 tests for drugs or alcohol and arrested 15 paroles for violations. A total of two handguns and two and one half pounds of marijuana were seized. During 2003, while located in the new satellite office, officers conducted 2,002 office checks, 2,339 home spot checks, and 463 drug/alcohol tests. One hundred seventy two individuals were sanctioned and/or arrested for parole violations last year.

With the groundbreaking partnership between Weed and Seed and the Adult Parole Authority, the Mahoning County Juvenile Probation Department has placed six part-time probation officers in the Adult Parole Authority satellite office. These juvenile probation officers will be responsible for monitoring juveniles put on house arrest or stringent supervision.

U.S. Attorney and Mahoning County Prosecutor's Offices

The U.S. Attorney and Mahoning County Prosecutor's offices have been working together to address the drug issue in the Weed and Seed target area. In 2000, the Mahoning County prosecutor indicted 14 individuals for drug related cases. Within the first six months of 2001, the prosecutor indicted 37 individuals.

The U.S. Attorney's office initiated seven cases during the first six months of 2001, resulting in three convictions. In 2002, the federal prosecutor indicted 12 individuals for distributing crack cocaine, heroin, and oxycontin and for illegal possession of a firearm. Seven individuals were indicted in federal court during 2003.

The Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy strengthened its relationship with the U.S. Attorney's Office after the appointment of the new U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. His office is responsible for the implementation of the V-GRIP program in Youngstown in an effort to reduce gun violence. The Youngstown Police Chief designated the Weed and Seed area as part of the V-GRIP program in June 2003. V-GRIP is a local, state, and federal partnership, involving the U.S. Attorney's Office, FBI, U.S. Marshall's Office, Adult Parole Authority, and the ATF, aimed at reducing gun violence in targeted areas through added law enforcement investigations. The program resulted in 369 arrests, 61 firearm seizures, 212 traffic investigations, 79 citations issued to drivers, 25 court summonses, 28 minor misdemeanors for loud music, 10 homes red tagged for code violations, and the seizure of over \$12,000 in U.S currency.

The U.S. Attorney's office also assisted the Youngstown Police Department in receiving an award from the Department of Justice for Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN).

PSN will assist the Weed and Seed Strategy in removing gun offenders from the city streets. The Northern District of Ohio U.S. Marshall initiated a task force to apprehend fugitives in the area using PSN funds. The task force's main goal is to reduce violence in the city by apprehending felons before they commit another crime.

Goal 2

Increase the number of housing code investigations by 10% in a six block target area determined by need.

Number of house inspections and housing code violations cited

In 2000, the Youngstown Housing Inspection Department canvassed the entire 72 street Weed and Seed target area. The purpose was to determine the scope of the substandard housing problem within the target area. For that year, inspectors identified 712 homes that were in need of major repairs in order to comply with city code. The inspectors also issued 110 citations to homeowners who had not complied with improvement letters that were sent to the homes.

In 2001, the Weed Coordinator and Housing Department decided to focus on specific neighborhoods within the Weed and Seed target area. The plan to focus on a smaller area was developed in order to make the inspection, follow-up work, and monitoring more manageable for the city inspectors. The Housing Inspector targeted a six-block area in the middle of the Weed and Seed area because of the amount of drug complaints and visible housing code violations. In May of that year, a sweep was conducted and over 89 homes were designated as needing repairs or debris removed. The homeowners were sent improvement letters. Eleven homes were identified as needing torn down and 9 of these were razed by the end of the year. Of the remaining homes, 54 homeowners complied with the letter and 33 were cited for not complying with the warnings.

In the spring of 2002, the Housing Department re-canvassed the entire Weed and Seed target area. The housing survey resulted in 312 homes being identified with housing code violations. This was a large decrease from the 2000 housing inspections that resulted in 712 homes containing housing violations. Since 2000, there was a 56.0% decrease in the number

of violations within the Weed and Seed area. Inspectors issued a total of 66 summonses to homeowners in the area. In 2002, the Housing Department razed 40 homes, one home was razed by the private owner, and an additional 24 structures were contracted by the end of the year to be razed. Six homes were on the emergency demolition list and 19 homes were on the possible demolition list.

Also in 2002, the Weed and Seed housing task force chose a focus area west of last years target area. The neighborhood is located between Market Street, West Indianola, Hillman, and West Midlothian Boulevard. On July 3, 2002, the joint police/housing task force conducted a sweep of the area in order to identify housing code infractions. The Housing Department issued 20 summonses, razed three homes, and contracted three homes to be razed by the end of the year.

In 2003, the housing task force decided to focus on the area near the Weed and Seed Safe Haven. The boundaries of the area include Hillman St., W. Ravenwood Ave., Hudson Ave., and W. Boston Ave. This area was chosen due to the renovations being completed on the Sheridan Elementary School building as part of the \$160 million the Youngstown City Schools received to rebuild and renovate the district. Four meetings were held in 2003 to develop a strategy to deal with the problem. The task force identified that 65% of the homes in the area were rental properties. A street survey was conducted and 395 homes were identified with code violations. The housing department sent out 791 notices advising the homeowners and landlords to correct the housing code deficiencies. As a result of the inspections, the housing department razed 42 structures and the housing enforcement officer issued 20 summonses to individual home owners and landlords for not correcting code violations.

Goal 3

Identify violent offenders and remove them from the target area.

Calls for service in the target area

The Youngstown Police Department continued to receive a large number of calls for service from the Weed and Seed target area. In 2003, the department received 97,066 calls

Table 4

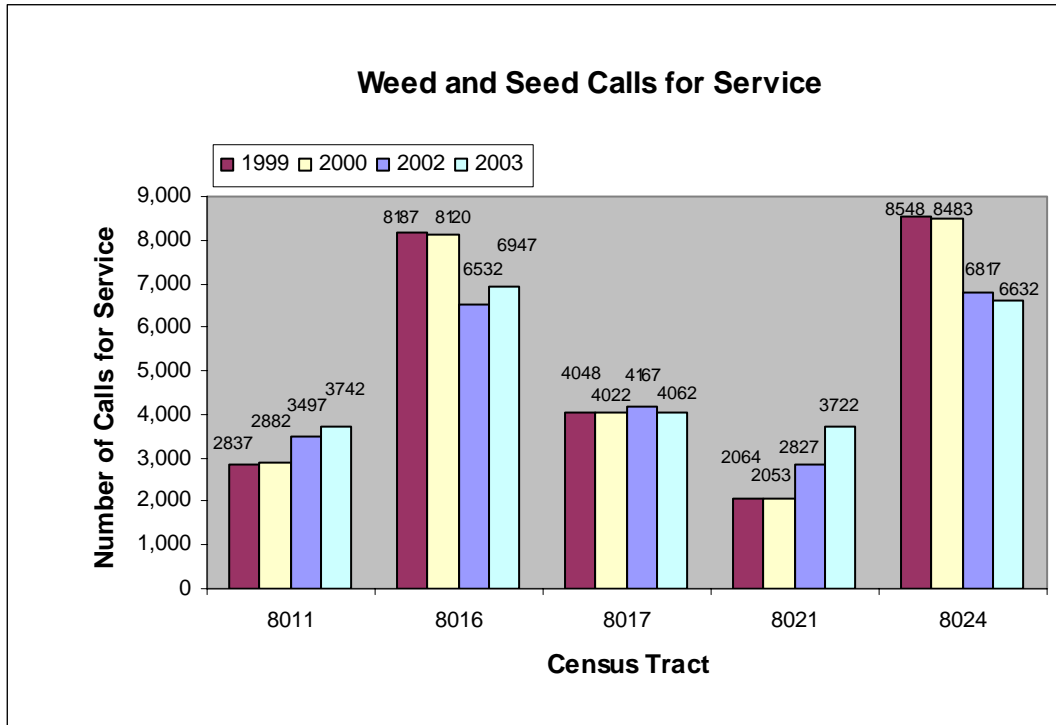
Youngstown Police Department Calls for Service

	Average 1995-1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
City Wide Total	126,716	98,322	99,357	95,297	97,066
Weed and Seed Target Area	25,343	25,746	28,869	23,840	25,105
Percent of City Wide Total	20.0%	26.2%	29.0%	25.0%	25.9%

Source: Youngstown Police Department

for service from the entire city. As shown in Table 4, residents of the Weed and Seed area placed one-fourth (25.9%) of those calls. The calls for service in the entire target area increased by 5.3% between 2002 and 2003.

Figure 2



Source: Youngstown Police Department
 *2001 Calls for Service unavailable

The Weed and Seed target area consists of five census tracts. According to Figure 2, on the previous page, the Youngstown Police Department has seen a decline in the calls for service in two of these tracts, 8016 and 8024, since the implementation of the Weed and Seed Strategy. Another two tracts, 8011 and 8021, had an increase in the number of calls for service between 2000 and 2003. One census tract, 8017, has had a relatively unchanged number of calls for service since the strategy's implementation.

Number of crimes in the target area

Table 5, on the following page, indicates the number of FBI Uniform Crime Reports Index Crimes committed in the Weed and Seed target area from 1995 to 2003. The Index Crimes include murder, rape, robbery, burglary, theft, vehicle theft, and aggravated assault. According to the table, there was a reduction in all index crimes except larceny/theft when comparing the 1995 to 1999 average with the 2000 to 2003 average. Overall, the number of crimes committed in the Weed and Seed target area has decreased by 9.6% since the implementation of the strategy.

Table 5
Crimes Committed in the Youngstown Weed and Seed Target Area

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Average 1995-1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Average 2000-2003	Percent Change*
Murder/Homicide	13	12	11	11	6	11	10	10	7	1	7	-36.4%
Rape	6	5	14	8	5	8	4	9	6	6	6	-25.0%
Robbery	92	72	76	66	69	75	56	72	48	34	53	-29.3%
Burglary	368	273	391	513	319	387	401	353	380	386	380	-1.8%
Larceny/Theft	293	319	368	378	383	348	368	377	353	373	368	5.7%
Vehicle Theft	322	332	263	325	303	309	262	247	188	227	231	-25.2%
Aggravated Assault	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	58	42	54	31	20	37	-36.2%
Totals	1,094	1,013	1,112	1,300	1,157	1,196	1,143	1,122	1,013	1,047	1,081	-9.6%

Source: Youngstown Police Department

*Compares the five year average prior to the Weed and Seed Strategy to that of the three year average since its implementation.

Table 6

**Percent Change in Crimes Committed
in the Youngstown Weed and Seed Target Area**

	Crimes reported 2000	Crimes reported 2001	Percent change from 2000	Crimes reported 2002	Percent change from 2001	Crimes reported 2003	Percent change from 2002
Murder/Homicide	10	10	0.0%	7	-30.0%	1	-85.7%
Rape	4	9	125.0%	6	-33.3%	6	0.0%
Robbery	56	72	28.6%	48	-33.3%	34	-29.2%
Burglary	401	353	-12.0%	380	7.6%	386	1.6%
Larceny/Theft	368	378	2.7%	353	-6.6%	373	5.7%
Vehicle Theft	262	247	-5.7%	188	-23.9%	227	20.7%
Aggravated Assault	42	54	28.6%	31	-42.6%	20	-35.5%
Totals	1,143	1,123	-1.7%	1,013	-9.8%	1,047	3.4%

Source: Youngstown Police Department

Table 6 compares the number of crimes committed in the Weed and Seed target area during the first four years of the strategy. The total Index Crimes committed increased by 3.4% between 2002 and 2003. The burglary, larceny/theft, and vehicle theft rates increased during the same time, while the murder, robbery, and aggravated assault rates decreased. The number of rates committed remained unchanged between 2002 and 2003.

Table 7

**Crimes Committed in the Youngstown Weed and Seed
Target Area by Census Tract (2003)**

	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Murder/Homicide	0	0	1	0	0
Rape	2	1	1	1	1
Robbery	2	9	3	6	14
Burglary	49	91	69	51	126
Larceny/Theft	78	108	61	34	92
Vehicle Theft	48	60	40	21	58
Aggravated Assault	4	6	1	3	6
Totals	183	275	176	116	297

Source: Youngstown Police Department

Table 7 indicates the number of crimes committed in 2003 within the Youngstown Weed and Seed target area by census tract. Census tract 8024 contained the highest number of crimes and census tract 8016 had the second highest total crimes committed. The lowest number of crimes was committed in tract 8021.

The percent of crimes in the city of Youngstown that are committed in the Weed and Seed target area continues to be high since the implementation of the Strategy. According to Table 8, on the following page, 18.3% of crimes committed in 2000 were in the target area. This number increased to 19.4% the following year. In 2002, the percent of city crimes committed in the target area was reduced to 17.3%, the lowest since the beginning of the Strategy. Yet, the percent increased again to 18.7% in 2003.

Table 8

Crimes Committed in Youngstown City Compared to the Weed and Seed Target Area

	<u>2000</u>			<u>2001</u>			<u>2002</u>			<u>2003</u>		
	Youngstown City	Weed and Seed Area	Percent in Weed and Seed Area	Youngstown City	Weed and Seed Area	Percent in Weed and Seed Area	Youngstown City	Weed and Seed Area	Percent in Weed and Seed Area	Youngstown City	Weed and Seed Area	Percent in Weed and Seed Area
Murder/Homicide	32	10	31.3%	34	10	29.4%	33	7	21.2%	19	1	5.3%
Rape	40	4	10.0%	52	9	17.3%	54	6	11.1%	60	6	10.0%
Robbery	358	56	15.6%	355	72	20.3%	298	48	16.1%	286	34	11.9%
Burglary	1,972	401	20.3%	1,718	353	20.5%	1,832	380	20.7%	1,763	386	21.9%
Larceny/Theft	2,707	368	13.6%	2,695	378	14.0%	2,631	353	13.4%	2,568	373	14.5%
Vehicle Theft	650	262	40.3%	441	247	56.0%	493	188	38.1%	502	227	45.2%
Aggravated Assault	487	42	8.6%	507	54	10.7%	512	31	6.1%	388	20	5.2%
Totals	6,246	1,143	18.3%	5,802	1,123	19.4%	5,853	1,013	17.3%	5,586	1,047	18.7%

Source: Youngstown Police Department

Table 9

Percent Change in Crimes Committed in the Youngstown

	Crimes reported 2000	Crimes reported 2001	Percent change from 2000	Crimes reported 2002	Percent change from 2001	Crimes reported 2003	Percent change from 2002
Violent Crime*							
City of Youngstown	917	948	3.4%	897	-5.4%	753	-16.1%
Weed and Seed	112	145	29.5%	92	-36.6%	61	-33.7%
Property Crime**							
City of Youngstown	5,329	4,854	-8.9%	4,956	2.1%	4,883	-1.5%
Weed and Seed	1,031	978	-5.1%	912	-6.7%	986	8.1%

Source: Youngstown Police Department

*Violent Crime includes murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assaults.

**Property Crime includes burglary, thefts, and vehicle thefts.

During the first four years of the Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy the number of violent and property crimes in the city and target area have changed. According to Table 9, the number of violent crimes in the City of Youngstown and the Weed and Seed target area has decreased since 2001. In 2003, the number of property crimes decreased in Youngstown by 1.5% from the previous year, while the number committed in the Weed and Seed target area increased by 8.1%.

Table 10

Youngstown Weed and Seed Law Enforcement Reporting

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Youngstown Police Department				
Blue Division arrests in target area	773	854	1,717	1,876
Total arrests in target area	1,398	1,337	2,150	NA
Mahoning County Violent Crimes Task Force				
Arrest of fugitives in the target area	35	52	37	18
Investigative stops and fugitive searches	117	142	112	62

Source: Youngstown Police Department

The Youngstown Police Department and Weed and Seed law enforcement collaborative partners continue to identify violent offenders within the target area. Table 10 compares the law enforcement reporting for the first three years of the Weed and Seed Strategy. The number of Youngstown Police Department Blue Division arrests in the target

area has continued to increase since the implementation of the Strategy. The Mahoning County Violent Crimes Task Force arrested 37 fugitives in the target area in 2002. They also conducted 112 investigative stops and fugitive searches that same year. The Violent Crimes Task Force arrested 18 fugitives in the target area and conducted 62 investigative stops and fugitive searches in 2003. As mentioned previously, the Adult Parole authority remains committed to reducing crime in the Weed and Seed target area through probation and parolee checks.

Community Policing Goals

Goal 1

Increase public involvement in problem solving in the target area.

Number of active block watch organizations

As of December 2003, there were eleven active block watches in the Weed and Seed target area. They are the following:

- SID Block Watch
- Sheridan Block Watch
- Langsingville Block Watch
- CPR Block Watch
- Fosterville Block Watch
- Southern Boulevard Block Watch
- Indian Village Block Watch
- The LaBelle Crusaders
- Judson Oval Block Watch
- Four Square Block Watch
- The Dream Team

The block watch presidents were surveyed for their opinions of the Weed and Seed Strategy. Three of the eleven presidents returned the survey. Their responses were compared to those from the previous years. The findings can be found in Appendix Three.

The Weed and Seed block watch presidents formed the Association of South Side Block Watches early in 2003. The group also includes block watches outside of the Weed and Seed area. They have defined their purpose as follows:

1. To help establish and mentor new block watches.
2. To provide an open forum for block watches to share ideas and communicate with each other to become more effective in solving problems.
3. To bring block watches together in a united effort to address issues which affect the South Side, and therefore effect the whole city.
4. To speak with one voice that represents many citizens.
5. To improve the quality of life in our city.

Mini-grants in the amount of \$500 were made available to the area block watches by the Weed and Seed steering committee in 2003. Approved projects include:

- **SID Block Watch** purchased flashlights and spotlights for residents who patrol the area. Flashing porch light bulbs were provided to residents because they assist emergency workers with locating addresses.
- **Indian Village Block Watch** used their funds to purchase trees as part of a beautification project.
- **Fosterville Block Watch** will purchase address numbers for houses that are not currently marked.
- **Labelle Crusaders Block Watch** will provide every home on the street a trash can with a copy of the city trash ordinance included.
- **The Dream Team** will purchase American flags as part of the beautification effort.
- **Sheridan Block Watch** used the funds to purchase T-shirts for the National Night Out.

Number of residents on the Weed and Seed Steering Committee

In 2000, 13 of 32 Weed and Seed Steering Committee Members were residents. Yet since 2000, city employees were exempted from serving as resident members of the committee. Thus in 2001, 9 of 25 (36.0%) were considered resident members. At the end of 2002, 8 of the 24 (33.3%) of the Weed and Seed Steering Committee Members were considered residents of the target area. During 2003, 7 of 24 (29.2%) members were residents.

Training Sessions for Block Watches

The Tri-State Regional Community Policing Institute presented two workshops in September of 2002. The first session, titled *Problem Solving with the Community*, focused on the importance of collaboration, strategies for organizing them, and the use of the SARA model in the problem solving process. The second session, *Mobilizing the Community*, focused on the process of engaging residents in problem solving through prevention and

intervention strategies. Twelve individuals represented six of the ten Weed and Seed Block Watches. An exit evaluation found that participants valued the presentation and would like to attend more workshops.

All Weed and Seed Block Watch Presidents were given engravers and booklets to be loaned to members of the community. The purpose of the program was for residents to engrave their possession with a unique marking and to enter their serial and model numbers into the booklets. Once the engraving was completed, the residents can put a card in their window notifying potential thieves that their possession could be identified. The goals of the program were crime prevention and for police to have the ability to identify stolen items.

In July 2003, a community meeting was held to explain the Adult Parole Authority Citizen Circle Project. APA administrative staff was in attendance to assist with the presentation which was made available to the community.

Goal 2

Reduce the fear of crime for individuals living in the target area.

Number of police assigned to the target area

During the initial phase of the Weed and Seed Strategy, the Youngstown Police Department assigned 18 officers to the target area in a 24-hour period. The number increased in 2001 to 20 officers. A bike patrol was initiated in the target area in early 2002. The bike patrol responded to various complaints, such as truancy, prostitution, and loud music. Unfortunately during 2002, the department was faced with severe budget cuts. In mid 2002, the bike patrols were no longer available. Although facing budget problems, four police beats are still in operation in the area. Seven officers are on patrol for the afternoon and night shifts, while four patrol the neighborhoods during the day.

The Youngstown Police Department officers often attend block watch meetings in order to address residents' concerns. During 2003, the police chief attended block watch meetings in order to inform residents about the V-GRIP program. The Weed and Site Coordinators presented a Weed and Seed update to the Southern Boulevard Block Watch in March 2003.

Activities aimed at reducing fear of crime

The Youngstown Weed and Seed participated in the city's National Night Out event on August 6, 2002. The coordinator prepared a display of activities and focused on preventing litter and cleaning up the community with giveaways from Keep America Beautiful. Youngstown Weed and Seed Brochures were also given out to explain the importance of block watches.

In 2002, the Steering Committee approved the purchase of safety beacons to distribute to residents of the target area. The emergency beacon is a light bulb that becomes a flashing signal to help emergency crews find addresses when responding to calls. A total of 200 light bulbs were distributed within weeks of the public announcement. An additional 250 bulbs have been purchased and are being distributed through block watch presidents and the site coordinator.

Community safety perception survey

In the fall of 2003, 4,445 surveys were mailed to residents of the Weed and Seed target area. Overall, 437 residents responded for a response rate of 9.8. The results of the 2003 survey were compared to those from the previous three years. The survey results can be found in Appendix One.

Prevention/Intervention/Treatment Goals

Goal 1

Offer a broad range of educational, recreational, and cultural experiences to children and families to increase participation in the education process.

Attendance rates for target area schools

Table 11

Youngstown City School Attendance Rates

School	2001-2002	2002-2003
State Standard	93.0%	
Elementary Schools		
Bennett Elementary School	92.3%	95.0%
Cleveland Elementary School	93.7%	94.1%
Harding Elementary School	94.2%	94.7%
Jackson Elementary School	92.7%	94.0%
Kirkmere Elementary School	94.8%	94.9%
Martin Luther Elementary School	92.5%	94.0%
Mary Haddow Elementary School	93.6%	94.8%
North Elementary School	93.4%	93.6%
Paul C. Bunn Elementary School	94.1%	94.9%
Sheridan Elementary School	92.7%	93.0%
Taft Elementary School	94.8%	95.0%
West Elementary School	92.9%	93.1%
Williamson Elementary School	93.7%	94.4%
Middle Schools		
Choffin Alternative School	87.8%	87.6%
East Middle School	92.0%	94.4%
Hayes Middle School	93.3%	93.7%
Hillman Middle School	88.5%	89.5%
Volney Rogers Junior High School	92.1%	92.9%
High Schools		
Chaney High School	90.2%	90.9%
Positive Connections High School	82.1%	80.2%
Rayen High School	89.8%	91.0%
Wilson High School	89.0%	89.8%

Source: Ohio Department of Education

There are four elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school in the Youngstown City School District which are located in the Weed and Seed target area. As shown in Table 11, all of the elementary schools in the target area, Cleveland, Sheridan, Taft,

and Williamson elementary schools, had attendance rates above the state standard of 93.0% during the 2002-2003 school year. Hillman Middle School and Wilson High School were close to the standard at 89.5% and 89.9%, respectively. All of the target area schools showed an improvement in their attendance rates between the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years.

The Youngstown Community School is located in close proximity to the Weed and Seed target area. The school's attendance rate for the 2002-2003 school year was 95.9%.

Proficiency scores in target area schools

Tables 12 through 14, on the following pages, show the proficiency test pass rates for all schools in the Youngstown City School District for the past three school years. The schools located within the Weed and Seed target area are highlighted on the tables.

The fourth grade proficiency test pass rates for the Youngstown Community School were available for the 2002-2003 school year. The results are as follows:

- Writing – 91.3%
- Reading – 73.9%
- Math – 34.8%
- Science – 32.6%
- Citizenship – 73.9%

Table 12

**Youngstown City Schools Fourth Grade Proficiency Test Pass Rate
Three School Year Comparison (2000-2003)**

	<u>Writing</u>			<u>Reading</u>			<u>Math</u>		
	<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>		
	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03
Bennett Elementary School	45.1%	54.5%	45.5%	12.0%	47.1%	36.4%	7.8%	28.8%	15.9%
Cleveland Elementary School	45.3%	58.0%	59.2%	13.2%	15.1%	20.0%	11.3%	4.0%	8.2%
Harding Elementary School	34.2%	40.8%	51.5%	12.3%	28.6%	57.4%	20.3%	22.4%	44.1%
Jackson Elementary School	41.1%	44.1%	43.6%	15.8%	28.6%	22.0%	8.8%	23.5%	7.5%
Kirkmere Elementary School	77.6%	83.3%	77.8%	45.6%	70.0%	63.1%	57.4%	71.7%	81.5%
Martin Luther Elementary School	23.9%	34.9%	40.4%	8.2%	20.5%	22.0%	0.0%	9.3%	22.0%
Mary Haddow Elementary School	31.1%	53.7%	75.8%	19.7%	30.9%	56.1%	14.8%	37.0%	66.2%
North Elementary School	39.2%	48.5%	71.3%	7.6%	13.1%	34.6%	5.1%	10.2%	17.5%
Paul C. Bunn Elementary School	70.4%	65.4%	68.2%	55.6%	63.0%	77.3%	40.7%	48.1%	50.0%
Sheridan Elementary School	50.0%	34.2%	38.0%	16.2%	28.6%	38.0%	11.0%	26.0%	38.9%
Taft Elementary School	38.3%	44.9%	40.6%	14.9%	32.7%	37.5%	6.4%	26.0%	21.9%
West Elementary School	56.9%	55.9%	51.2%	38.1%	33.3%	36.8%	30.4%	43.1%	43.2%
Williamson Elementary School	24.5%	30.2%	59.1%	10.6%	16.9%	65.9%	6.4%	7.2%	52.3%
District	45.2%	49.3%	54.7%	21.1%	31.1%	41.7%	17.9%	27.0%	36.9%

	<u>Science</u>			<u>Citizenship</u>		
	<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>		
	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03
Bennett Elementary School	7.8%	27.3%	23.3%	15.7%	36.4%	27.9%
Cleveland Elementary School	7.7%	4.0%	10.2%	18.9%	14.0%	14.3%
Harding Elementary School	25.7%	14.5%	36.8%	9.9%	21.1%	39.7%
Jackson Elementary School	21.1%	20.0%	10.8%	15.8%	18.2%	10.3%
Kirkmere Elementary School	51.5%	51.7%	52.3%	52.9%	75.0%	56.9%
Martin Luther Elementary School	4.3%	18.6%	13.6%	6.3%	7.0%	20.3%
Mary Haddow Elementary School	14.8%	48.1%	73.8%	14.8%	42.6%	61.5%
North Elementary School	5.1%	4.1%	36.7%	6.3%	23.5%	43.0%
Paul C. Bunn Elementary School	40.7%	37.0%	50.0%	63.0%	51.9%	54.5%
Sheridan Elementary School	15.1%	32.5%	41.1%	13.5%	32.5%	30.0%
Taft Elementary School	10.6%	8.0%	37.5%	17.0%	26.0%	21.9%
West Elementary School	27.2%	44.7%	50.0%	35.2%	37.9%	37.9%
Williamson Elementary School	4.2%	4.3%	59.1%	12.5%	17.6%	56.8%
District	18.8%	24.1%	38.3%	21.3%	31.1%	36.7%

Source: Ohio Department of Education

Table 13

**Youngstown City Schools Sixth Grade Proficiency Test Pass Rate
Three School Year Comparison (2000-2003)**

	<u>Writing</u>			<u>Reading</u>			<u>Math</u>		
	<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>		
	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03
Bennett Elementary School	68.4%	75.9%	90.2%	42.1%	30.8%	41.5%	31.6%	26.9%	22.0%
Cleveland Elementary School	48.6%	53.3%	64.0%	11.4%	11.1%	45.1%	11.4%	8.9%	31.4%
Jackson Elementary School	48.0%	30.9%	81.8%	17.0%	13.0%	27.3%	19.6%	9.3%	15.2%
Kirkmere Elementary School	71.6%	84.3%	88.6%	39.7%	47.1%	55.7%	43.2%	51.4%	60.0%
Paul C. Bunn Elementary School	54.5%	58.6%	90.0%	30.3%	48.3%	85.0%	27.3%	46.7%	90.0%
Sheridan Elementary School	48.6%	71.0%	67.6%	17.6%	4.8%	35.3%	13.5%	4.8%	20.6%
Taft Elementary School	52.2%	79.1%	83.3%	13.0%	25.6%	41.7%	26.1%	7.1%	30.6%
West Elementary School	69.8%	66.9%	88.1%	34.9%	34.8%	54.9%	36.7%	32.8%	30.5%
Choffin Alternative School	NA	43.8%	35.7%	NA	NA	7.1%	NA	NA	NA
East Middle School	50.4%	58.3%	55.3%	15.0%	7.8%	24.6%	3.1%	11.7%	11.4%
Hayes Middle School	32.7%	37.6%	60.4%	9.9%	9.4%	21.1%	6.2%	3.9%	10.4%
Hillman Middle School	62.1%	55.8%	64.2%	30.0%	13.0%	19.2%	20.0%	1.9%	17.3%
District	54.6%	60.1%	71.0%	23.7%	20.5%	36.3%	20.4%	18.1%	24.8%

	<u>Science</u>			<u>Citizenship</u>		
	<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>		
	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03
Bennett Elementary School	28.9%	25.0%	26.8%	53.9%	42.3%	48.8%
Cleveland Elementary School	8.6%	8.9%	26.0%	8.6%	31.1%	44.0%
Jackson Elementary School	15.1%	13.5%	12.1%	18.9%	23.5%	42.4%
Kirkmere Elementary School	39.2%	54.5%	58.6%	55.4%	65.7%	70.0%
Paul C. Bunn Elementary School	28.1%	48.3%	85.0%	36.4%	44.8%	95.0%
Sheridan Elementary School	44.4%	1.6%	40.3%	23.3%	16.1%	42.6%
Taft Elementary School	13.0%	35.7%	63.9%	39.1%	51.2%	77.8%
West Elementary School	39.5%	38.5%	43.9%	55.8%	47.8%	75.6%
Choffin Alternative School	NA	NA	NA	NA	12.5%	NA
East Middle School	9.4%	10.9%	15.0%	20.5%	25.2%	24.2%
Hayes Middle School	7.1%	5.8%	20.2%	14.2%	16.7%	29.2%
Hillman Middle School	10.0%	5.6%	29.4%	46.7%	11.5%	29.4%
District	23.3%	21.0%	32.4%	33.5%	33.2%	45.8%

Table 14

**Youngstown City Schools Ninth Grade Proficiency Test Pass Rate
Three School Year Comparison (2000-2003)**

	<u>Writing</u>			<u>Reading</u>			<u>Math</u>		
	<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>		
	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03
Chaney High School	83.1%	85.9%	89.9%	80.9%	84.8%	87.0%	59.2%	70.3%	70.7%
Positive Connections High School	NA	56.3%	28.6%	NA	42.0%	21.4%	NA	12.0%	7.1%
Rayen High School	63.6%	58.6%	68.2%	58.7%	62.5%	62.4%	21.9%	24.8%	31.7%
Wilson High School	66.3%	69.5%	64.2%	62.3%	65.8%	61.8%	21.7%	25.9%	21.5%
District	68.9%	69.0%	71.7%	65.3%	67.7%	67.4%	31.7%	36.2%	37.4%

	<u>Science</u>			<u>Citizenship</u>		
	<i>State standard is 75%</i>			<i>State standard is 75%</i>		
	00-01	01-02	02-03	00-01	01-02	02-03
Chaney High School	66.3%	70.1%	71.2%	70.9%	78.6%	81.3%
Positive Connections High School	NA	25.0%	23.1%	NA	30.6%	14.3%
Rayen High School	32.2%	33.8%	39.8%	38.2%	44.7%	51.6%
Wilson High School	25.9%	34.8%	34.7%	38.9%	43.6%	46.2%
District	38.8%	43.2%	45.7%	46.6%	52.1%	56.4%

Source: Ohio Department of Education

In an effort to increase children and family participation in the educational process, the Weed and Seed Strategy offered various educational and recreational activities. These programs were directly provided or supported by Weed and Seed.

After-school programs

Youngstown Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Abuse Outreach Program (YUMADAOP)

YUMADAOP provides an after school program which is in session four days a week. Youngstown Weed and Seed has contracted with YUMADAOP in order to provide after school services. Hot nutritious meals are provided for participants at every session. The students eat in a family type atmosphere with adult staff. YUMADAOP also provides the youth with a snack. Youngstown City Schools provides transportation from the schools to the Safe Haven after school and from the Safe Haven to home.

A total of 40 youth participated in the YUMADAOP after school program in 2003. Table 14 shows the demographic information about the youth participating in the program.

Table 15

**YUMADAOP After School Program
Participant Information**

	2002		2003	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Participants	37	100.0%	40	100.0%
Gender				
Male	14	37.8%	17	42.5%
Female	23	62.2%	23	57.5%
Race/Ethnicity				
African American	33	89.2%	33	82.5%
Hispanic	2	5.4%	1	2.5%
Multi-ethnic	2	5.4%	6	15.0%

Source: YUMADAOP

The educational component of the after school program includes the following curriculums:

- ***Aggressors, Victims, and Bystanders*** addresses violence prevention
- ***Life Skills*** by Dr. Gilbert Botvin, a best practice curriculum, is recognized by the *Center for Substance Abuse Prevention* for addressing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug usage.
- ***Postponing Sexual Involvement*** addressed teen pregnancy prevention. The program used role plays presented by peer educators from the Youngstown City Schools.
- ***Teen Violence and Prevention*** by Deborah Prothrow-Stith.

Tutoring sessions are held during each after school session. Youth are required to bring homework to each session and those who need help are provided with assistance. Also, the youth participated in several recreational activities during 2003. These activities included community service, computer games, gym, board games, arts and crafts, pizza parties, and an end of the year picnic at Mill Creek Park.

YUMADAOP conducted an evaluation process in order to determine the effectiveness of their after school program. The surveys and inventories were conducted as pre and posttests during the 2001-2002 school year. Twenty-eight youth completed the tests during that school year. The Tobacco Youth Knowledge/Attitude Survey showed that the tobacco component of the after school program was successful in changing the participants knowledge and attitudes towards tobacco. Eight of the question results on the posttest showed improvement over the pretest. Two results remained the same and two results moved in a negative direction. The Youth Attitude Towards Teen Pregnancy Survey indicated the pregnancy component of the after school program was also successful. Nine of the twelve question results on the posttest showed improvement over the pre test. Three results moved in a negative direction.

YUMADAOP utilized the Children's Action Tendency Scale (CATS) during the 2001-2002 school year. CATS was used to measure aggression and assertiveness of the participants. The CATS self report instrument contained 13 questions, with three answers to

choose for each question. The CATS has a reliability of .77. Twenty-eight youth completed the pretest, with a group score of 8.3. The posttest was completed by 25 youth, with a group score of 7.5. The results indicate a slight reduction of 0.8 and that the violence prevention program was successful in reducing the participants' attitudes about committing acts of violence.

The Substance Abuse Subtle Screening (SASSI) adolescent self-report instrument was also utilized by YUMADAOP during the 2001-2002 school year. The SASSI instrument is a gender specific, multi-dimensional instrument consisting of nine subscales, designed to assess the probability of chemical abuse. The OAT scale of the SASSI instrument measures the willingness to admit to symptoms of a general personal problem, not those directly related to behavioral abuse of chemicals. The OAT scale pre-test results were 10.57 and posttest results were 7.92, indicating a decrease of 2.65. The SAT scale of the SASSI instrument measures personal predisposition to develop dependency on drugs and alcohol. A higher score indicates an adolescent has a similar basic personal style to others involved in addictive patterns. The SAT scale pre-test results were 1.32 and posttest results were 1.08, indicating a decrease of 0.24. The overall results of the SASSI instrument shows that the alcohol, tobacco, and other drug component of the program was successful in reducing or preventing possible drug use.

A participant survey was conducted by YUMADAOP at the end of the 2001-2002 school year. All of the 31 participants stated that the program was useful to them and 30 stated they could use what they talked about. Twenty-seven of the youth stated that they understood what was being talked about and all stated they were able to share their opinions.

Girl Scouts of Lake to River Council

The Girl Scouts of Lake to River Council continued programs for girls grade K-12 at the Weed and Seed Safe Haven in 2003. The beginning of the 2002-2003 school year marked the fourth year of the Girl Scout programming in the Weed and Seed target area. Four Girl Scout troops are currently active at the Safe Haven. Two staff members and 13 volunteers work with the troops. Seventy four girls are currently being served at the Safe Haven. Table 15, on the following page, contains the demographics of the participants.

Table 16
**Girl Scouts Lake to River Council
 Weed and Seed Target Area Participants**

Race	2002		2003	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	40	93.0%	70	94.6%
Caucasian	2	4.7%	2	2.7%
Hispanic	1	2.3%	2	2.7%

Source: Girl Scouts Lake to River Council

In 2002 and 2003 the Girl Scouts provided monthly “Family Nights” at the Safe Haven with the support of Weed and Seed funding. Adult participation has been tremendous. “Family Night” program topics have included game night, family literacy, and earth matters.

At the 2002 Girl Scout National Convention in October, the Youngstown Weed and Seed and Martin Luther Lutheran Church were presented as a success story for reaching out to inner-city girls. Youngstown Weed and Seed provided the T-shirts that were worn in pictures for the display.

Boy Scouts

The Boy Scouts were committed to providing Cub Scout programs for boys in the Weed and Seed target area who attend Sheridan Elementary School. In 2002, only six boys regularly attended meetings. Recruiting in the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year was very successful. Currently, 35 boys (33 African American and 2 Hispanic) are registered. Weed and Seed is providing funds for a second staff person during the 2003-2004 school year.

I Build It

Nine students participated in the I Build It program at Hillman Middle School. The youth learned about the computer and the role it will play in their future earning ability. They also discussed ethics related to computer use. The participants were able to learn how the computer worked because they were able to build their own computer. The computer was theirs to keep, along with a brand new printer and free internet service for one year.

OCCHA

The Organizacion Civica y Cultural Hispanica, Inc. provided after school and summer programs for youth. As with the other youth programs, prevention techniques such as problem solving, anger control, empathy development, resistance to peer pressure, and conflict resolution were provided. ATOD abuse prevention classes were taught at the OCCHA programs. Community service projects assisted youth in understanding that they are a part of the community and in which they reside and that their actions impact the community. High drop-out and unemployment rates in non-English speaking Hispanic populations often results in gang membership. OCCHA also offered English and GED classes for young adults. Learning to speak and write English will assist the young people in finding employment, while youth earning a GED enables them to achieve a higher education and higher paying jobs. Weed and Seed provided special emphasis funding to support the OCCHA programs. In 2003, 22 Hispanic students participated in the after school program while 12 attended the summer camp. Four residents participated in the GED class and four residents took the English class. A total of 42 target area residents were served in 2003.

Promoting family literacy

Back to School Supplies

During 2003, Youngstown Weed and Seed partnered with Martin Luther Lutheran Church in the Back to School Supplies project for the fifth year in a row. On the first day of school, all students at Sheridan Elementary School received a bag of school supplies, which included notebook paper, pencils, pens, folders, and notebooks. All teachers were given extra supplies. Weed and Seed donated \$800 to the project, as did Martin Luther Lutheran Church. Church volunteers bagged the supplies and delivered them to the school. Two hundred “tool kits” were also created in 2003. These supplies were disbursed throughout the area by community partners and children’s programs sponsored by Weed and Seed.

Family Literacy Month

A Green Eggs and Ham breakfast was hosted at the Weed and Seed Safe Haven (Martin Luther Lutheran Church) in 2003. Students from Choffin Career Center prepared

breakfast for the kindergarten students at Sheridan Elementary and their grandparents. Sue Ann Taylor, the Newspaper-In-Education coordinator at the Youngstown Vindicator, read *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss. The purpose of the breakfast was to help families learn the value of literacy and to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. Weed and Seed provided every kindergarten child with a copy of *Green Eggs and Ham*.

Newspapers-In-Education

Newspapers are being provided to 620 students and their families one day per week during the entire 2003-2004 school year as part of the Youngstown Vindicator's Newspapers-In-Education program. The NIE coordinator regularly provides nineteen teachers at eight schools in the Weed and Seed area teaching resources to be used with the newspapers.

STARS

The STARS (Seniors Teaching and Reaching Students) intergenerational tutoring/mentoring program provided by Neil Kennedy Recovery Clinic was aimed at raising the literacy level of students attending three Weed and Seed area schools. The ability to read, along with the personal relationship developed with a senior citizen, will provide protective factors in the life of an at-risk child who might otherwise be pressured into participating in illegal activity. Mentors over the age of 55 tutored students in the participating schools. Weed and Seed special emphasis funds were used to support this program. In 2003, a total of 131 students were served by 22 volunteers.

Goal 2

Reduce the incidence of substance abuse for school children.

Youth programs

The after school programs in the Weed and Seed area have been implemented to address the concern of drug and alcohol use among youth in the target area. In 2002, there were three after school programs. The total number of youths attending these programs was 86. In 2003, four after school programs supported by Weed and Seed served 145 youth in the target area. This is a 40.7% increase in the number of youth served by Weed and Seed

supported after school programs. As previously mentioned, YUMADAOP offers an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug component to their after school programming. ATOD abuse prevention classes were also taught in the OCCHA programs. The results of those efforts can be found under Goal 1. Summer camps supported by Weed and Seed will be discussed under Goal 3.

Kids Grieve Too

Kids Grieve Too continues to provide services at the Youngstown Weed and Seed Safe Haven. Kids Grieve Too is a non-profit organization committed to offering age appropriate information and opportunities of support for grieving children of all ages, their families, and community caregivers. Many children in the Weed and Seed target area witness violence in their neighborhoods. Many parents in the target area are divorced and adults often come and go out of these children's lives as a result. Children in the community move many times, forcing them to leave close friends behind. These situations keep children living in a constant state of stress, making it difficult for these children to learn in a school environment. Receiving grief counseling and coping skills improves the learning environment for these children. Grief counseling is provided with role-playing, artistic expression, and a new understanding of the importance of communication. The organization received a Weed and Seed mini-grant in 2002 to purchase necessary supplies for the services they provide families residing in the target area. The grant enabled the organization to purchase hand puppets, art supplies, games, and books. Weed and Seed funding was not requested during 2003.

Kids Grieve Too sessions were held throughout the summer of 2002 at the Safe Haven. Twenty children a sculpting project and tour of The Butler Institute of American Art. In August, the children visited the Mill Creek Riverside Gardens and participated in an art project at the Davis Center. During the start of the 2002-2003 school year, two groups of Sheridan Elementary School children were attending sessions every Thursday afternoon, during schools hours, at the Safe Haven.

Goal 3

Increase constructive activities for youth in the target area.

Safe Havens

Youngstown Weed and Seed currently has two Safe Havens in the target area, located at Martin Luther Lutheran Church and Hillman Middle School. Many of the Weed and Seed activities for the youth living in the target area are held at these Safe Havens.

The relationship with Martin Luther Lutheran Church continues to be an extremely important part of the Weed and Seed strategy. Over the years, children living in the neighborhood and attending Sheridan Elementary School are developing a strong positive relationship with the church. Some of the children who participate in the in the Weed and Seed programs also participate in the activities sponsored by the church, such as Vacation Bible School and Family Challenge Nights. In 2002, Martin Luther Lutheran Church, in collaboration with Victory Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran Church, provided a summer camp for the Weed and Seed area children at the Safe Haven. The camp took place for four weeks in July 2002. The summer camp staff of nine provided services to 28 Weed and Seed area children.

Weed and Seed youth activities

As a part of the YUMADAOP after school programming, YUMADAOP provided recreational activities for the youth during the 2001-2002 school year. These activities included a skating party, canned food donation to the Rescue Mission, Halloween Party, trip to the Richard H. Wright Museum of African Art in Detroit, Michigan, a NBA game, and computer games, physical recreation, and crafts at the Safe Haven.

YUMADAOP also held a summer camp in 2002. The camp was in session for six weeks and was located at Hillman Middle School. Eleven staff members were on site and 75 children attended, of which 38 were Weed and Seed residents. Breakfast and lunch were provided through the Mahoning County Summer Food Program and YUMADAOP provided a healthy snack. Camp activities included swimming, bowling, roller-skating, and visits to Mill Creek Park. Field trips were made to the Pittsburgh Zoo, Cleveland Science Center, and

the Youngstown State University Planetarium. Youngstown Weed and Seed provided no funding for this summer program.

YUMADAOP provided the LACES summer camp in 2003 to Weed and Seed target area youth. The summer camp was provided as a means of decreasing risk factors and increasing protective factors. Services provided include: ATOD and violence prevention classes, one-on-one tutoring in reading, math, and science, recreational activities, and community service projects. Weed and Seed provided special emphasis funds to support the program. There were 73 youths served in 2003.

The National Youth Sports Program has been providing services Youngstown area youth since 1995. Approximately 20 to 25% of the participants are Weed and Seed area residents. The new "Character Counts!" component taught participants the importance of such character traits as respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, honesty, courage, and integrity. The programs objective is to decrease disruptive behavior. Weed and Seed provided special emphasis funds in 2003 to support the new component of the National Youth Program. Of the 484 youth who participated in the program in 2003, 151 (31.2%) are residents of the target area.

Leadership Program

The Mahoning County Juvenile Justice Center developed the Leadership Program at Sheridan Elementary School as a model program for other schools in the area. Target area schools have high truancy, drop out, and out of school suspension rates. The goal was to create a family oriented program to deter at risk youth from entering the Juvenile Justice System. The objective was to meet and evaluate target families, build rapport with them, and channel them into the proper services based on needs assessments. Due to a lack of parental commitment, a mentoring component was added through Big Brother/Big Sisters. The Sheridan Mentoring Program is the first of its kind in the Youngstown City School District. The program, supported by Weed and Seed special emphasis funds, served twelve students in 2003.

Neighborhood Restoration Goals

Goal 1

Improve the quality of life within the target area by creating an active neighborhood life for residents.

Number of businesses in the target area

In the fall of 2003, YSU's Center for Human Services Development mailed 589 surveys to businesses located in and around the Weed and Seed target area. Sixty-nine were returned for a return rate of 11.7%. The results of the 2003 survey have been compared to the results from the previous years and are located in Appendix Two.

Number of current business loans in the area

The following are the number of business loans made throughout the city of Youngstown from 1998-2002. The city of Youngstown Economic Development Office provided the data.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Loans</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1998	11	\$995,095
1999	7	\$161,907
2000	13	\$164,008
2001	15	\$371,189
2002	12	\$409,438

The Economic Development office also assisted in 12 facade renovations throughout the city of Youngstown in 2002. The total amount provided by the city for the year was \$96,281. Of the 12 businesses receiving funding, two are located in the Weed and Seed target area. Omega Door and Family Service Agency received a total of \$12,176. In 2003, three businesses in the Weed and Seed target area received \$54,764 in facade renovation funds from the Youngstown Economic Development office.

In June 2003, the Weed and Seed business committee partnered with the Regional Chamber of Commerce and Youngstown's Economic Development Office to provide a business workshop entitled "Building a Healthy Business Environment on the South Side."

Three hundred invitations were sent to target area business, twelve responses were returned, and only two individuals attended the workshop. The workshop partners are considering future workshops.

Goal 2

**Improve the appearance of housing stock and neighborhoods in the target area.
Eliminate trash and unsightliness on streets and sidewalks.**

Number of units on demolition

The Youngstown Demolition Department reported that 39 demolitions were completed in 2003. In 2002, 40 demolitions were completed, 24 properties were contracted to be demolished, 6 properties were on the emergency demolition list, and 19 properties are listed for possible demolition in the Weed and Seed target area. In 2001, 175 homes were placed on the demolition list, with 50 homes actually being demolished. Just over 100 homes were demolished in 2000. The number of demolitions in 2002 and 2003 was lower than previous years due to the loss of employees in the Demolition Department as a result of budget cuts.

Convictions for illegal dumping

There have been a total of seven illegal dumping convictions from February 2001 to January 2003 in the Weed and Seed target area. The fines and costs totaled \$1,700 and \$420, respectively. Some violators also received a jail sentence or probation for their violation of the illegal dumping laws.

Neighborhood Clean-ups

Five block watch neighborhood cleanups were conducted in the target area during 2002. The number of neighborhood cleanups increased to eight in 2003. The city's Litter and Recycling Department keeps data for the city as a whole, so numbers relating to the Weed and Seed target area alone are unavailable.

Community Gardens

As of 2003, there were two community gardens located in the Weed and Seed area.

Although no new community gardens have been created, the two established gardens continue to be used by the neighborhood residents.

Conclusion

The end of 2003 marked the completion of the fourth year for the Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy. Since its implementation, the participants of the Weed and Seed Strategy have successfully reached many of the goals they set out to achieve and have made a positive impact on the community.

Law Enforcement Goals

Goal 1- Reduce the number of dealers and drug house complaints by 5% in year 2003.

From 2002 to 2003, there was a 7.7% decrease in the number of drug complaints in the target area, with a 55.3% reduction since the implementation of the Strategy. Since 2003, there has been a 65.7% increase in the number of YPD Vice Squad drug buys made in the target area as a result of investigations funded by grant money. The V-GRIP program resulted in aggressive law enforcement in the target area. Weed and Seed's collaborations with local, state, and federal law enforcement have contributed to its ability to meet these goals.

Goal 2- Increase the number of housing code investigations by 10% in a six block target area determined by need.

A street survey was conducted by the housing task force in the designated six block area for 2003. A total of 395 homes were identified with code violations. As a result, the housing department sent out 791 notices of housing code deficiencies, razed 42 structures and issued 20 summonses.

Goal 3- Identify the violent offenders and remove them from the target area.

Since the implementation of the strategy, there has been an 33.7% reduction in the number of violent crimes and an 9.6% reduction in the total number of Part I crimes in the target area.

Community Policing Goals

Goal 1- Increase public involvement in problem solving in the target area.

Eleven block watches are now active in the Weed and Seed target area. The

presidents formed the Association of Block Watch Presidents in 2003. Weed and Seed block watches were also eligible to receive mini-grants from the strategy grant money. Six mini-grants were awarded.

Goal 2- Reduce the fear of crime for individuals living in the target area.

The number of community survey respondents who have heard of the Weed and Seed Strategy has steadily increased since the implementation of the program. In 2003, 66.1% stated they heard of the strategy. Yet, 63.4% continue to feel unsafe in their neighborhood at night. The Weed and Seed Strategy needs to continue efforts to reduce fear of crime for these individuals.

Prevention/Intervention/Treatment Goals

Goal 1- Offer a broad range of educational, recreational, and cultural experiences to children and families to increase participation in the education process.

Youngstown Weed and Seed continues to partner with community organizations in order to provide services to youth and families living in the target area. In 2003, 145 target area youth participated in Weed and Seed sponsored after school programs, a 40.7% increase over the previous year. Weed and Seed was involved in activities related to family literacy. Also in 2003, Weed and Seed provided funding to the OCCHA GED classes. Four target area residents benefited from this collaboration.

Goal 2- Reduce incidence of substance abuse for school children.

In 2003, Youngstown Weed and Seed expanded its collaborations with agencies that provide drug and alcohol components to their programs. YUMADAOP and OCCHA provide ATOD abuse prevention classes in their programming, both in after school activities and summer camps.

Goal 3- Provide a variety of alternative activities for youth in the target area.

Youngstown Weed and Seed and collaborative partners continue to provide numerous recreational and educational activities for youth in the target area. These activities include after school programs and summer camps. In 2003, 231 target area youth participated in three Weed and Seed sponsored summer camps. Youth can participate in field trips, physical

activities, arts and crafts, and tutoring sessions. Often the youth are provided with healthy meals while they are involved in these activities.

Neighborhood Restoration

Goal 1- Improve the quality of life within the target area by creating an active neighborhood life for residents.

According to the 2003 Weed and Seed Business Survey, 84.1% of the respondents are aware of the Weed and Seed Strategy. Almost six in ten (59.4%) respondents stated they would clean up the property around their building and three fourths (78.3%) said they would report illegal activity in order to improve the neighborhood in which their business is located.

Goal 2- Improve the appearance of housing stock and neighborhoods in the target area. Eliminate trash and unsightliness on streets and sidewalks.

Although faced with budget cuts, the Youngstown Demolition Department continues to make an impact on the appearance of the target area neighborhoods. In 2003, 39 homes were demolished in the target area. The number of block watch neighborhood cleanups increased from five to eight in the same year.

APPENDIX

YOUNGSTOWN WEED AND SEED STRATEGY COMMUNITY SURVEY

Introduction

As part of the Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy, the Youngstown State University Center for Human Services Development (CHSD) conducted a community survey within the Weed and Seed target area. The purpose of this survey was to gather community input about their neighborhood and how the Strategy has impacted them.

Project Methodology

In fall 2003, 4,445 surveys were mailed to residents within and surrounding the Weed and Seed target area. The mailing labels were bought from Americalist in Canton, Ohio. The following is the number of surveys sent and returned by census tract:

Census Tract	Number sent	Number returned	Percent returned
8011	982	121	12.3%
8016	1,194	108	9.0%
8017	608	60	9.9%
8021	449	32	7.1%
8024	1,212	116	9.6%
Overall	4,445	437	9.8%

The results of the 2003 community survey were compared with the results of the surveys conducted in 2000, 2001, and 2002.

Highlights

The following are some highlights of the community survey.

Weed and Seed

- In 2001, 47.6% of the respondents stated they heard of the Weed and Seed Strategy. That number increased to 56.1% in 2002 and 66.1% in 2003.
- In 2003, over one-third (35.5%) stated the law enforcement component of the Weed and Seed Strategy was average, while 27.7% rated it as good. One half of respondents (50.1%) felt the neighborhood restoration component was poor.

Crime

- Eight in ten (84.0%) respondents in 2003 chose drug activity as the first or second most severe crime in the Weed and Seed target area, followed by robbery/burglary (71.4%) and loitering (29.3%).

- The following are the top two crimes rated as the first or second most severe crime in the Weed and Seed target area by census tract in 2003.

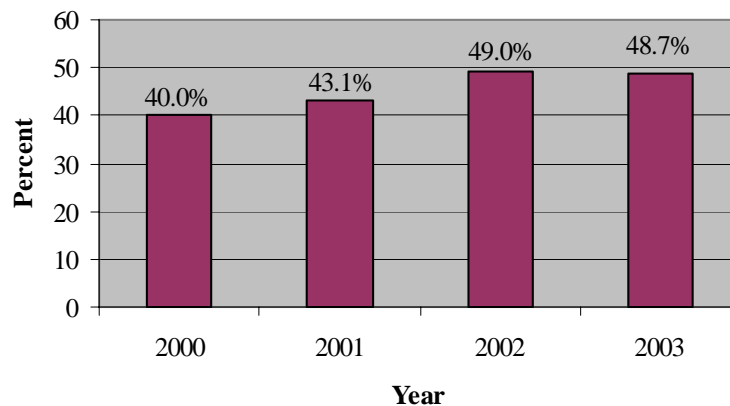
Census Tract	First Most Severe Crime	Percent	Second Most Severe Crime	Percent
8011	Robbery/Burglary	63.6%	Drug Activity	53.7%
8016	Drug Activity	66.7%	Robbery/Burglary	41.6%
8017	Drug Activity	78.3%	Loitering	33.3%
8021	Drug Activity	68.8%	Assault	31.2%
8024	Drug Activity	66.4%	Robbery/Burglary	31.1%

- When asked how crime can be reduced on the south side, over half of respondents in 2003 (57.9%) felt drug houses should be eliminated, 50.8% mentioned more police presence, and another 48.5% stated that there should be a crackdown on repeat offenders.

Youngstown Police Department

- The following graph indicates the percent of respondents who feel the Youngstown Police Department patrol their neighborhood on a regular basis increased from 2000 to 2002 and remained relatively constant between 2002 and 2003.

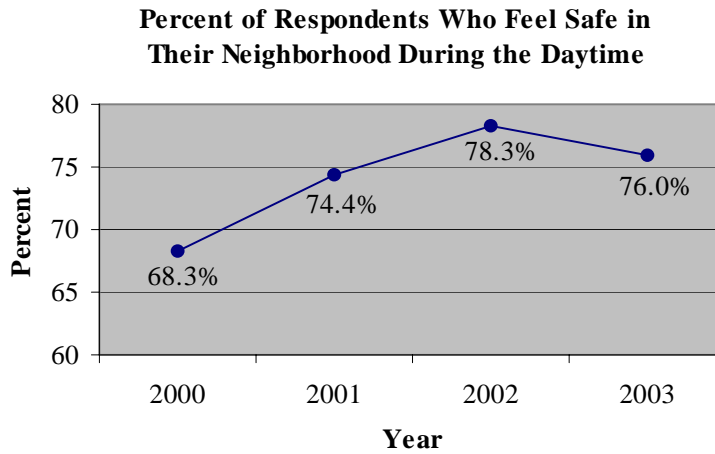
Percent of Respondents Stating the Police Patrol Their Neighborhood on a Regular Basis



- In 2003, 52.9% of all respondents in the Weed and Seed area stated the Youngstown Police Department was more visible in their neighborhood during the last year. Yet, when the target area is divided by census tracts, the majority of respondents (51.7%) in tract 8017 reported the police are not more visible.

Neighborhood Conditions

- When respondents were asked if they perceived a change in the upkeep of neighborhood homes and yards over the past year, 45.5% stated that it was about the same and 26.8% stated they perceived a small increase in the upkeep.
- The following graph indicates the percent of respondents who feel safe in their neighborhood during the daytime has increased since 2000.



General Information

- In 2003, 54.5% of the respondents stated they were not aware of any neighborhood associations or community groups active in their neighborhood. Over one in ten (13.3%) stated they were very aware and an additional 29.5% were somewhat aware.

WEED AND SEED COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Weed and Seed

1. Have you completed a survey regarding Weed and Seed in the past?

<u>2002 Overall</u>		<u>2003 Overall</u>	
<u>81 - 18.5%</u>	Yes	<u>145 - 33.2%</u>	Yes
<u>346 - 79.2%</u>	No	<u>275 - 62.9%</u>	No
<u>10 - 2.3%</u>	N/A	<u>17 - 3.9%</u>	N/A

2. Have you heard of the Weed and Seed Strategy?

<u>2001 Overall</u>		<u>2002 Overall</u>		<u>2003 Overall</u>	
<u>212 - 47.6%</u>	Yes	<u>245 - 56.1%</u>	Yes	<u>289 - 66.1%</u>	Yes
<u>214 - 48.1%</u>	No	<u>182 - 41.6%</u>	No	<u>129 - 29.5%</u>	No
<u>19 - 4.3%</u>	N/A	<u>10 - 2.3%</u>	N/A	<u>19 - 4.3%</u>	N/A

2003 Census Tracts

8011

<u>73 - 60.3%</u>	Yes
<u>45 - 37.2%</u>	No
<u>3 - 2.5%</u>	N/A

8016

<u>75 - 69.4%</u>	Yes
<u>27 - 25.0%</u>	No
<u>6 - 5.6%</u>	N/A

8017

<u>40 - 66.7%</u>	Yes
<u>16 - 26.7%</u>	No
<u>4 - 6.7%</u>	N/A

8021

<u>24 - 75.0%</u>	Yes
<u>8 - 25.0%</u>	No
<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	N/A

8024

<u>77 - 67.0%</u>	Yes
<u>33 - 28.4%</u>	No
<u>6 - 5.2%</u>	N/A

3. Do you understand the Weed and Seed Strategy? (Only includes respondents who answered "yes" to question 2)

<u>2002 Overall</u>		<u>2003 Overall</u>	
<u>185 - 75.5%</u>	Yes	<u>242 - 83.7%</u>	Yes
<u>52 - 21.2%</u>	No	<u>35 - 12.1%</u>	No
<u>8 - 3.3%</u>	N/A	<u>12 - 4.2%</u>	N/A

2003 Census Tracts

8011

<u>60 - 82.2%</u>	Yes
<u>10 - 13.7%</u>	No
<u>3 - 4.1%</u>	N/A

8016

<u>68 - 90.7%</u>	Yes
<u>5 - 6.7%</u>	No
<u>2 - 2.6%</u>	N/A

8017

<u>34 - 85.0%</u>	Yes
<u>4 - 10.0%</u>	No
<u>2 - 5.0%</u>	N/A

8021

<u>21 - 87.5%</u>	Yes
<u>1 - 4.2%</u>	No
<u>2 - 8.3%</u>	N/A

8024

<u>59 - 76.6%</u>	Yes
<u>15 - 19.5%</u>	No
<u>3 - 3.9%</u>	N/A

4. The respondents were asked to rate each of the four areas that the Weed and Seed Program focuses

on. The first table compares 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 Overall responses. The second table then breaks down the 2003 responses by each census tract.

		Excellent	Good	Average	Improve	Poor	N/A
Law enforcement	2000	5.0%	31.7%	20.0%	11.6%	15.0%	16.7%
	2001	4.0%	22.2%	41.8%	10.6%	16.0%	5.4%
	2002	6.9%	28.8%	34.3%	7.3%	16.2%	6.4%
	2003	6.2%	27.7%	35.5%	8.7%	15.8%	6.2%
Community policing	2000	1.7%	21.7%	21.7%	8.3%	26.7%	20.0%
	2001	3.1%	16.4%	39.1%	11.0%	23.1%	7.2%
	2002	3.2%	20.1%	30.9%	9.6%	26.1%	10.1%
	2003	2.7%	18.1%	37.1%	9.6%	23.6%	8.9%
Prevention/ intervention/treatment	2000	1.7%	16.7%	31.7%	6.7%	18.3%	25.0%
	2001	2.2%	9.9%	34.4%	13.5%	22.0%	18.0%
	2002	1.4%	11.9%	27.9%	15.1%	25.2%	18.5%
	2003	1.6%	14.0%	31.6%	8.5%	24.7%	19.7%
Neighborhood restoration	2000	6.7%	15.0%	16.7%	20.0%	26.7%	15.0%
	2001	1.3%	14.4%	19.6%	17.5%	40.7%	6.5%
	2002	2.7%	12.8%	20.6%	13.5%	43.5%	6.9%
	2003	2.1%	12.1%	20.6%	10.3%	50.1%	4.8%

2003		Excellent	Good	Average	Improve	Poor	N/A
Law enforcement	8011	8.3%	28.9%	28.9%	6.6%	20.7%	6.6%
	8016	10.2%	17.6%	36.1%	10.2%	17.6%	8.3%
	8017	1.7%	31.7%	36.7%	10.0%	13.3%	6.7%
	8021	6.3%	31.3%	37.5%	9.4%	12.5%	3.1%
	8024	2.6%	32.8%	40.5%	8.6%	11.2%	4.3%
	Overall	6.2%	27.7%	35.5%	8.7%	15.8%	6.2%
Community policing	8011	5.0%	18.2%	37.2%	7.4%	24.8%	7.4%
	8016	1.9%	11.1%	26.9%	14.8%	33.3%	12.0%
	8017	1.7%	18.3%	38.3%	8.3%	20.0%	13.3%
	8021	6.3%	21.9%	34.4%	9.4%	25.0%	3.1%
	8024	0.9%	23.3%	46.6%	7.8%	14.7%	6.9%
	Overall	2.7%	18.1%	37.1%	9.6%	23.6%	8.9%

(4. Continued)

Prevention/ intervention/ treatment	8011	3.3%	12.4%	33.1%	5.8%	26.4%	19.0%
	8016	0.0%	9.3%	25.9%	10.2%	27.8%	26.9%
	8017	0.0%	13.3%	41.7%	5.0%	25.0%	15.0%
	8021	3.1%	21.9%	30.3%	6.3%	28.1%	9.4%
	8024	1.7%	18.1%	30.2%	12.1%	19.0%	19.0%
	Overall	1.6%	14.0%	31.6%	8.5%	24.7%	19.7%
Neighborhood restoration	8011	4.1%	14.9%	29.8%	9.9%	36.4%	5.0%
	8016	0.9%	5.6%	13.9%	11.1%	62.0%	6.5%
	8017	0.0%	8.3%	11.7%	15.0%	60.0%	5.0%
	8021	3.1%	28.1%	15.6%	6.3%	43.8%	3.1%
	8024	1.7%	12.9%	23.3%	8.6%	50.0%	3.4%
	Overall	2.1%	12.1%	20.6%	10.3%	50.1%	4.8%

Crime

5. Do you perceive a change in the crime rate over the past year?

Overall	2001	2002	2003
Yes, a large increase	10.3%	17.6%	15.3%
Yes, a small increase	19.3%	19.2%	20.1%
No, it is about the same	46.7%	45.5%	39.1%
Yes, a small decrease	18.0%	14.4%	19.0%
Yes, a large decrease	1.6%	1.4%	3.7%
N/A	4.0%	1.8%	2.7%

2003	Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Yes, a large increase	15.3%	21.5%	13.9%	10.0%	12.5%	13.8%
Yes, a small increase	20.1%	20.7%	23.1%	10.0%	12.5%	24.1%
No, it is about the same	39.1%	40.5%	33.3%	58.3%	40.6%	32.8%
Yes, a small decrease	19.0%	12.4%	20.4%	16.7%	21.9%	25.0%
Yes, a large decrease	3.7%	3.3%	2.8%	5.0%	9.4%	2.6%
N/A	2.7%	1.7%	6.5%	0.0%	3.1%	1.7%

6. Over the last year, have you noticed a reduction in drug activity in your neighborhood?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000 Overall	19	31.7%	25	41.7%	16	26.7%
2001 Overall	136	30.6%	247	55.5%	62	13.9%
2002 Overall	117	26.8%	276	63.2%	44	10.1%
2003 Overall	159	36.4%	243	55.6%	35	8.0%
2003 Census Tracts						
8011	40	33.1%	68	56.2%	13	10.7%
8016	29	26.9%	71	65.7%	8	7.4%
8017	25	41.7%	34	56.7%	1	1.7%
8021	17	53.1%	13	40.6%	2	6.3%
8024	48	41.4%	57	49.1%	11	9.5%

7. The respondents were asked to rank the following crimes in order of most severe to least severe. The table below compares the 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 overall responses.

		<u>FIRST</u> Most Severe	<u>SECOND</u>	<u>THIRD</u>	<u>FOURTH</u>	<u>FIFTH</u>	<u>SIXTH</u> Least Severe	<u>N/A</u>
Assault	2000	0.0%	11.7%	15.0%	18.3%	15.0%	8.3%	31.7%
	2001	4.7%	12.6%	18.7%	20.9%	13.9%	3.4%	25.8%
	2002	6.6%	10.3%	17.8%	21.3%	15.6%	4.3%	24.0%
	2003	7.8%	11.4%	18.8%	25.4%	11.9%	6.9%	17.8%
Drug activity	2000	48.3%	16.7%	3.3%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	28.3%
	2001	30.6%	23.1%	14.6%	9.4%	1.6%	0.4%	20.2%
	2002	41.0%	23.6%	9.4%	10.3%	3.9%	0.9%	11.0%
	2003	39.4%	25.4%	11.7%	9.8%	3.4%	0.7%	9.6%
Loitering	2000	8.3%	13.3%	16.7%	11.7%	15.0%	10.0%	25.0%
	2001	9.0%	12.6%	10.6%	10.6%	16.4%	17.1%	23.8%
	2002	11.0%	14.4%	11.7%	8.5%	15.3%	18.3%	20.8%
	2003	11.9%	17.4%	15.8%	9.6%	16.2%	16.7%	12.4%
Murder - Homicide	2000	13.3%	13.3%	10.0%	11.7%	10.0%	10.0%	31.7%
	2001	25.6%	11.0%	9.2%	7.6%	12.6%	9.7%	24.3%
	2002	16.9%	15.1%	10.3%	9.6%	11.7%	12.8%	23.6%
	2003	12.8%	11.0%	10.8%	10.5%	19.0%	19.2%	16.7%

(7. Continued)

Prostitution	2000	13.3%	10.0%	3.3%	11.7%	10.0%	25.0%	26.7%
	2001	2.7%	4.9%	5.8%	5.8%	19.6%	32.4%	28.8%
	2002	3.7%	7.3%	6.6%	8.9%	17.6%	29.7%	26.1%
	2003	2.3%	6.4%	8.9%	11.2%	19.2%	34.3%	17.6%
Robbery - Burglary	2000	16.7%	26.7%	16.7%	10.0%	8.3%	3.3%	18.3%
	2001	18.9%	21.1%	16.2%	14.4%	5.2%	3.8%	20.4%
	2002	17.2%	22.9%	21.7%	13.0%	6.6%	3.4%	15.1%
	2003	22.2%	19.2%	18.3%	15.1%	10.5%	3.2%	11.4%

The tables on the following two pages show how each census tract viewed what was the most severe crime in their area during 2003.

		<u>FIRST</u> Most Severe	<u>SECOND</u>	<u>THIRD</u>	<u>FOURTH</u>	<u>FIFTH</u>	<u>SIXTH</u> Least Severe	<u>N/A</u>
Assault	8011	8.3%	13.2%	26.4%	31.4%	5.0%	1.7%	14.0%
	8016	8.3%	9.3%	17.6%	25.0%	10.2%	6.5%	23.1%
	8017	8.3%	3.3%	15.0%	26.7%	23.3%	8.3%	15.0%
	8021	15.6%	15.6%	9.4%	15.6%	9.4%	12.5%	21.3%
	8024	4.3%	14.7%	16.4%	21.6%	15.5%	10.3%	17.2%
	Overall	7.8%	11.4%	18.8%	25.4%	11.9%	6.9%	17.8%
Drug activity	8011	24.8%	28.9%	18.2%	14.0%	4.1%	0.8%	9.1%
	8016	41.7%	25.0%	12.0%	8.3%	3.7%	0.0%	9.3%
	8017	50.0%	28.3%	5.0%	8.3%	3.3%	0.0%	5.0%
	8021	46.9%	21.9%	0.0%	12.5%	3.1%	3.1%	12.5%
	8024	44.8%	21.6%	11.2%	6.9%	2.6%	0.9%	12.1%
	Overall	39.4%	25.4%	11.7%	9.8%	3.4%	0.7%	9.6%
Loitering	8011	10.7%	13.2%	14.0%	9.1%	22.3%	19.0%	11.6%
	8016	14.8%	20.4%	12.0%	13.9%	13.9%	10.2%	14.8%
	8017	10.0%	23.3%	23.3%	5.0%	10.0%	20.0%	8.3%
	8021	9.4%	12.5%	18.8%	6.3%	18.8%	15.6%	3.1%
	8024	12.1%	17.2%	16.4%	9.5%	14.7%	19.0%	11.2%
	Overall	11.9%	17.4%	15.8%	9.6%	16.2%	16.7%	12.4%

(7. Continued)

		<u>FIRST</u> Most Severe	<u>SECOND</u>	<u>THIRD</u>	<u>FOURTH</u>	<u>FIFTH</u>	<u>SIXTH</u> Least Severe	<u>N/A</u>
Murder - Homicide	8011	13.2%	13.2%	6.6%	14.0%	18.2%	19.0%	15.7%
	8016	11.1%	8.3%	9.3%	8.3%	28.7%	13.0%	21.3%
	8017	11.7%	6.7%	15.0%	8.3%	11.7%	33.3%	13.3%
	8021	6.3%	18.8%	12.5%	6.3%	15.6%	25.0%	15.6%
	8024	16.4%	11.2%	13.8%	11.2%	15.5%	16.4%	15.5%
	Overall	12.8%	11.0%	10.8%	10.5%	19.0%	19.2%	16.7%
Prostitution	8011	1.7%	0.8%	3.3%	6.6%	29.8%	40.5%	17.4%
	8016	0.0%	2.8%	3.7%	12.0%	12.0%	46.3%	23.1%
	8017	3.3%	18.3%	13.3%	10.0%	23.3%	16.7%	15.0%
	8021	9.4%	9.4%	28.1%	18.8%	15.6%	6.3%	12.5%
	8024	2.6%	8.6%	12.1%	13.8%	13.8%	33.6%	15.5%
	Overall	2.3%	6.4%	8.9%	11.2%	19.2%	34.3%	17.6%
Robbery Burglary	8011	40.5%	23.1%	18.2%	9.1%	3.3%	1.7%	4.1%
	8016	18.5%	23.1%	25.0%	9.3%	7.4%	0.9%	15.7%
	8017	13.3%	13.3%	15.0%	28.3%	13.3%	6.7%	10.0%
	8021	9.4%	12.5%	18.8%	15.6%	12.5%	12.5%	18.7%
	8024	14.7%	16.4%	13.8%	19.8%	19.0%	2.6%	13.8%
	Overall	22.2%	19.2%	18.3%	15.1%	10.5%	3.2%	11.4%

8. **How can crime be reduced on the south side?** (Please choose no more than three)

	2003 Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Eliminate drug houses	57.9%	47.1%	63.9%	61.7%	68.8%	58.6%
More police presence	50.8%	50.4%	52.8%	55.0%	50.0%	47.4%
Crackdown on repeat offenders	48.5%	52.9%	44.4%	38.3%	59.4%	50.0%
Improve police response time	39.1%	45.5%	33.3%	28.3%	59.4%	37.9%
Enforce laws/codes	30.0%	35.5%	29.6%	30.0%	9.4%	30.2%
Eliminate loitering	19.2%	19.0%	25.0%	26.7%	9.4%	12.9%
More citizen involvement	19.0%	14.0%	13.9%	18.3%	21.9%	28.4%
Reduce blight	18.3%	14.9%	22.2%	21.7%	12.5%	18.1%
More street lighting	13.7%	14.9%	13.9%	16.7%	12.5%	11.2%

9. Does the Youngstown Police Department (YPD) patrol your neighborhood on a regular basis?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000 Overall	24	40.0%	26	43.3%	10	16.7%
2001 Overall	192	43.1%	226	50.8%	27	6.1%
2002 Overall	214	49.0%	206	47.1%	17	3.9%
2003 Overall	213	48.7%	207	47.4%	17	3.9%
2003 Census Tracts						
8011	57	47.1%	60	49.6%	4	3.3%
8016	55	50.9%	48	44.4%	5	4.6%
8017	29	48.3%	30	50.0%	1	1.7%
8021	13	40.6%	18	56.3%	1	3.1%
8024	59	50.9%	51	44.0%	6	5.2%

10. Has the YPD been more visible in your neighborhood during the last year?

2003 Overall		8011		8016
<u>231 - 52.9%</u> Yes		<u>67 - 55.4%</u> Yes		<u>58 - 53.7%</u> Yes
<u>192 - 43.9%</u> No		<u>51 - 42.1%</u> No		<u>47 - 43.5%</u> No
<u>14 - 3.2%</u> N/A		<u>3 - 2.5%</u> N/A		<u>3 - 2.8%</u> N/A
8017		8021		8024
<u>28 - 46.7%</u> Yes		<u>16 - 50.0%</u> Yes		<u>62 - 53.4%</u> Yes
<u>31 - 51.7%</u> No		<u>15 - 46.9%</u> No		<u>48 - 41.4%</u> No
<u>1 - 1.7%</u> N/A		<u>1 - 3.1%</u> N/A		<u>6 - 5.2%</u> N/A

11. Do you believe the YPD is currently doing a good job in reducing crime in your neighborhood?

	Doing a good job	Doing a fair job	Doing a poor job	N/A
2000 Overall	23.3%	41.7%	23.3%	11.7%
2001 Overall	20.2%	57.5%	16.9%	5.4%
2002 Overall	22.0%	55.6%	20.1%	2.3%
2003 Overall	19.0%	59.3%	18.1%	3.7%
2003 Census Tracts				
8011	20.7%	52.9%	21.5%	5.0%
8016	22.2%	55.6%	18.5%	3.7%
8017	16.7%	65.0%	18.3%	0.0%
8021	18.8%	62.5%	15.6%	3.1%
8024	15.5%	65.5%	14.7%	4.3%

12. Have you been a victim of a crime or witnessed a crime in the last year?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2003 Overall	142	32.5%	282	64.5%	13	3.0%
8011	36	29.8%	82	67.8%	3	2.5%
8016	50	46.3%	55	50.9%	3	2.8%
8017	14	23.3%	45	75.0%	1	1.7%
8021	8	25.0%	23	71.9%	1	3.1%
8024	34	29.3%	77	66.4%	5	4.3%

13. Did you contact the YPD after being a victim of a crime or witnessing a crime in the last year?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2003 Overall	122	85.9%	19	13.4%	1	0.7%
8011	28	77.8%	8	22.2%	0	0.0%
8016	45	90.0%	5	10.0%	0	0.0%
8017	13	92.9%	1	7.1%	0	0.0%
8021	7	87.5%	1	12.5%	0	0.0%
8024	29	85.3%	4	13.8%	1	2.9%

If YES, for what crime were you the victim of or witness? (Top 2003 responses)

Overall

Assault (20), Burglary (19), Robbery (18), Breaking and Entering (18), Vandalism (14), Car Theft (13)

8011

Breaking and Entering (6), Car Theft (6), Burglary (5), Assault (3), Robbery (3)

8016

Assault (8), Robbery (8), Theft (6), Burglary (6), Vandalism (5), Breaking and Entering (5)

8017

Assault (3), Vandalism (3), Robbery (3), Burglary (2)

8021

Burglary (3), Vandalism (2), Breaking and Entering (2)

8024

Assault (6), Vandalism (4), Burglary (3), Car Theft (3), Breaking and Entering (3), Robbery (3), Theft (3)

If NO, why didn't you contact the YPD? (2003 Top Overall responses)

Others already reported the crime (6), poor response time (4), offense was minor (4), police do nothing (3)

14. How was the quality of service?

2003 Overall

8011

8016

<u>39 - 27.5%</u>	Poor	<u>11 - 30.6%</u>	Poor	<u>18 - 36.0%</u>	Poor
<u>35 - 24.6%</u>	Fair	<u>10 - 27.8%</u>	Fair	<u>11 - 22.0%</u>	Fair
<u>41 - 28.9%</u>	Satisfactory	<u>7 - 19.4%</u>	Satisfactory	<u>12 - 24.0%</u>	Satisfactory
<u>19 - 13.4%</u>	Excellent	<u>6 - 16.7%</u>	Excellent	<u>7 - 14.0%</u>	Excellent
<u>8 - 5.6%</u>	N/A	<u>2 - 5.6%</u>	N/A	<u>2 - 4.0%</u>	N/A
8017		8021		8024	
<u>3 - 21.4%</u>	Poor	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	Poor	<u>1 - 5.3%</u>	Poor
<u>2 - 14.3%</u>	Fair	<u>4 - 50.0%</u>	Fair	<u>6 - 31.6%</u>	Fair
<u>6 - 42.9%</u>	Satisfactory	<u>3 - 37.4%</u>	Satisfactory	<u>7 - 36.8%</u>	Satisfactory
<u>2 - 14.3%</u>	Excellent	<u>1 - 12.5%</u>	Excellent	<u>4 - 21.1%</u>	Excellent
<u>1 - 7.1%</u>	N/A	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	N/A	<u>1 - 5.3%</u>	N/A

Please explain the quality of service. (2003 Overall responses)

The following are responses from the entire Weed and Seed area.

Negative rating

Poor response time (40), no follow-up (28), no response (7), not enough police presence (6), unprofessional (6), blamed the victim (4), poor (4), police are lazy (3), no arrests made (2)

Positive rating

Quick response (16), excellent (11), professional conduct (6), showed concern (1)

Neutral rating

Unsure (6), satisfactory (4), made a report (3)

Neighborhood Conditions

15. Do you think that the content and enforcement of building and housing codes are adequate?

	No, they are too lax or ineffective		Yes, they are adequate		No, they are too severe or unreasonable		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2001 Overall	260	58.4%	118	26.5%	14	3.1%	53	11.9%
2002 Overall	261	59.7%	139	31.8%	16	3.7%	21	4.8%
2003 Overall	295	67.5%	111	25.4%	12	2.7%	19	4.3%
2003 Census Tracts								
8011	78	64.5%	34	28.1%	1	0.8%	8	6.6%
8016	75	69.4%	23	21.3%	2	1.9%	8	7.4%
8017	41	68.3%	16	26.7%	2	3.3%	1	1.7%
8021	13	40.6%	15	46.9%	4	12.5%	0	0.0%
8024	88	75.9%	23	19.8%	3	2.6%	2	1.7%

16. Do you perceive a change in the upkeep of public property, including roads and sidewalks, over the past year?

	2003 Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Yes, they are much worse	18.8%	15.7%	17.6%	23.3%	18.8%	20.7%
Yes, they are slightly worse	13.5%	15.7%	13.9%	13.3%	9.4%	12.1%
No, they are about the same	47.1%	44.6%	50.0%	46.7%	40.6%	49.1%
Yes, they are slightly better	17.2%	19.0%	14.8%	16.7%	21.9%	16.4%
Yes, they are much better	2.1%	3.3%	0.9%	0.0%	9.4%	0.9%
N/A	1.4%	1.7%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%

17. Do you perceive a change in the upkeep of neighborhood homes and yards over the past year?

	2003 Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Yes, a large increase	7.6%	7.4%	5.6%	11.7%	12.5%	6.0%
Yes, a small increase	26.8%	24.0%	16.7%	30.0%	40.6%	33.6%
No, it is about the same	45.5%	45.5%	56.5%	38.3%	34.4%	42.2%
Yes, a small decrease	8.5%	10.7%	9.3%	8.3%	6.3%	6.0%
Yes, a large decrease	9.2%	8.3%	11.1%	11.7%	6.3%	7.8%
N/A	2.5%	4.1%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%

18. Please check which are the biggest problems in your neighborhood. (Check all that apply)

		Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Crime	2000	35.7%	33.3%	44.4%	27.8%	25.9%	47.1%
	2001	42.7%	42.2%	37.0%	45.6%	44.1%	47.6%
	2002	36.8%	35.0%	36.2%	28.1%	37.5%	45.0%
	2003	40.7%	46.3%	40.7%	36.7%	37.5%	37.9%
Drugs - selling drugs	2000	48.8%	27.1%	55.6%	61.1%	44.4%	55.9%
	2001	54.4%	38.3%	65.5%	50.9%	73.5%	57.0%
	2002	50.3%	38.5%	50.0%	62.5%	62.5%	52.0%
	2003	53.1%	42.1%	65.7%	65.0%	62.5%	44.0%

(18. Continued)

		Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Juvenile loitering	2000	38.1%	18.8%	52.8%	38.9%	33.3%	47.1%
	2001	46.9%	46.1%	56.3%	45.6%	26.5%	43.9%
	2002	45.8%	47.0%	55.2%	45.3%	22.5%	43.0%
	2003	49.2%	46.3%	62.0%	50.0%	21.9%	47.4%
Lack of activities for children	2000	42.6%	29.2%	38.9%	38.9%	44.4%	61.8%
	2001	37.5%	32.0%	37.0%	43.9%	47.1%	38.3%
	2002	43.0%	39.3%	48.3%	43.8%	47.5%	39.0%
	2003	42.3%	33.9%	45.4%	45.0%	46.9%	45.7%
Lack of police presence	2000	38.8%	31.3%	50.0%	22.2%	55.6%	35.3%
	2001	38.4%	32.8%	40.3%	45.6%	52.9%	35.5%
	2002	38.9%	33.3%	44.8%	32.8%	52.5%	37.0%
	2003	40.3%	38.8%	38.9%	40.0%	46.9%	41.4%
Schools	2000	13.8%	12.5%	8.3%	16.7%	11.1%	20.6%
	2001	12.1%	17.2%	6.7%	19.3%	17.6%	6.5%
	2002	14.4%	21.4%	12.9%	7.8%	12.5%	13.0%
	2003	14.4%	16.5%	14.8%	11.7%	15.6%	12.9%
Lack of after-school programs	2000	30.9%	16.7%	27.8%	38.9%	33.3%	38.2%
	2001	28.1%	23.4%	30.3%	26.3%	44.1%	27.1%
	2002	32.7%	31.6%	37.9%	29.7%	30.0%	31.0%
	2003	29.5%	28.1%	32.4%	30.0%	28.1%	28.4%
Gang activity	2000	14.1%	0.0%	25.0%	11.1%	11.1%	23.5%
	2001	22.0%	18.0%	25.2%	31.6%	23.5%	17.8%
	2002	21.1%	14.5%	32.8%	26.6%	17.5%	13.0%
	2003	22.0%	15.7%	36.1%	30.0%	15.6%	12.9%
Teen pregnancy	2000	8.1%	2.1%	10.5%	5.6%	7.4%	14.7%
	2001	13.1%	10.2%	12.6%	8.8%	20.6%	13.1%
	2002	12.8%	8.5%	12.9%	12.5%	17.5%	16.0%
	2003	11.9%	8.3%	14.8%	15.0%	18.8%	9.5%
Trash - garbage in streets	2000	45.7%	25.0%	55.6%	55.6%	48.1%	44.1%
	2001	43.8%	28.9%	51.3%	54.4%	41.2%	48.6%
	2002	48.7%	30.8%	59.5%	60.9%	55.0%	47.0%
	2003	46.7%	32.2%	59.3%	63.3%	37.5%	44.0%

(18. Continued)

		Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Noise	2000	47.0%	37.5%	69.4%	44.4%	37.0%	47.1%
	2001	49.9%	43.0%	55.5%	49.1%	50.0%	52.3%
	2002	51.5%	50.4%	62.1%	37.5%	47.5%	51.0%
	2003	45.5%	41.3%	60.2%	40.0%	40.6%	40.5%
Other (2003 Overall responses)	Vacant homes/buildings (13), dogs (5), rundown homes (5), irresponsible parents (4), gun shots (3), speeding (2), adult loitering, better street lights, blight, burglary, displaced children, neighborhood disrespect, drug tolerance, fighting after school, housing code violations, lack of jobs, police not taking reports, police response time, prostitution, renters, slum lords, truants, violence.						

19. What should be done to correct the problems in your neighborhood? (Top 2003 responses)

Overall - Increase police presence (75), enforce laws (57), enforce city housing/building codes (40), provide more activities for youth (31), community needs to work together (22)

8011 - Increase police presence (27), enforce laws (20), enforce city housing/building codes (13), provide activities for youth (7), improve police response time (6)

8016 - Enforce laws (21), increase police presence (19), enforce city housing/building codes (11), hold parents responsible for children's actions (11)

8017 - Increase police presence (10), demolish abandoned homes (8), provide more activities for youth (7), enforce laws (4)

8021 - Increase police presence (5), stop drug activity (5), community needs to work together (4)

8024 - Increase police presence (14), enforce laws (12), community needs to work together (10), provide activities for youth (10)

20. Do you feel safe in your neighborhood during the daytime?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000 Overall	41	68.3%	12	20.0%	7	11.6%
2001 Overall	331	74.4%	85	19.1%	29	6.5%
2002 Overall	342	78.3%	83	19.0%	12	2.7%
2003 Overall	332	76.0%	89	20.4%	16	3.7%
2003 Census Tracts						
8011	83	68.6%	33	27.3%	5	4.1%
8016	74	68.5%	32	29.6%	2	1.9%
8017	50	83.3%	8	13.3%	2	3.3%
8021	28	87.5%	4	12.5%	0	0.0%
8024	97	83.6%	12	10.3%	7	6.0%

21. Do you feel safe in your neighborhood at night?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000 Overall	19	31.7%	29	48.3%	12	20.0%
2001 Overall	146	32.8%	264	59.1%	35	8.1%
2002 Overall	149	34.1%	272	62.2%	16	3.7%
2003 Overall	143	32.7%	277	63.4%	17	3.9%
2003 Census Tracts						
8011	42	34.7%	73	60.3%	6	5.0%
8016	26	24.1%	81	75.0%	1	0.9%
8017	21	35.0%	38	63.3%	1	1.7%
8021	11	34.4%	19	59.4%	2	6.3%
8024	43	37.1%	66	56.9%	7	6.0%

General Information

22. Rate the quality of service you received from city department and services you had contact with in the past year.

Department	Rating	2003 Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Air pollution	Good	1.1%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%	1.7%
	Fair	2.3%	4.1%	1.9%	0.0%	3.1%	1.7%
	Poor	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	NA	96.1%	93.4%	97.2%	100.0%	93.8%	96.6%
Housing /building inspector	Good	7.8%	5.8%	3.7%	5.0%	15.6%	12.9%
	Fair	4.6%	4.1%	6.5%	5.0%	3.1%	3.4%
	Poor	11.7%	8.3%	15.7%	20.0%	6.3%	8.6%
	NA	75.9%	81.8%	74.1%	70.0%	75.0%	75.0%
Demolition	Good	2.7%	2.5%	0.9%	6.7%	3.1%	2.6%
	Fair	3.4%	2.5%	3.7%	6.7%	3.1%	2.6%
	Poor	10.3%	8.3%	10.2%	15.0%	15.6%	8.6%
	NA	83.6%	86.8%	85.2%	71.7%	78.1%	86.2%

(22. Continued)

Department	Rating	2003 Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Fire	Good	10.5%	14.9%	9.3%	6.7%	6.3%	10.3%
	Fair	1.6%	0.8%	1.9%	0.0%	6.3%	1.7%
	Poor	0.2%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	NA	87.7%	84.3%	87.9%	93.4%	87.5%	87.9%
Rat Control	Good	3.2%	5.0%	4.6%	0.0%	3.1%	1.7%
	Fair	2.7%	3.3%	2.8%	1.7%	0.0%	3.4%
	Poor	7.1%	5.0%	12.0%	10.0%	0.0%	5.2%
	NA	86.9%	86.8%	80.6%	88.4%	96.9%	89.7%
Infant immunization	Good	3.0%	4.1%	0.9%	0.0%	6.3%	4.3%
	Fair	0.7%	1.7%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Poor	0.7%	0.0%	0.9%	1.7%	0.0%	0.9%
	NA	95.6%	94.2%	97.2%	98.4%	93.8%	94.8%
Health	Good	6.2%	7.4%	6.5%	0.0%	6.3%	7.8%
	Fair	3.9%	3.3%	6.5%	5.0%	3.1%	1.7%
	Poor	7.1%	5.0%	10.2%	11.7%	6.3%	4.3%
	NA	82.9%	84.3%	76.9%	83.3%	84.4%	86.2%
Light	Good	5.3%	5.0%	4.6%	6.7%	6.3%	5.2%
	Fair	3.4%	3.3%	2.8%	0.0%	6.3%	5.2%
	Poor	1.4%	1.7%	0.9%	3.3%	0.0%	0.9%
	NA	89.9%	90.1%	91.7%	90.0%	87.5%	88.8%
Mayor's Office	Good	3.7%	2.5%	5.6%	5.0%	3.1%	2.6%
	Fair	5.0%	6.6%	4.6%	5.0%	0.0%	5.2%
	Poor	5.0%	7.4%	4.6%	5.0%	3.1%	3.4%
	NA	86.3%	83.5%	85.2%	85.0%	93.8%	88.8%
Park	Good	3.7%	2.5%	0.9%	3.3%	3.1%	7.8%
	Fair	3.7%	5.0%	3.7%	0.0%	3.1%	4.3%
	Poor	3.0%	5.0%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%
	NA	89.7%	87.6%	93.5%	96.7%	93.8%	83.7%

(22. Continued)

Department	Rating	2003 Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Trash/garbage	Good	12.6%	16.5%	13.0%	8.3%	12.5%	10.3%
	Fair	7.6%	6.6%	10.2%	1.7%	6.3%	9.5%
	Poor	6.2%	7.4%	2.8%	11.7%	9.4%	4.3%
	NA	73.7%	69.4%	74.1%	78.3%	71.9%	75.9%
Street	Good	7.1%	5.8%	9.3%	10.0%	0.0%	6.9%
	Fair	6.6%	6.6%	6.5%	5.0%	6.3%	7.8%
	Poor	8.7%	11.6%	6.5%	15.0%	6.3%	5.2%
	NA	77.5%	76.0%	77.8%	70.0%	87.5%	80.2%
Water	Good	11.4%	12.4%	10.2%	10.0%	9.4%	12.9%
	Fair	6.4%	5.8%	6.5%	3.3%	9.4%	7.8%
	Poor	4.1%	3.3%	2.8%	11.7%	6.3%	1.7%
	NA	78.0%	78.5%	80.5%	75.0%	75.0%	77.6%
AIDS	Good	2.7%	4.1%	1.9%	0.0%	3.1%	3.4%
	Fair	1.4%	1.7%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%
	Poor	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%
	NA	95.6%	94.2%	95.4%	100.0%	96.9%	94.8%

23. Are you aware of any neighborhood associations or community groups active in your neighborhood?

		Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Yes, very aware	2001	10.5%	10.9%	6.7%	1.8%	11.8%	17.8%
	2002	11.2%	10.3%	11.2%	4.7%	12.5%	16.0%
	2003	13.3%	14.9%	11.1%	11.7%	12.5%	14.7%
Yes, somewhat aware	2001	27.9%	32.8%	28.6%	8.7%	23.5%	32.7%
	2002	29.1%	34.2%	24.1%	20.3%	22.5%	37.0%
	2003	29.5%	29.8%	28.7%	20.0%	21.9%	37.1%
No, not aware	2001	55.5%	49.2%	58.8%	82.5%	55.9%	45.8%
	2002	57.0%	52.1%	62.9%	75.0%	62.5%	42.0%
	2003	54.5%	51.2%	58.3%	68.3%	65.6%	44.0%
N/A	2001	6.1%	7.0%	5.9%	7.0%	8.8%	3.7%
	2002	2.7%	3.4%	1.7%	0.0%	2.5%	5.0%
	2003	2.7%	4.1%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%

24. Are you active in any neighborhood associations or community groups?

		Overall	8011	8016	8017	8021	8024
Yes	2001	14.4%	14.1%	11.8%	8.8%	14.7%	20.6%
	2002	16.9%	15.4%	14.7%	10.9%	12.5%	27.0%
	2003	17.8%	16.5%	17.6%	13.3%	18.8%	21.6%
No	2001	78.0%	78.9%	83.2%	82.4%	73.5%	70.1%
	2002	80.3%	79.5%	83.6%	89.1%	85.0%	70.0%
	2003	77.8%	77.7%	78.7%	85.0%	81.3%	72.4%
N/A	2001	7.6%	7.0%	5.0%	8.8%	11.8%	9.3%
	2002	2.7%	5.1%	1.7%	0.0%	2.5%	3.0%
	2003	4.3%	5.8%	3.7%	1.7%	0.0%	6.0%

25. Do you feel the block watch groups are effective?

	Yes		No		N/A	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2000 Overall	31	51.7%	14	23.3%	15	25.0%
2001 Overall	240	53.9%	135	30.3%	70	15.7%
2002 Overall	262	60.0%	131	30.0%	44	10.0%
2003 Overall	256	58.6%	122	27.9%	59	13.5%
2003 Census Tracts						
8011	68	56.2%	32	26.4%	21	17.3%
8016	56	51.9%	38	35.2%	14	13.0%
8017	33	55.0%	19	31.7%	8	13.3%
8021	19	59.4%	10	31.3%	3	9.4%
8024	80	69.0%	23	19.8%	13	11.2%

If no, please explain why. (Top 2003 responses)

Overall

Not aware of any (56), not enough participants (28), crime rate has not changed (12)

8011

Not aware of any (16), not enough participants (8), no help from city officials or police department (6)

8016

Not aware of any (21), not enough participants (11), crime rate has not changed (5)

8017

Not aware of any (13), not addressing the important issues (3), not enough participants (2)

8021

Not enough participants (4), crime rate has not changed (2)

8024

Not aware of any (5), crime rate has not changed (5), poor organization (5)

26. What could the City of Youngstown do to have more people participate in community events and crime prevention programs? (Top 2002 Overall responses)

Provide more information/advertise (97)

Many respondents stated that they were not aware of community events. They felt that if the city informed citizens about the programs by advertising them that there would be greater participation.

Need the involvement/support of city officials and police (53)

The respondents indicated that city officials and the police need to become more involved in the community. Citizens feel there is not enough support from the city officials for the current programs.

Enforce laws (18)

Some respondents stated that if the laws were enforced they would participate more in the community.

Create more block watches (17)

The respondents suggested that the city assist in the creation of more block watches.

Provide interesting and useful programs (13)

The respondents stated that they would participate in programs that were interesting or provided them with useful information, such as home security.

Demographics (2003 Overall)

27. Age

<u>2 - 0.5%</u>	19 and under	<u>99 - 22.7%</u>	40-49	<u>56 - 12.8%</u>	70-79
<u>18 - 4.1%</u>	20-29	<u>101 - 23.1%</u>	50-59	<u>28 - 6.4%</u>	80 and older
<u>57 - 13.0%</u>	30-39	<u>61 - 14.0%</u>	60-69	<u>15 - 3.4%</u>	N/A

28. Sex

<u>168 - 38.4%</u>	Male	<u>236 - 54.0%</u>	Female	<u>33 - 7.6%</u>	N/A
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29. Race

<u>145 - 33.2%</u>	African American	<u>13 - 3.0%</u>	Other
<u>235 - 53.8%</u>	Caucasian/White	<u>32 - 7.3%</u>	N/A
<u>12 - 2.7%</u>	Hispanic		

30. Are you

<u>167 - 38.2%</u>	Married	<u>71 - 16.2%</u>	Widowed
<u>103 - 23.6%</u>	Divorced	<u>17 - 3.9%</u>	N/A
<u>79 - 18.1%</u>	Never married		

31. Do you

<u>129 - 29.5%</u>	Have children under the age of 18 and/or guardianship of children under the age of 18
<u>187 - 42.8%</u>	Have children over the age of 18
<u>104 - 23.8%</u>	Do not have children
<u>17 - 3.9%</u>	N/A

32. Are you currently

<u>183 - 41.9%</u>	Employed full-time	<u>7 - 1.6%</u>	On worker's comp or sick leave
<u>42 - 9.6%</u>	Employed part-time	<u>5 - 1.1%</u>	On assistance
<u>11 - 2.5%</u>	Laid-off	<u>23 - 5.3%</u>	Housewife
<u>131 - 30.0%</u>	Retired	<u>10 - 2.3%</u>	N/A
<u>25 - 5.7%</u>	I do not work		

33. How many years have you lived in your neighborhood or building?

<u>17 - 3.9%</u>	1 or less	<u>66 - 15.1%</u>	21 to 30 years
<u>62 - 14.2%</u>	2 to 5 years	<u>49 - 11.2%</u>	31 to 40 years
<u>66 - 15.1%</u>	6 to 10 years	<u>34 - 7.8%</u>	41 to 50 years
<u>101 - 23.1%</u>	11 to 20 years	<u>32 - 7.3%</u>	51 or more years
		<u>10 - 2.3%</u>	N/A

YOUNGSTOWN WEED AND SEED STRATEGY BUSINESS SURVEY

Introduction

As part of the Youngstown Weed and Seed Strategy, the Youngstown State University Center for Human Services Development (CHSD) conducted a business survey within the Weed and Seed target area. The purpose of this survey was to gather business owner/managers' input about their neighborhood and how the Strategy has impacted the business.

Project Methodology

In fall 2003, 589 surveys were mailed to businesses within and surrounding the Weed and Seed target area. The mailing labels were bought from Americalist in Canton, Ohio. Of the 589 surveys that were sent, 69 were returned for a response rate of 11.7%. The results of the 2003 business survey were compared with the results of the surveys conducted in 2000, 2001, and 2002.

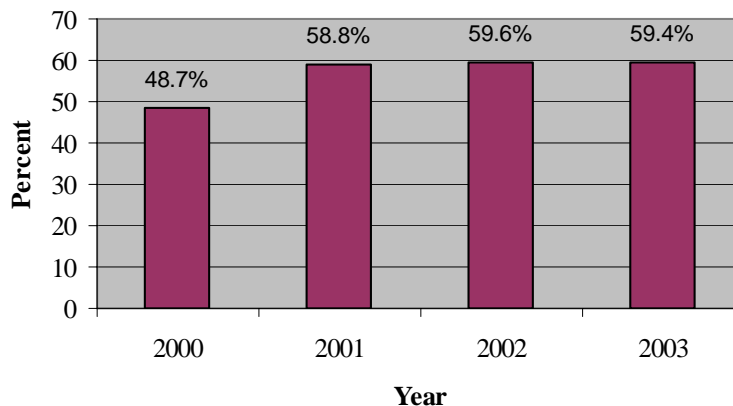
Highlights

The following are some of the highlights of the business survey.

Crime

- In 2003, over eight in ten (84.1%) of the respondents stated they heard of the Weed and Seed Strategy, up from 70.2% in 2002.
- The following graph indicates that respondents have seen an increase in the visible presence of police, on a regular basis, in the area surrounding their business since 2000.

Percent of Respondents Stating the Police have a Visible Presence in the Area Surrounding their Business



- In 2000, 69.2% stated that

crime on the south side is a major problem. That figure did not change in 2001 and 2002 as 72.5% and 70.2%, respectively, reported that crime was a major problem. Yet, in 2003 the percent of respondents who stated crime was a major problem decreased to 63.8%.

- The following table lists what crimes the business owners/managers considered the most severe problem around their place of business.

Crime	Year	Percentage	Crime	Year	Percentage
Assault	2000	7.8%	Murder - homicide	2000	12.8%
	2001	2.0%		2001	25.5%
	2002	7.0%		2002	10.5%
	2003	5.8%		2003	11.6%
Drug activity	2000	35.9%	Prostitution	2000	2.6%
	2001	49.0%		2001	7.8%
	2002	49.1%		2002	3.5%
	2003	47.8%		2003	1.4%
Loitering	2000	15.4%	Robbery - burglary	2000	33.3%
	2001	5.9%		2001	25.5%

	2002	5.3%		2002	17.5%
	2003	7.2%		2003	23.2%

Location

- Business owners/managers had problems with the following city departments.

2000	%	2001	%	2002	%	2003	%
Street department	25.6	Housing and building inspector	29.5	Economic development	33.3	Economic development	30.4
Housing and building inspector	20.5	Demolition department	27.5	Housing and building inspector	29.8	Demolition and street departments	23.2 <i>each</i>
Light, demolition, and garbage departments	10.3 <i>each</i>	Street department	21.6	Demolition department	24.6	Garbage department	13.0

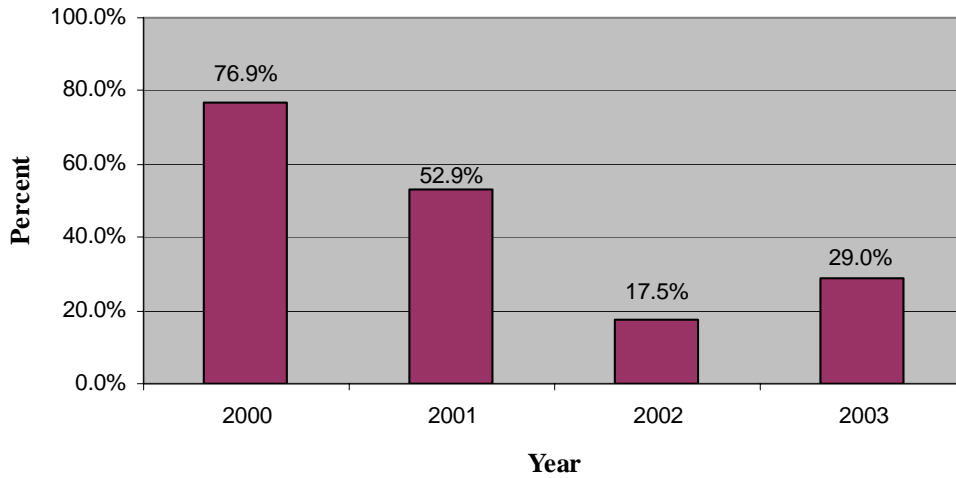
- The following table indicates the 2003 respondents' view on which activities need a greater emphasis within the city of Youngstown.

Activity	Percent	Activity	Percent
1. Police protection (general)	71.0%	7. Parking availability	31.9%
2. Economic development programs	68.1%	8. Street lighting	27.5%
3. Police response time	66.7%	9. Sidewalk condition	21.7%
4. Police visibility	65.2%	10. Advertising ordinance	20.3%
5. Snow removal	39.1%	11. Street name signs	15.9%
6. Street condition	31.9%		

Employment

- The following graph indicates the percent of business owners/managers who had a problem hiring/ keeping employees because of their location or threat of crime has continued to be lower than the 2000 rate.

Percent of Respondents Who Had a Problem Hiring/Keeping Employees Because of Their Location or Threat of Crime



Future

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00, 53.8% stated they were looking to expand their business within the next five years, however, that percentage was down to 31.9% in 2003. One-fifth (21.7%) of respondents stated they planned to relocate in the next five years.

- In 2003, 42.0% of the respondents stated that the visual aspect of their neighborhood has an impact on their future plans.
- Fifty-five percent of business owners/managers who responded to the survey in 2003 stated they were not familiar with the city’s loan programs.

Involvement

- In 2003, 78.3% of respondents stated that they would report illegal activity and 59.4% stated they would clean up property around their building in order to improve the neighborhood in which their business is located.

WEED AND SEED BUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS

Crime

1. Have you heard of the City of Youngstown's Weed and Seed Program?

<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>40-70.2%</u> Yes	<u>58-84.1%</u> Yes
<u>17-29.8%</u> No	<u>11-15.9%</u> No

2. Do the police have a visible presence, on a regular basis, in the area surrounding your business?

<u>2000 response</u>	<u>2001 response</u>	<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>48.7%</u> Yes	<u>58.8%</u> Yes	<u>59.6%</u> Yes	<u>59.4%</u> Yes
<u>46.2%</u> No	<u>39.2%</u> No	<u>33.3%</u> No	<u>34.8%</u> No
<u>5.1%</u> N/A	<u>2.0%</u> N/A	<u>7.0%</u> N/A	<u>5.8%</u> N/A

3. Crime on the south side is . . .

	2000 Response	2001 Response	2002 Response	2003 Response
A major problem	69.2%	72.5%	70.2%	63.8%
Somewhat of a	28.2%	27.5%	26.3%	34.8%
Not a problem	2.6%	0.0%	3.5%	1.4%

4. Please rank the following crimes on the south side. Place a 1 next to the crime that is the most severe problem, a 2 by the next most severe problem and so forth.

		<u>FIRST</u> Most	<u>SECOND</u>	<u>THIRD</u>	<u>FOURTH</u>	<u>FIFTH</u>	<u>SIXTH</u> Least	<u>N/A</u>
Assault	2000	7.8%	15.4%	20.5%	12.8%	12.8%	5.1%	25.6%
	2001	2.0%	17.6%	17.6%	29.4%	7.8%	7.8%	17.6%
	2002	7.0%	12.3%	14.0%	29.8%	14.0%	5.3%	17.5%
	2003	5.8%	4.3%	30.4%	29.0%	7.2%	5.8%	17.4%
Drug activity	2000	35.9%	28.2%	7.7%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	20.5%
	2001	49.0%	19.6%	5.9%	7.8%	3.9%	0.0%	13.7%
	2002	49.1%	22.8%	8.8%	5.3%	0.0%	1.8%	12.3%
	2003	47.8%	31.9%	5.8%	5.8%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%
Loitering	2000	15.4%	15.4%	17.9%	10.3%	10.3%	15.4%	15.4%
	2001	5.9%	11.8%	15.7%	11.8%	19.6%	21.6%	13.7%
	2002	5.3%	7.0%	15.8%	19.3%	10.5%	24.6%	17.5%
	2003	7.2%	20.3%	13.0%	11.6%	13.0%	21.7%	13.0%
Murder - Homicide	2000	12.8%	5.1%	7.7%	12.8%	20.5%	17.9%	23.1%
	2001	25.5%	7.8%	21.6%	3.9%	19.6%	7.8%	13.7%
	2002	10.5%	10.5%	15.8%	7.0%	17.5%	17.5%	21.1%
	2003	11.6%	5.8%	8.7%	15.9%	23.2%	14.5%	20.3%

(4. Continued)

		FIRST Most	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH Least	N/A
Prostitution	2000	2.6%	7.7%	5.1%	10.3%	17.9%	28.2%	28.2%
	2001	7.8%	7.8%	5.9%	7.8%	15.7%	37.3%	17.6%
	2002	3.5%	12.3%	10.5%	1.8%	28.1%	26.3%	17.5%
	2003	1.4%	5.8%	7.2%	11.6%	21.7%	33.3%	18.8%
Robbery - Burglary	2000	33.3%	15.4%	25.6%	7.7%	5.1%	2.6%	10.3%
	2001	25.5%	21.6%	19.6%	11.8%	7.8%	0.0%	13.7%
	2002	17.5%	26.3%	17.5%	14.0%	7.0%	1.8%	15.8%
	2003	23.2%	26.1%	18.8%	7.2%	13.0%	2.9%	8.7%

5. **How can crime be reduced on the south side?** (Please choose no more than three)

	2000 Response	2001 Response	2002 Response	2003 Response
Eliminate drug houses	64.1%	56.9%	68.4%	68.1%
More police presence	53.8%	66.7%	54.4%	36.2%
Crackdown on repeat offenders	61.5%	60.8%	50.9%	56.5%
Enforce laws/codes	35.9%	35.3%	33.3%	21.7%
Improve police response time	28.2%	17.6%	31.6%	37.7%
More citizen involvement	-----	15.7%	12.3%	21.7%
Eliminate loitering	30.8%	17.6%	24.6%	17.4%
Reduce blight	10.3%	17.6%	22.8%	29.0%
More street lighting	7.7%	5.9%	3.5%	5.8%

6. **In 2002, how many times was your establishment victimized by particular crimes and how many times did you report these crimes to police?**

Crime	Crimes committed	Crimes reported
1. Vandalism	97	51
2. Shoplifting/walk-outs	273	143
3. Burglary	24	19
4. Car break-ins or theft	98	50
5. Armed robbery	3	3
6. Assault/mugging (of person)	18	17
7. Employee theft	48	8
8. Arson	2	1
9. Other crime(s)	18	10

Location

7. What do you like best about having a business on the south side?

Location (29), inexpensive rent/low overhead (7), nice/friendly customers (7), captive market/steady flow of business (6), long time establishment (5), helping/serving people (5), church (3), nothing (2), proud of city (2).

8. What do you like least about having a business on the south side?

Customers/clients afraid of the area (23), crime (18), run-down appearance (15), blight (3), lack of police services (3), city taxes (2), not many commercial businesses (2), nothing (2), attitudes of people, hopelessness, people with no respect for property/businesses.

9. How do you view your location as a business advantage?

	2000 Response	2001 Response	2002 Response	2003 Response
No advantage	10.3%	23.5%	21.1%	23.2%
Easy access for customers	59.0%	51.0%	47.4%	49.3%
Good visibility	30.8%	33.3%	28.1%	30.4%
Good transportation access	51.3%	41.2%	45.6%	34.8%

10. What local community conditions are adversely effecting your business? In the table below, please review the various problems that might be a detriment to a local business establishment and that a local municipal government might be expected to address. In the column on the right, make a check in the appropriate box for each choice. (2003 responses only)

- 1 - Mostly adverse effect to my business 3 - Some adverse effect to my business
 2 - High adverse effect to my business 4 - Slight adverse effect to my business
 5 - No adverse effect to my business

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
1. Burglaries and hold-ups	26.1%	15.9%	20.3%	14.5%	14.5%	8.7%
2. Confusing or inadequate street signs	4.3%	4.3%	11.6%	13.0%	55.1%	11.6%
3. Evidence of gang activity	11.6%	20.3%	30.4%	18.8%	11.6%	7.2%
4. Inadequate police presence	10.1%	21.7%	21.7%	15.9%	18.8%	11.6%
5. Inadequate street lighting	2.9%	10.1%	29.0%	18.8%	27.5%	11.6%
6. Incidents of car break-ins and thefts	21.7%	23.2%	20.3%	17.4%	10.1%	7.2%
7. Indifference of city officials to business	27.5%	13.0%	15.9%	13.0%	21.7%	8.7%
8. Nearby abandoned lots or buildings	26.1%	27.5%	10.1%	10.1%	20.3%	5.8%
9. Police indifference to reported crimes	13.0%	7.2%	26.1%	13.0%	24.6%	15.9%
10. Poor streets and sidewalks	7.2%	14.5%	17.4%	14.5%	34.8%	11.6%
11. Presence of loitering juveniles	29.0%	20.3%	20.3%	11.6%	11.6%	7.2%
12. Uncleanliness of neighborhood/street	29.0%	29.0%	14.5%	7.2%	13.0%	7.2%
13. Prostitution	2.9%	13.0%	21.7%	17.4%	31.9%	13.0%

11. **Are you pleased with city services, such as the street department, police department, water department, economic development, etc.**

<u>2000 response</u>	<u>2001 response</u>	<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>61.5%</u> Yes	<u>52.9%</u> Yes	<u>49.1%</u> Yes	<u>53.6%</u> Yes
<u>30.8%</u> No	<u>45.1%</u> No	<u>40.4%</u> No	<u>36.2%</u> No
<u>7.7%</u> N/A	<u>2.0%</u> N/A	<u>10.5%</u> N/A	<u>10.1%</u> N/A

Please explain (2003 responses only):

Negative- Need more police (11), economic development is poor (7), need more support from city (6), roads need repaired (6), snow removal is poor (4), neighborhoods need cleaned up (2), all areas need improved (2), crackdown on juvenile offenders, limited funds, need more state involvement.

Positive- City is trying (2), do an adequate job, good service with police department, no problems, street/water department is good.

12. **If you are not pleased with a specific city department, please check which one.** (Check all that apply)

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Air pollution department	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%
Housing and building inspector	20.5%	29.5%	29.8%	10.1%
Demolition department	10.3%	27.5%	24.6%	23.2%
Fire department	2.6%	0.0%	1.8%	2.9%
Rat control	5.1%	11.8%	5.3%	10.1%
Infant immunization	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Health department	2.6%	7.8%	7.0%	5.8%
Light department	10.3%	3.9%	1.8%	1.4%
Mayor's office	0.0%	7.8%	12.3%	11.6%
Park department	7.7%	2.0%	0.0%	1.4%
Trash/garbage department	10.3%	9.8%	8.8%	13.0%
Street department	25.6%	21.6%	14.0%	23.2%
Water department	2.6%	11.8%	3.5%	7.2%
AIDS education	0.0%	3.9%	3.5%	2.9%
Economic development	7.7%	17.6%	33.3%	30.4%

13. **Do you believe the City of Youngstown should place a greater or lower priority in some of its activities?** Please rate the following activities using the following scale. Make a check in the appropriate box for each choice. (2003 responses only)

	Greater priority	Keep the same	Lower priority	No opinion	n/a
1. Advertising sign ordinance	20.3%	17.4%	23.2%	26.1%	13.0%
2. Parking availability (public & street)	31.9%	23.2%	17.4%	15.9%	11.6%
3. Police protection (general)	71.0%	17.4%	2.9%	1.4%	7.2%
4. Police response time	66.7%	18.8%	2.9%	2.9%	8.7%
5. Police visibility	65.2%	18.8%	5.8%	1.4%	8.7%
6. Sidewalk condition	21.7%	39.1%	17.4%	11.6%	10.1%
7. Snow removal	39.1%	33.3%	11.6%	7.2%	8.7%
8. Street condition	31.9%	31.9%	15.9%	5.8%	14.5%
9. Street lighting	27.5%	39.1%	11.6%	7.2%	14.5%
10. Street name signs	15.9%	42.0%	15.9%	11.6%	14.5%
11. Economic development programs	68.1%	14.5%	2.9%	2.9%	11.6%

Employment

14. **Approximately how many workers/employees did this establishment employ during 2002?**

<u>Full-time</u>		<u>Part-time</u>	
18.8%	1	29.0%	1-5
47.8%	2-5	4.3%	6-10
23.2%	6-25	5.8%	11-25
4.3%	26-100	2.9%	26-100
1.4%	Over 100	1.4%	Over 100
4.3%	N/A	53.6%	N/A

15. **Do your employees feel safe while at work?**

<u>2000 response</u>		<u>2001 response</u>		<u>2002 response</u>		<u>2003 response</u>	
76.9%	Yes	52.9%	Yes	61.4%	Yes	60.9%	Yes
17.9%	No	33.3%	No	31.6%	No	33.3%	No
5.1%	N/A	13.7%	N/A	7.0%	N/A	5.8%	N/A

16. **Do you have a problem hiring/keeping employees because of your location or the threat of crime?**

<u>2000 response</u>		<u>2001 response</u>		<u>2002 response</u>		<u>2003 response</u>	
76.9%	Yes	52.9%	Yes	17.5%	Yes	29.0%	Yes
17.9%	No	33.3%	No	73.7%	No	65.2%	No
5.1%	N/A	13.7%	N/A	8.8%	N/A	5.8%	N/A

17. **Do most of your employees reside on the south side?**

<u>2000 response</u>		<u>2001 response</u>		<u>2002 response</u>		<u>2003 response</u>	
20.5%	Yes	21.6%	Yes	22.8%	Yes	20.3%	Yes
74.4%	No	68.6%	No	70.2%	No	72.5%	No
5.1%	N/A	9.8%	N/A	7.0%	N/A	7.2%	N/A

18. Do you, as an owner/manager, live on the south side?

<u>2000 response</u>	<u>2001 response</u>	<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>17.9%</u> Yes	<u>29.4%</u> Yes	<u>19.3%</u> Yes	<u>27.5%</u> Yes
<u>76.9%</u> No	<u>60.8%</u> No	<u>77.2%</u> No	<u>69.6%</u> No
<u>5.1%</u> N/A	<u>9.8%</u> N/A	<u>3.5%</u> N/A	<u>2.9%</u> N/A

Future

19. What are your business plans for the next five years?

	2000 Response	2001 Response	2002 Response	2003 Response
No changes expected	23.1%	41.2%	40.4%	31.9%
Expand the business	53.8%	31.4%	29.8%	34.8%
Relocate/move	10.3%	13.7%	14.0%	21.7%
Close	2.6%	2.0%	3.5%	1.4%
Selling the business	5.1%	2.0%	7.0%	4.3%
N/A	5.1%	9.8%	5.3%	5.8%

20. What impact does the visual aspect of your neighborhood have on your future plans?

	2001 Response	2002 Response	2003 Response
A major impact on future plans	43.1%	49.1%	42.0%
Somewhat of an impact on future plans	31.4%	24.6%	27.5%
Very little impact on future plans	11.8%	12.3%	17.4%
No impact on future plans	7.8%	10.5%	8.7%
N/A	5.9%	3.5%	4.3%

21. Are you familiar with the city's loan programs?

<u>2000 response</u>	<u>2001 response</u>	<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>43.6%</u> Yes	<u>29.4%</u> Yes	<u>29.8%</u> Yes	<u>39.1%</u> Yes
<u>53.8%</u> No	<u>64.7%</u> No	<u>63.2%</u> No	<u>55.1%</u> No
<u>2.6%</u> N/A	<u>5.9%</u> N/A	<u>7.0%</u> N/A	<u>5.8%</u> N/A

22. In the future, if you needed to take part in the city's loan program, what amount would you need and for what purpose?

	2000 Response	2001 Response	2002 Response	2003 Response
Amount				
\$1,000 - \$10,000	10.3%	9.8%	5.3%	15.6%
\$10,001 - \$20,000	5.1%	9.8%	12.3%	31.2%
\$20,001 - \$50,000	25.6%	11.8%	15.8%	18.8%
Over \$50,000	20.5%	13.7%	19.3%	34.4%
N/A	38.5%	54.9%	47.4%	53.6%
Purpose				
Renovation	30.8%	50.0%	43.3%	46.9%
Expansion/new construction	25.6%	25.0%	33.3%	31.2%
Relocation	5.1%	12.5%	10.0%	6.3%
Working capital	17.9%	4.2%	13.3%	12.5%
Other	20.6%	8.3%	0.0%	3.1%

Involvement

23. Are you a member of the Chamber of Commerce?

<u>2000 response</u>	<u>2001 response</u>	<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>20.5%</u> Yes	<u>15.7%</u> Yes	<u>29.8%</u> Yes	<u>18.8%</u> Yes
<u>79.5%</u> No	<u>80.4%</u> No	<u>63.2%</u> No	<u>75.4%</u> No
<u>0.0%</u> N/A	<u>3.9%</u> N/A	<u>7.0%</u> N/A	<u>5.8%</u> N/A

24. Would you be interested in receiving technical support from the Chamber or city for business improvements?

<u>2000 response</u>	<u>2001 response</u>	<u>2002 response</u>	<u>2003 response</u>
<u>56.4%</u> Yes	<u>52.9%</u> Yes	<u>38.6%</u> Yes	<u>37.7%</u> Yes
<u>33.3%</u> No	<u>37.3%</u> No	<u>52.6%</u> No	<u>52.2%</u> No
<u>10.3%</u> N/A	<u>9.8%</u> N/A	<u>8.8%</u> N/A	<u>10.1%</u> N/A

25. What are you willing to do to help improve the neighborhood in which your business is located?

	2001	2002	2003
Participate in a neighborhood committee involving businesses in your area.	52.9%	38.6%	36.2%
Become an active member of a block watch.	NA	NA	18.8%
Clean up property around your building.	NA	NA	59.4%
Be involved in a beautification effort within the Weed and Seed area.	54.9%	52.6%	36.2%
Report illegal activity.	NA	NA	78.3%
Other*	NA	NA	7.2%

* Other includes anything to help, anything it takes, be a positive influence, buy vacant land, pray.

Demographics

26. How long have you been with this business establishment?

<u>1 - 1.4%</u>	0-1 year	<u>18 - 26.1%</u>	11-20 years
<u>14 - 20.3%</u>	2-5 years	<u>11 - 15.9%</u>	21-30 years
<u>11- 15.9%</u>	6-10 years	<u>12 - 17.4%</u>	Over 30 years
		<u>2 - 2.9%</u>	N/A

27. What type of business is this? (Please check only one)

<u>4 - 5.8%</u>	Construction	<u>8 - 11.6%</u>	Business and repair services
<u>1 - 1.4%</u>	Manufacturing	<u>5 - 7.2%</u>	Personal services
<u>1 - 1.4%</u>	Transportation & communication	<u>1 - 1.4%</u>	Entertainment
<u>2 - 2.9%</u>	Wholesale	<u>3 - 4.3%</u>	Professional & legal
<u>17 - 24.6%</u>	Retail	<u>2 - 2.9%</u>	Public administration
<u>4 - 5.8%</u>	Finance, insurance, real estate	<u>16 - 23.2%</u>	Other*
		<u>5 - 7.2%</u>	N/A

* Other includes church (4), restaurant/bar (4), adult care (2), counseling, learning centers, non-profit, reprographics, upholstery, and missing.

28. How many employees currently work at your business?

374 Number of full-time workers 168 Number of part-time workers

29. What is your annual payroll?

<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	Under \$10,000
<u>4 - 5.8%</u>	Between \$10,001 - \$20,000
<u>5 - 7.0%</u>	Between \$20,001 - \$100,000
<u>4 - 5.8%</u>	Between \$100,001 - \$200,000
<u>4 - 5.8%</u>	Between \$200,001 - \$1,000,00
<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	Over \$1,000,001
<u>52 - 75.4%</u>	N/A

**2003 BLOCK WATCH SURVEY RESULTS
WEED AND SEED**

Eleven block watch surveys were mailed to the block watch presidents. Three returned the survey, for a return rate of 27.3%.

1. Do you perceive a change in the crime rate over the past year?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Yes, a large increase	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Yes, a small increase	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
No, it is about the same	<u>4 - 57.1%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Yes, a small decrease	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Yes, a large decrease	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>

2. Over the last year, have you noticed a change in drug activity in your neighborhood?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
A rise in drug activity	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
A decrease in drug activity	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>3 - 60.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
About the same in drug activity	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>

3. Over the last year, have you noticed a change in the YPD patrolling your neighborhood?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
More visible in the last year	<u>6 - 85.6%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Less visible in the last year	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
About the same	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>3 - 60.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>

4. Is the Youngstown Police Department (YPD) currently doing a good job in reducing crime in your neighborhood?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Doing a good job	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>3 - 60.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>
Doing a fair job	<u>4 - 57.1%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Doing a poor job	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>

5. Do you perceive a change in the upkeep of neighborhood homes and yards over the past year?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Yes, a large increase	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Yes, a small increase	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
No, it is about the same	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>3 - 60.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Yes, a small decrease	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Yes, a large decrease	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>

6. Do you think that the content and enforcement of building and housing codes are adequate?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
No, they are too lax or ineffective	<u>5 - 71.4%</u>	<u>3 - 60.0%</u>	<u>3 - 100.0%</u>
Yes, they are adequate	<u>2 - 28.6%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
No, they are too severe or unreasonable	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>

7. Do you perceive a change in the upkeep of public property, including roads and sidewalks, over the past year?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Yes, they are much worse	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Yes, they are slightly worse	<u>4 - 57.1%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
No, they are about the same	<u>2 - 28.6%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>
Yes, they are slightly better	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Yes, they are much better	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>

8. Please check which are the biggest problems in your neighborhood? (Check all that apply)

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Crime	<u>2 - 28.6%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Drugs/selling drugs	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>
Juvenile loitering/causing trouble	<u>4 - 57.1%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>
Lack of activities for children	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>
Lack of police presence	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Schools	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Lack of after-school programs	<u>2 - 28.6%</u>	<u>1 - 20.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>
Gang activity	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Teen pregnancy	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Trash/garbage in neighborhood	<u>5 - 71.4%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>
Noise	<u>3 - 42.8%</u>	<u>2 - 40.0%</u>	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>

9. What could the City of Youngstown do to have more people participate in community events and crime prevention programs?

- I believe most of the adults just don't have the time to participate. There should be long term programs starting in the schools to develop a continuing relationship from an early age.
- The City of Youngstown must participate in community events and real crime prevention.

10. Do you feel the block watch groups are effective?

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Yes	<u>6 - 85.6%</u>	<u>5 - 100.0%</u>	<u>3 - 100.0%</u>
No	<u>1 - 14.4%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>	<u>0 - 0.0%</u>

11. Do you include businesses in your block watch activities?

	<u>2003</u>
Yes	<u>2 - 66.7%</u>
No	<u>1 - 33.3%</u>

If NO, please explain why.

- I never thought of including businesses.

12. How can the Weed and Seed program better assist your block watch?

- The Weed and Seed Program is in only part of our block watch area and I believe they are doing well in the part we share.
- Listen and be present unbiased, without prejudice.
- The Weed and Seed does a great job.

13. What do you expect from the Weed and Seed program?

- Continued community involvement and positive results.
- Unbiased participation. Money spent (programs) on criminal sources- black males 18-24.
- Support and the grant money is nice.

- 14. What role do you think block watches have in Weed and Seed activities?**
- Bring forth information from the neighborhoods and give insight for directing the program.
 - Under the present chain of command- Nothing. Block watches should be the driving force.
 - They provide valuable information to the Weed and Seed.
- 15. What do you feel your role is as a Weed and Seed block watch president?**
- Help implement and inspire the program.
 - To be a vocal participant as any block watch president should be, not a cheerleader.
 - To hold meetings and to inform neighbors of what is going on in the neighborhood. Brings us closer.
- 16. Do you think the city administration supports your block watch efforts?**
- | | |
|-----|------------------|
| | <u>2003</u> |
| Yes | <u>2 - 66.7%</u> |
| No | <u>1 - 33.3%</u> |
- If NO, please explain why.**
- The administration is using the program for petty cash usage.
- 17. What can the city of Youngstown do to increase block watch participation?**
- Get involved with the children.
 - The city of Youngstown must participate in the block watches, not suburbanites.