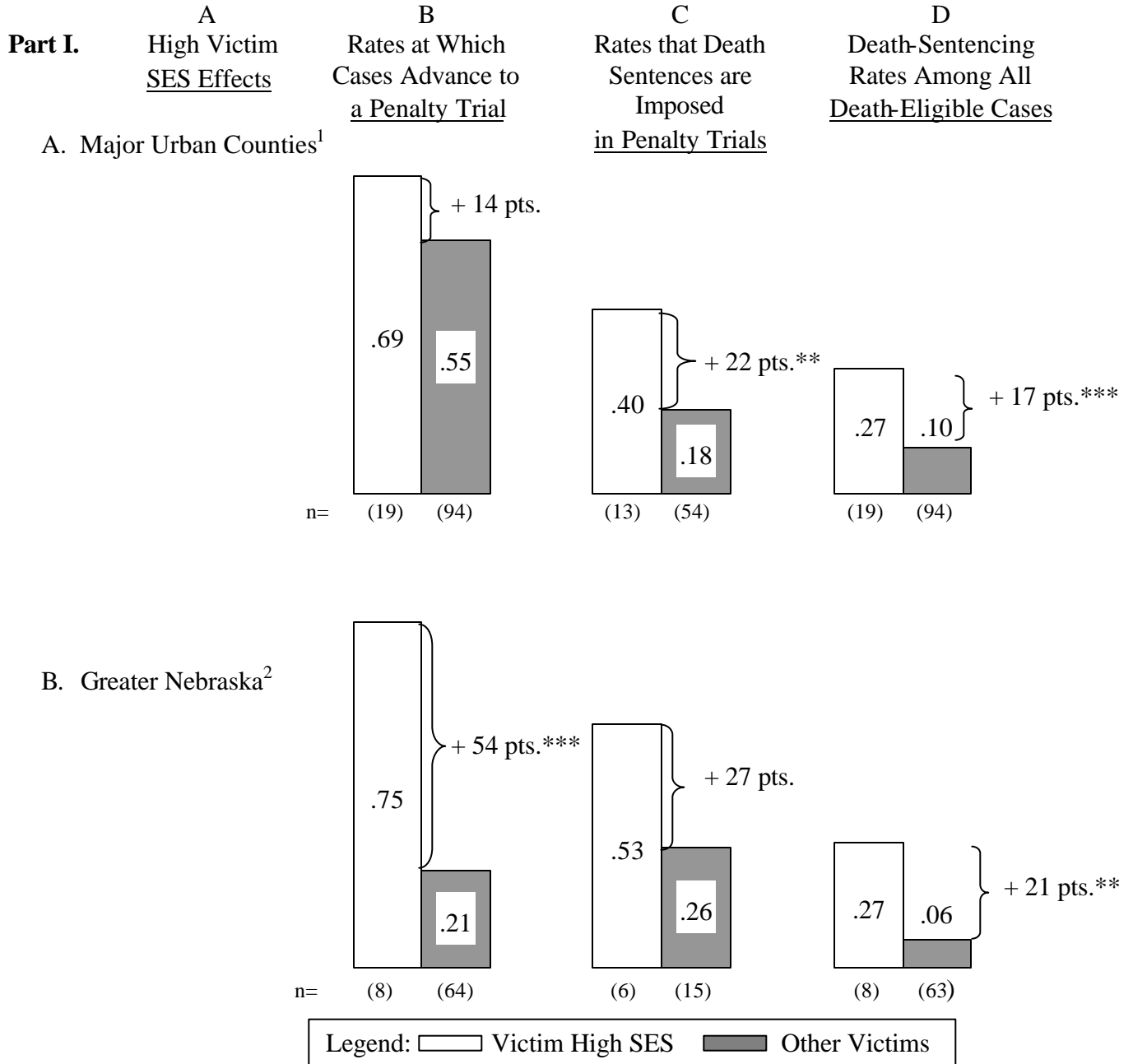


FIGURE 24

HIGH (PART I) AND LOW (PART II) VICTIM SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS (SES) DISPARITIES IN CHARGING AND SENTENCING OUTCOMES IN MAJOR URBAN COUNTIES AND GREATER NEBRASKA ADJUSTED FOR THE NUMBER OF STATUTORY AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE CASES: 1973-1999

(the bars indicate the penalty trial (Column B) and death-sentencing rates (Column C & D) after adjustment for the number of statutory aggravating circumstances in the cases)¹



¹ The source of the high victim SES disparities shown in this panel are Douglas and Sarpy Counties where there is a 20 point disparity (.80 v .60) ($p = .18$) in the adjusted rates that cases advance to a penalty trial; a 26 point disparity (.37 v .11) ($p = .02$) in penalty trial death-sentencing rates; and a 25 point disparity (.31 v .06) ($p = .01$) in the rates death sentences are imposed among all death-eligible cases. In Lancaster County, the charging and sentencing rates are *lower* in the high victim SES cases than in the other cases.

² The discrepancies in case counts between Part II, Columns A and C reflect the fact that in one case the sentencing court believed it had no discretion to impose a death sentence under the law. Accordingly, that case is omitted from Columns C and D.

*=significant at .10 level; **=significant at .05 level; ***=significant at the .01 level; ****=significant at the .0001 level.

