Number of Unique Youth Involved in Offenses/Incidents

In contrast to the city trend, the rate in which unique youth were involved in offenses in Alger Heights was generally less than Grand Rapids as a whole. With the exception of a period of time between 2010 and 2011 Alger Heights reported less unique youth crime and status offenses than the Grand Rapids city rate.

As represented in Figure 5.1 Alger Heights experienced a sudden drop in unique youth involved in Crime Offenses between 2007 and 2008 with a slight rise in unique youth involved in Crime Offenses between 2008 and 2009. Between 2009 and 2012 the unique youth involved Crime Offense rate hovered around the same rate as Grand Rapids in general with a slight rise above the Grand Rapids rate in 2011. The unique youth involved in Status Offenses (see Figure 5.2) in Alger Heights was below the Grand Rapids rate except for a small spike in 2010. The rate of unique youth connected to Family Domestic Incidents in Alger Heights (see Figure 5.3) slightly exceeded the Grand Rapids city rate between 2009 and 2011.

Number of Unique Offenses/Incidents

In contrast to the city rate of unique offenses, Alger Heights unique offense rate was below the city rate across all years within the report except for 2011. In 2008, the Alger Heights rate of unique offenses was reported at one third the rate of Grand Rapids. In 2011, the unique offense rate rose slightly above the city rate. After surpassing the city rate in 2011, the Alger Heights rate again began to decline at a faster rate than the city rate through 2012.
The rates of all the offense/incident categories fluctuated between 2006 and 2012 with the greatest fluctuation occurring in the unique Crime Offense category. The only time period in which Alger Heights Crime Offenses exceeded the city rate was in 2011. The Status Offense rate in Alger Heights did not exceed the city rate between 2006 and 2012. The Family Domestic Incident rate exceeded the city rate slightly between 2009 and 2011.

**Figure 5.2 Alger Heights - Rate of Youth Involved in Status Offenses**

**Figure 5.3 Alger Heights - Rate of Youth Involved in Family/Domestic Incidents**

**Figure 5.4 Alger Heights - Rate of Juvenile Crime/Status Offenses**

**Figure 5.5 Alger Heights - Rate of Juvenile Crime Offenses**
Residence of Youth Inside or Outside of the Neighborhood

As can be seen in Figure 5.8, the percent of youth residing outside the Alger Heights neighborhood who were involved in offenses within the Alger Heights neighborhood was greater than the offenses committed by youth residing within Alger Heights. For example in 2009, almost 80 percent of the Crime and Status Offenses combined occurring in Alger Heights were attributed to youth residing outside of the neighborhood. In general, the percent of youth who live in Alger Heights that were responsible for offenses within Alger Heights was between 15 percent and 20 percent across all years of this study. When separating Crime Offenses and Status Offenses there is a slight increase in the proportion of Alger Heights resident youth committing Crime Offenses in 2007 and 2008. Concerning Status Offenses, 50 percent of the Status Offenses in 2006 were attributed to resident and zero Status Offenses were attributed to Alger Heights resident youth in 2007, 2008, and 2012. These extreme rate fluctuations are attributable to a low number of offenses in general.

Age of Offenders/Incidents

Figure 6.1 compares the age of juvenile Crime and Status Offenders in Alger Heights against the age of juvenile Crime and Status Offenders within Grand Rapids. In general, the age of onset in Alger Heights follows the same pattern as the Grand Rapids pattern. There are slight differentiations within years but overall the vast number of offenses are being committed by youth between the ages of 14 and 16.
Density Map of Juvenile Offenses/Incidents

The geographical distribution of all juvenile offenses/incidents in Alger Heights is displayed in the map on page 52. All the juvenile offenses/incidents—including Criminal Offenses, Status Offenses, and Family Domestic Incidents—reported by the Grand Rapids Police Department from 2006 through 2012 are included within this density map. These maps represent the location of offenses/incidents only, not the residence of the youth involved. In Alger Heights, there are three particular areas of higher density offenses/incidents. In particular the geographic areas in the northeast end of the neighborhood bordering the Southeast End neighborhood; the area surrounding Alger Middle School on the west side of the neighborhood and in the south east corner of the neighborhood overlapping with the

Figure 5.8 Alger Heights - Residence of Offenders Crime and Status Offenses

Figure 5.9 Alger Heights - Residence of Offenders Crime Offenses

Figure 6.0 Alger Heights - Residence of Offenders Status Offenses

Figure 6.1 Alger Heights - Age of Offenders
Shangrai-La neighborhood. The latter neighborhood area is a geographic area accounting for 230 offenses/incidents between 2006 and 2012. Further understanding of the areas with a higher density of offenses can be developed through discussion with those familiar with the characteristics of the neighborhood and the particular blocks accounting for the high density of offenses/incidents.
Concentration of Juvenile Offenses 2006 - 2012 – Alger Heights

Legend

- **H** Grand Rapids Public Schools
- City of Grand Rapids
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Green Space
- Rivers & Lakes
- Major Roads
  - Business
  - Expressway
  - State
  - Street

Number of Juvenile Offenses

- 1 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 21 - 50
- ( ) 51 - 230

Note: The ( ) signifies the number of offenses in cells containing greater than 50 offenses.

Sources:
- Grand Rapids Police Department - 2013
- After School Programs Database - Our Community’s Children
- Community Research Institute

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