

# VIOLENT CRIME PROFILE

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Champaign County

## Introduction

Problem analysis is the basic building block for creating an effective, strategic approach to crime prevention. Many criminal justice agencies collect a vast amount of data, yet few use these data in ways that can fully inform their policies and practices. Understanding your community's crime problem will require analysis of various types of information, some of which may be already collected and some of which will require additional data collection efforts. The purpose of this document is to provide your community with a starting point for assessing, understanding, and discussing its violent crime problems, particularly those stemming from firearm-related violence. The packet contains analyses of data that are accessible to researchers working at the state-level and include data submitted to the Illinois State Police Uniform Crime Reporting and Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) programs.

At the end of this pack is a glossary of terms to aid interpretation and understanding of the data points presented. The packet also provides suggestions for what other types of data should be collected and examined. Research staff at the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority are available to talk more with you about the data presented here as well as what additional data that might exist and next steps for data collection and analysis.

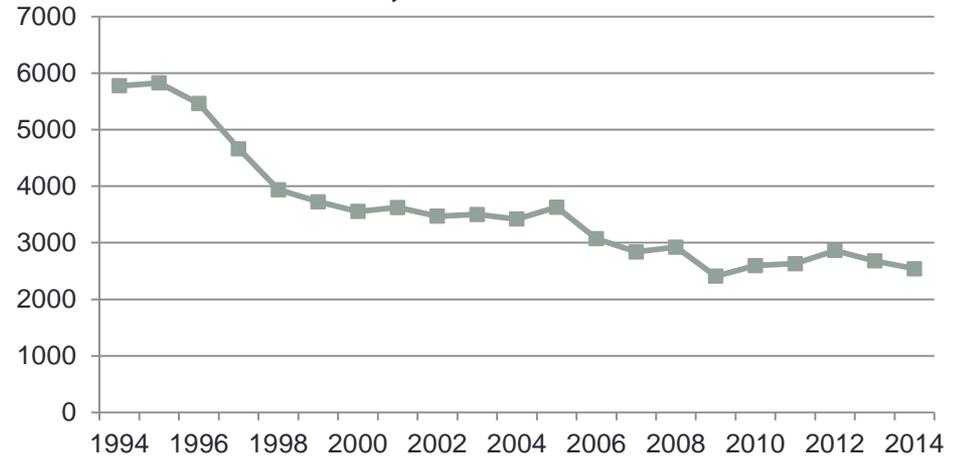
- John Maki, Executive Director



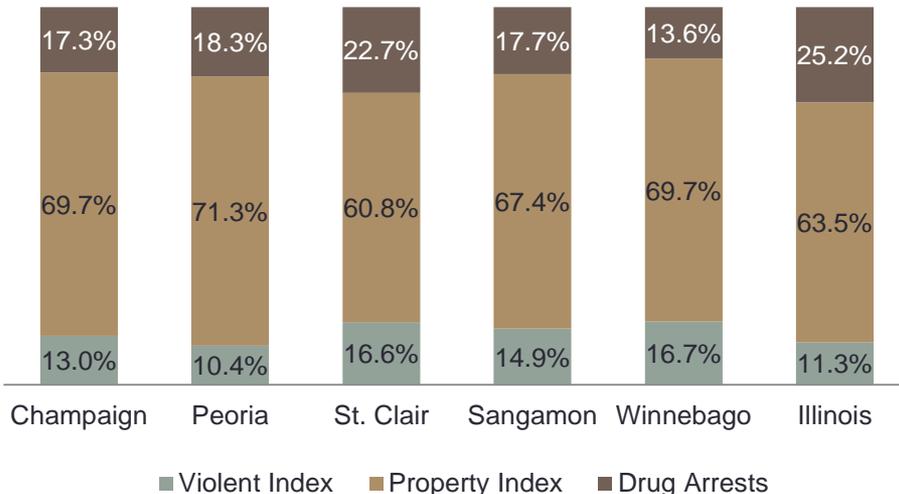
## Index Crime and Drug Arrests

- There were slightly different trend patterns noted for Champaign County’s violent and property index crime rates over the last twenty years. Both have declined overall, but most recently (2008-2014) the property index crime rate has remained relatively stable, while the violent index crime rate has declined.
- The Champaign County drug arrest rate trend line has remained relatively stable overall, with fluctuations here and there, since the late 1990s.
- Property index crimes accounted for the majority of crimes reported in Champaign County and in other counties with comparable residential population sizes.

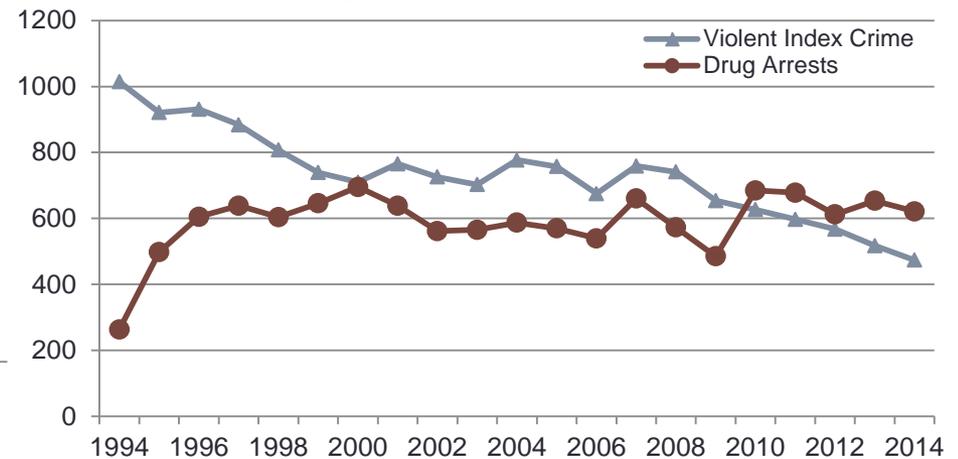
### Property Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons



### Index Crime and Drug Arrests - 2014



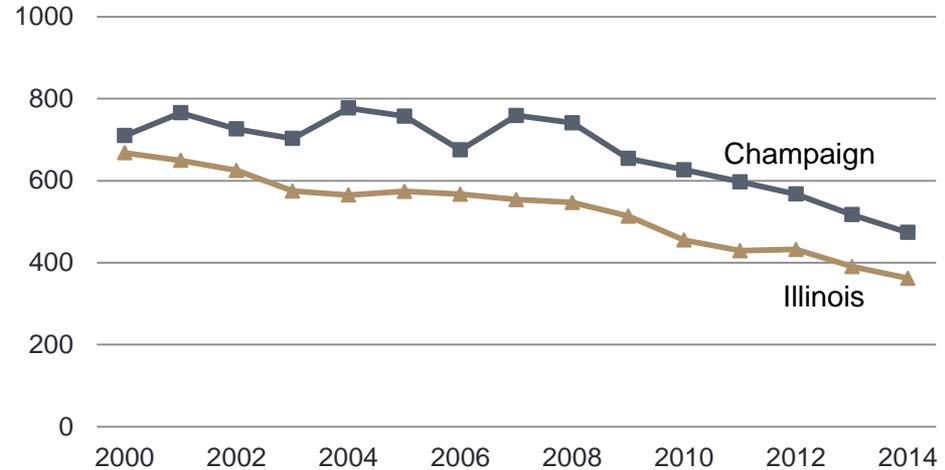
### Violent Index Crime and Drug Arrest Rates per 100,000 Persons



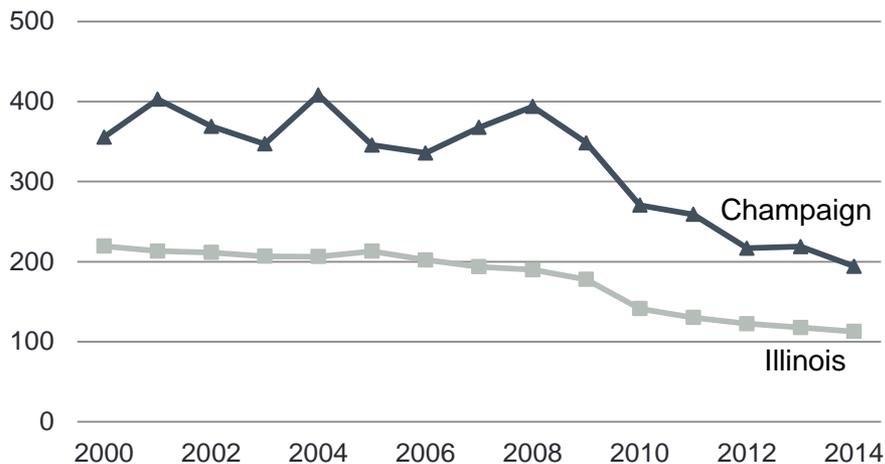
## Violent Index Crime

- The violent index crime and arrest rates have followed similar patterns over time.
- Aggravated assaults (and batteries) accounted for the largest percentage of violent index crimes reported to police in Champaign County and consequently the highest percentage of arrests. Murders accounted for only 1% of crimes reported and arrests.

### Violent Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons

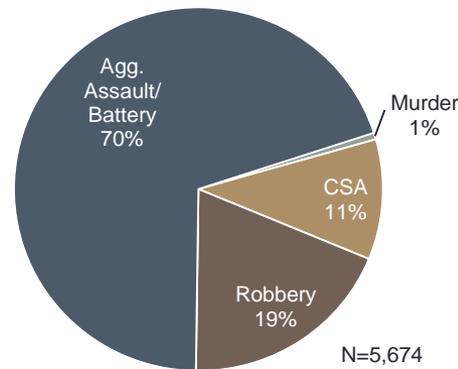


### Violent Index Arrest Rate per 100,000 Persons

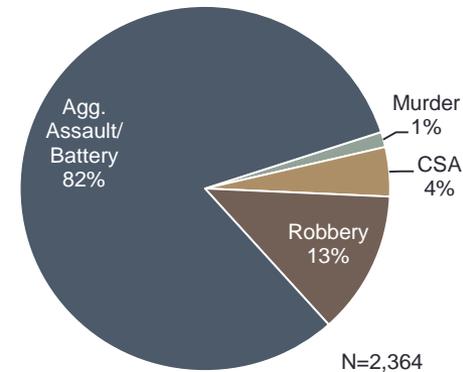


### Champaign County: 2010 - 2014

#### Violent Index Crimes



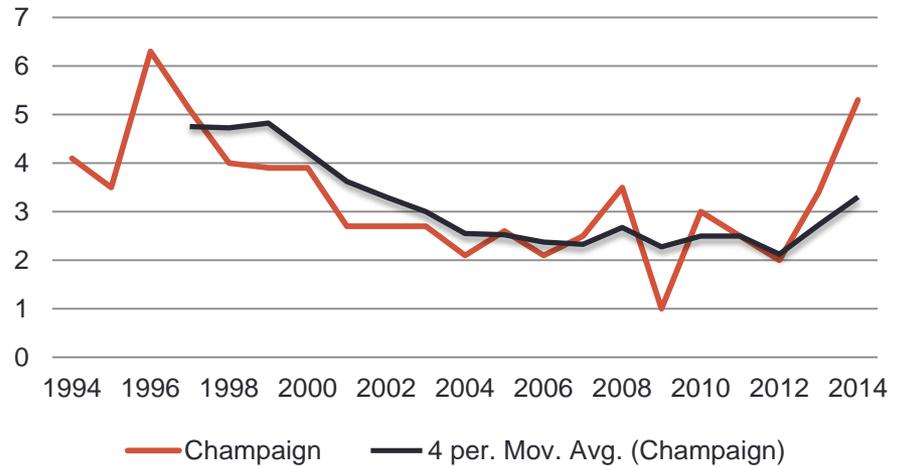
#### Violent Index Arrests



## Murder & Aggravated Assault

- Overall, the murder and the aggravated assault (and battery) rates for Champaign County have declined since 1994. The steepest decline in the murder rate occurred between 1996 and 2004, while the most notable decline in the aggravated assault (and battery) rate occurred between 2010 and 2014.
- Champaign County experienced an uptick in the number of murders in 2014. Caution should be taken when interpreting this as a crime spike as that year could represent an anomaly.

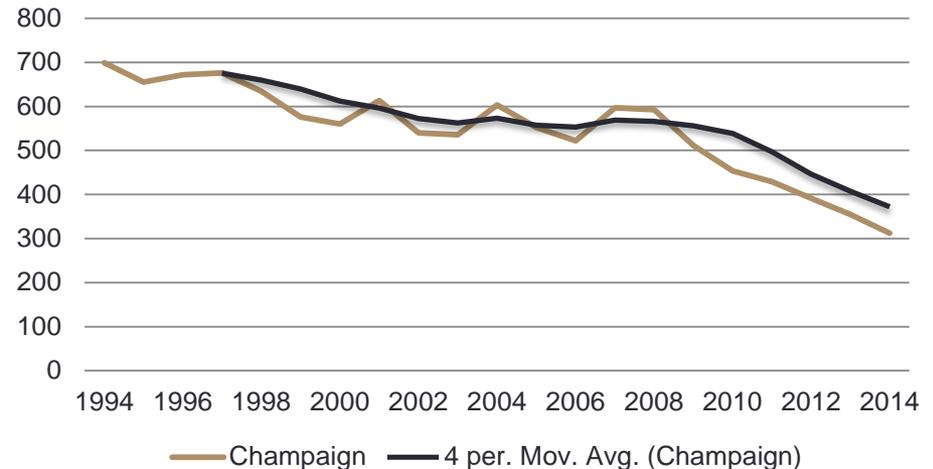
### Murder Rate per 100,000 Persons



### Number of Murders and Aggravated Assaults, 2005-2014

Offense Type	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Murders	5	4	5	7	2	6	5	4	7	11
Aggravated Assaults	1,052	1,012	1,174	1,170	1,022	914	870	798	730	647

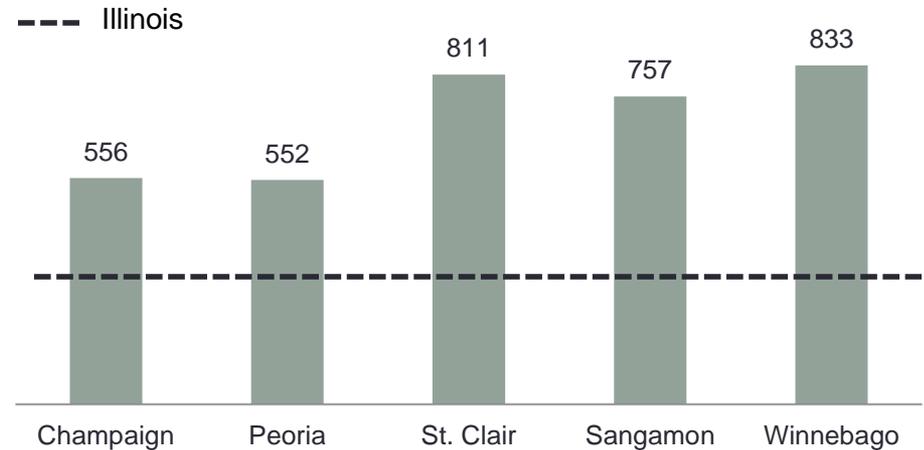
### Aggravated Assault Rate per 100,000 Persons



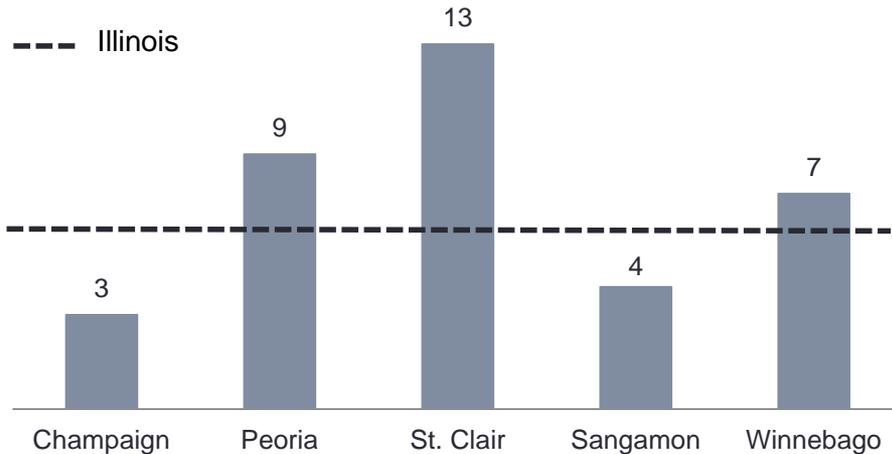
## Avg. Violent Crime Rates – 2010 to 2014

- The average violent Index crime and the aggravated assault (and battery) rates from 2010 to 2014 were above the rate for Illinois.
- The average murder rate from 2010 to 2014 in Champaign County was below the rate for Illinois.
- Direct comparisons between counties of comparable population sizes is somewhat challenging and caution should be taken when drawing conclusions. Community-level factors, such as the rate of poverty, unemployment, and residential mobility, are associated with crime prevalence and may explain the differences noted.

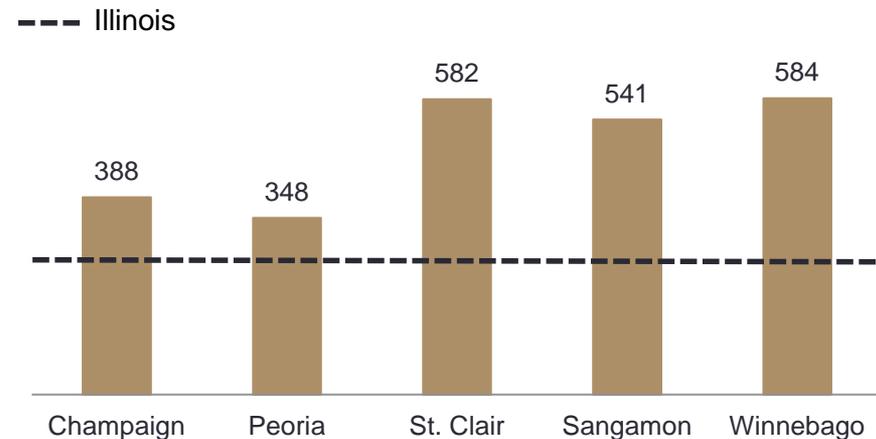
## Average Violent Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons



## Average Murder Rate per 100,000 Persons



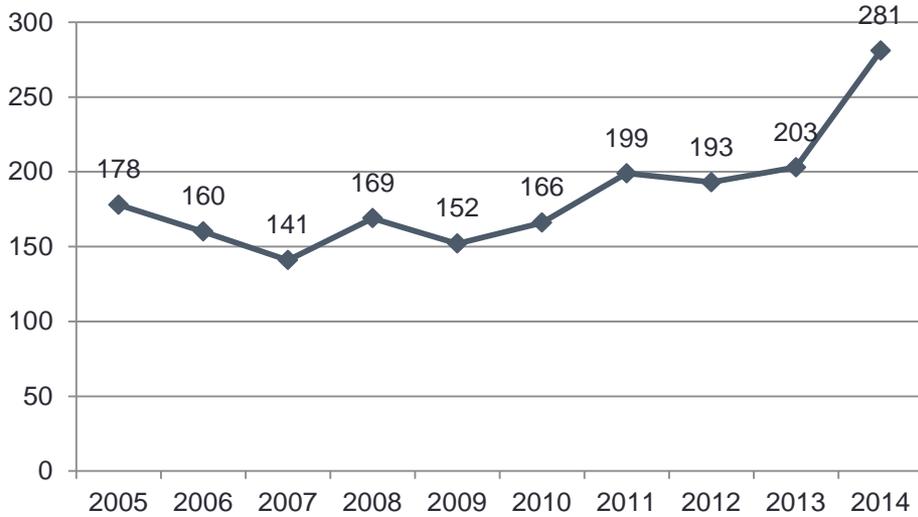
## Average Aggravated Assault Rate per 100,000 Persons



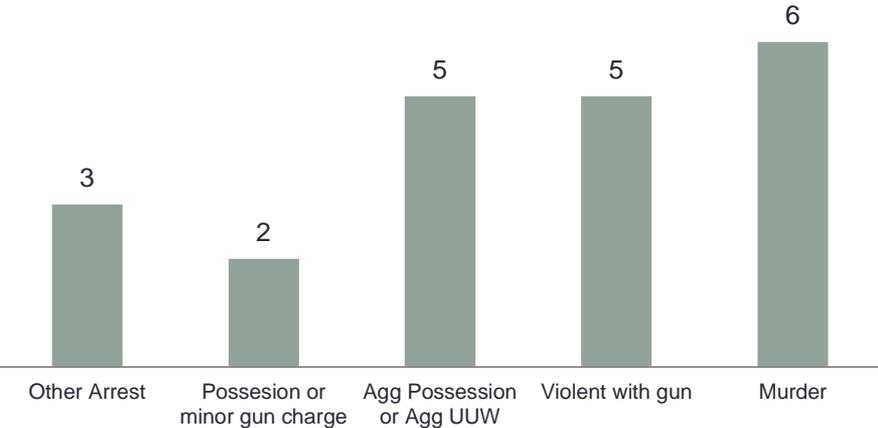
# Murders & Firearm Involved Arrests – 2014

- There were 281 murder and firearm-involve arrests made by agencies located in Champaign County in 2014. This number was higher than in previous years and likely reflective of the uptick in murders in 2014, but additional years are needed to determine whether this increase reflects a new trend.
- The typical arrestee in 2014 was 24 years old (median age), male, Black, and had 5 prior arrests (median prior arrests).
- Those arrested for more serious, violent offenses tended to have more significant criminal histories, both in terms of the number of prior arrests, but also the type of prior arrests.
- Conviction rates varied by type of arrest charge.

**Total Number of Murder and Firearm-involved Arrests**

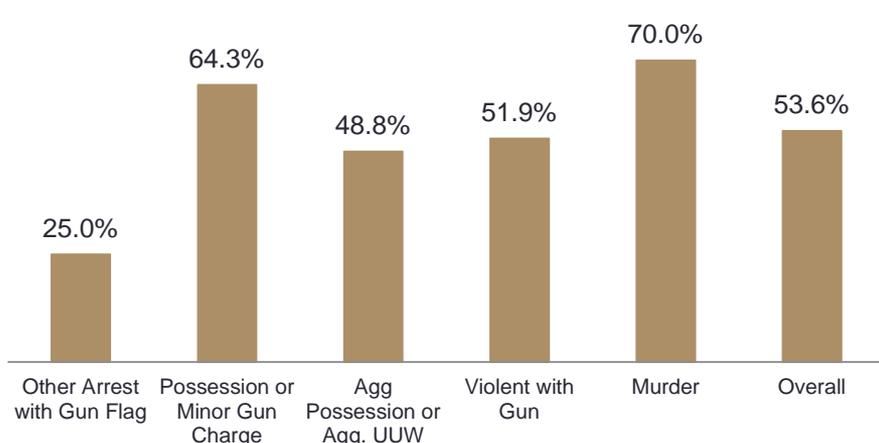


**Median Number of Prior Arrests by Current Arrest Charge\***



\*Includes all arrests from 2005 to 2014.

**Percent of Arrests in 2010 Resulting in a Conviction by 2014**



Source: Illinois Criminal History Record Information system.

## Suggested Additional Data Analysis

Communities interested in implementing the programs identified during this conference are encouraged to consider analyzing and potentially collecting additional data. Regardless as to whether communities are considering focused deterrence or the swift, certain, and fair approach, we strongly urge that you collect information that helps facilitate a discussion about the relationship between the residents of your community and criminal justice agencies.

- **Police data (Focused Deterrence):**
  - Calls for service by crime type, date/time, neighborhood
  - Crime data by victim and suspect characteristics (NIBRS data)
  - Shootings by date/time, suspect(s) and victim(s) involved, group(s) involved, neighborhood, motive, weapon(s) used
  - Individual and group-specific data for targeted intervention
- **Probation data (Swift, Certain, Fair):**
  - Probation trends in use and compliance
  - Profile of probationers who violate terms of probation, including demographics, violation types and reasons for violations, offense history, previous history on probation
  - Assessment of existing probation processes and sanctioning practices
- **Neighborhood perceptions and legitimacy:**
  - Neighborhood conditions, crime, fear of crime
  - Police and the criminal justice system response
  - Police-community relationship (legitimacy, support)
- **Police and other CJS personnel perceptions:**
  - Police-community relationship
  - Collaborative relationship between criminal justice stakeholders (police, prosecutors, probation, parole, community service providers)
  - Barriers to effective crime prevention and intervention

## Glossary of Terms

Violent Index crimes:	Includes all incidents of murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault/battery reported to the police.
Property Index crimes:	Includes all incidents of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson reported to the police.
Drug arrest violations:	Includes all arrests made for violations of the Illinois Cannabis Control Act, Controlled Substances Act, Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act, Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, and the Methamphetamine Control Act.
Moving average:	A moving average is simply the average of a specific number of data points across the time period examined. In the data provided to you we calculated a 4-year moving average. The first moving average would represent years 1994 to 1997, the second moving average would be for years 1995 to 1998 and so forth. A moving average allows one to “smooth” out trend lines, which can aid in interpretation of overall trends.
Firearm-involve arrests:	Includes any crime in which the fingerprint arrest card indicated a firearm flag or the offense for which the individual was charged involved a firearm.
Median:	The middle point of a range of sorted values. The median is sometimes preferred over an average score when the range includes extreme numbers because those extreme numbers pull the average score higher or lower.