

Crime data

Interesting analysis:

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/files/ric/Publications/crimeanalysis60steps.txt>

Learning from Unsuccessful Attempts

The Chula Vista, California Police Department was aware that the city's building boom could worsen the residential burglary problem. The new houses were intended for affluent couples who would be out during the day when burglaries were most likely to happen. The police, therefore, decided to examine the effectiveness of existing security precautions to see if any of these could be built into new homes or suggested to homeowners. Cathy Burciaga, one of the department's crime analysts, compared completed burglaries with unsuccessful attempts for an 18-month sample of 569 homes in the city. This indicated that deadbolts should be installed on both the side and front doors of new houses. Interviews conducted with 250 victims and 50 burglars revealed that not one burglar had tried to enter a house by breaking a double-glazed window. This led to the recommendation that all windows in new housing be double-glazed and meet strict forced-entry standards.

Table Headers - Unsuccessful Attempts, Effective means of protection*

Deadbolt front & side doors	Yes
Outdoor motion detector	Yes
Radio/TV left on	Yes
Alarm company sign	Yes
Dusk to dawn light	No
Indoor light on	No
Indoor timer light	No
Deadbolt on front door	No

*"Yes" means present in a larger proportion of unsuccessful attempts than completed burglaries.

Deadbolt front & side doors 15%, 29%, Yes
Outdoor motion detector 23%, 36%, Yes
Radio/TV left on 9%, 18%, Yes
Alarm company sign 19%, 36%, Yes

Dusk to dawn light 28%, 29%, No
Indoor light on 26%, 29%, No
Indoor timer light 9%, 11%, No

Deadbolt on front door 28%, 25%, No