

120 S. Riverside Plaza,
Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Tel: (312) 793-8550
Fax: (312) 793-8422
TDD: (312) 793-4170

www.icjia.state.il.us

Prepared by

**The Research and
Analysis Unit**

**Rod R. Blagojevich
Governor**

**Sheldon Sorosky
Chairman**

**Lori G. Levin
Executive Director**

**December
2004**

Research and Program Evaluation in Illinois: The Extent and Nature of Drug and Violent Crime in Illinois' Counties



A Profile of the Douglas County Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

This project was supported by Grant # 02-DB-MU-0017, awarded to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, coordinates the activities of the following programs, offices and bureaus: Bureau of Justice Assistance, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions contained within this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3997
Telephone (312) 793-8550
Telefax (312) 793-8422
World Wide Website <http://www.icjia.state.il.us>

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A number of organizations and individuals put a great deal of effort into the development of this document. The Authority's Research and Analysis Unit is very grateful for the assistance provided by the following organizations:

Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census
Illinois Department of Corrections
Illinois State Police

This document was put together by the following Research and Analysis Unit staff:

Sharyn Adams
Jessica Ashley
Robert Bauer
Christopher Humble
Christine Martin
Adriana Perez
Idetta Phillips
Michelle Repp

CONTENTS

Section	Page Number
I. Introduction	1
II. Law Enforcement Activities in Douglas County	3
III. Adult and Juvenile Court Activity in Douglas County	11
IV. Jail Populations in Douglas County	19
V. Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect in Douglas County	21
VI. Appendix I (Map of Illinois Counties within a Metropolitan Statistical Area).....	24
VII. Bibliography	25

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page Number
Figure 1. Total Violent Index Offense Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties	4
Figure 2. Total Property Index Offense Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties	5
Figure 3. Index Arrest Rate in Douglas and Other Rural Counties	6
Figure 4. Drug Arrests in Douglas County	7
Figure 5. Drug Arrest Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties.....	8
Figure 6. Cannabis Seized in Douglas County	9
Figure 7. Cocaine and Methamphetamine Seized in Douglas County	10
Figure 8. Felony and Misdemeanor Filings in Douglas County	12
Figure 9. Felony Filing Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties	13
Figure 10. Juvenile Delinquency Petitions Filed and Adjudicated in Douglas County	14
Figure 11. Sentences Imposed on Felons Convicted in Douglas County.....	15
Figure 12. IDOC New Court Commitments from Douglas County, by Offense Type.....	16
Figure 13. Juvenile Court Commitments to the IDOC Juvenile Division from Douglas County	17
Figure 14. Total Active Adult and Juvenile Probation Cases in Douglas County.....	18
Figure 15. Average Daily Population of the Douglas County Jail.....	19
Figure 16. Average Daily Jail Population Rates, Douglas and Other Rural Counties	20
Figure 17. Substance-Exposed Infants, Reported and Verified Cases in Douglas County.....	21
Figure 18. Reported and Verified Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect in Douglas County.....	22
Figure 19. Rate of Verified Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect, Douglas and Other Rural Counties	23

FOREWORD

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is a state agency created in 1983 to promote community safety by providing public policymakers, criminal justice professionals and others with information, tools and technology needed to make effective decisions that improve the quality of criminal justice in Illinois. The Authority provides an objective system-wide forum for identifying critical problems in criminal justice, developing coordinated and cost-effective strategies, and implementing and evaluating solutions to those problems. The specific powers and duties of the Authority are delineated in the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Ch. 20, Sec. 393/7). Two of the Authority's many responsibilities are serving as a clearinghouse of information and research on criminal justice and undertaking research studies to improve the administration of criminal justice.

Since 1989, the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit has received funds under the federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 to document the extent and nature of drug and violent crime in Illinois and the criminal justice system's response to these offenses. As a result of these efforts, the Authority has amassed a large amount of data measuring the extent and nature of drug and violent crime in Illinois and the impact these crimes have had on the criminal justice system. To put this information into the hands of Illinois' criminal justice policymakers in a useful summary format, the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit has developed profiles of the criminal justice system for each county in Illinois. In 1994, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority produced a series of reports detailing criminal justice system activity levels for each of Illinois' 102 counties. As a result of the positive response by local criminal justice officials, in 1996 the Authority updated and expanded the scope of these reports to reflect current criminal and juvenile justice activity. It is hoped that these 2004 updated reports will be as valuable, if not more, than the original versions. In addition to providing policymakers with an overview of activities across the components of the justice system in their county (law enforcement, courts and corrections), the profiles also provide perspective by including trends experienced in counties with similar population sizes.

While the data presented in this report are by no means inclusive of all indicators, they do provide a general overview of crime and the criminal justice system's response. In addition, these data are readily available and consistently defined through existing statewide data collection mechanisms.

The information presented in this profile has been provided to the Authority by a number of state agencies, specifically: the Illinois State Police, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Illinois Department of Corrections, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The support and cooperation of these agencies and their staffs have helped make this report an informative and timely source of information on the activities of the criminal justice system in Illinois.



The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's
Web-based clearinghouse of criminal justice data available at:

<http://www.icjia.state.il.us>

I. Introduction

Douglas County, located in east central Illinois, covers an area of 417 square miles and had a 1998 population of 19,923, according to estimates by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census. Using these figures, Douglas County was the 70th largest county in Illinois geographically, but 58th largest in terms of population. Combining these two measures, Douglas County had the 52nd highest population density per square mile among Illinois' 102 counties.

As with the previous reports, information specific to Douglas County is presented in comparison with similar counties. To provide more useful comparisons, counties have been separated into four types; 1) Cook County, 2) Collar counties, 3) urban counties (outside of Cook and the Collar counties), and 4) rural counties. Because of its size, Cook County is compared to the rest of the state. The Collar counties are the five that border Cook County (DuPage, Lake, Kane, McHenry, and Will). Urban and rural counties are defined by whether or not they lay within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (Appendix 1, page 24). Based on these definitions, there are 36 counties in Illinois that are part of a MSA (Cook, Collar, and urban counties) and 66 counties that are not part of a MSA (in other words, rural).

Recent changes to the standard definitions of MSAs have affected the classification of several Illinois counties. The United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas according to published standards that are applied to Census Bureau data. The general concept of a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area is that of a core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Currently defined metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas are based on the application of 2000 standards to 2000 decennial census data and were announced by OMB on June 6, 2003.

Standard definitions of metropolitan areas have changed over time. The term "metropolitan area" (MA) was adopted in 1990 and referred collectively to metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSAs), and primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSAs). More recently, the term "core based statistical area" (CBSA) became effective in 2000 and refers collectively to metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas.

The 2000 standards require that each CBSA must contain at least one urban area of 10,000 or more population. Each metropolitan statistical area must have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more inhabitants. Each micropolitan statistical area must have at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population.

Under the standards, the county (or counties) in which at least 50 percent of the population resides within urban areas of 10,000 or more population, or that contain at least 5,000 people residing within a single urban area of 10,000 or more population, is identified as a "central county" (counties). Additional "outlying counties" are included in the CBSA if they meet specified requirements regarding residents commuting to or from the central counties.

Changes in the definitions of these statistical areas since the 1950 census have consisted chiefly of: 1) the recognition of new areas as they reached the minimum required city or urbanized area population, and 2) the addition of counties to existing areas due to new decennial census data. In some instances, formerly separate areas have been merged, components of an area have been transferred from one area to another, or components have been dropped from an area. The large majority of changes have taken place on the basis of decennial census data.

Because of these historical changes in geographic definitions, users must be cautious in comparing data for these statistical areas from different dates. For more information, contact the Population Distribution Branch at (301) 763-2419 (U. S. Census Bureau).

Based on these characteristics, Douglas County is one of Illinois' 66 rural counties. Throughout this report, the criminal justice activity trends experienced in Douglas County will be compared to those trends experienced in the other rural counties. This comparison will be realized through the calculation of rates for the activities being analyzed, with the number per 100,000 population the format for all the rates.

II. Law Enforcement Activities in Douglas County

One of the most commonly used indicators of the level of crime in a particular jurisdiction is the number of *Index offenses* reported to the police. There are eight separate offenses, which constitute the Crime Index, including murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault (violent Index offenses), burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson (property Index offenses). Although these eight offenses do not account for all crimes reported to the police, they are considered to be the most serious, frequent, pervasive, and consistently defined by different law enforcement agencies.

An indicator of the workload that law enforcement agencies place on other components of the justice system is the number of arrests made by police, including those for violent and property Index offenses and drug offenses. Unlike offenses, which are what police must respond to, arrests represent those offenders who may eventually be processed through other components of the justice system, including the courts, county jails, and state and local correctional programs.

In addition to local law enforcement agencies, the East Central Illinois Task Force (ECITF) also serves Douglas County. Throughout most of the period analyzed, there were 21 Metropolitan Enforcement Groups (MEGs) and task forces operating in Illinois. A county is considered to be served by a MEG or task force if at least one law enforcement agency within that county participated in that MEG or task force either by providing personnel or financial resources.

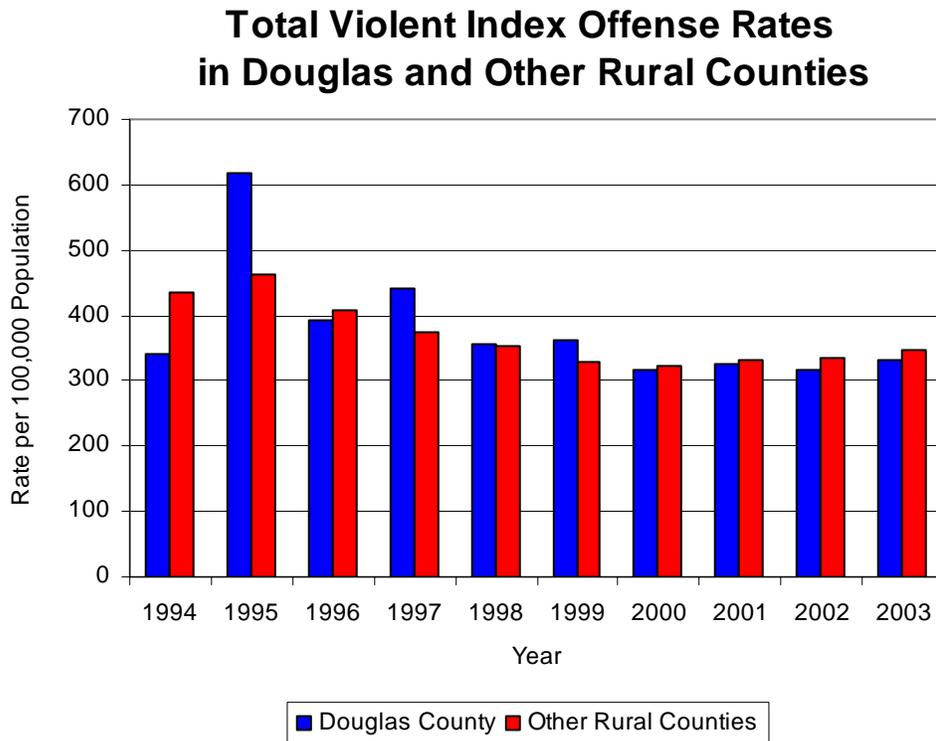
To learn more about the drug enforcement activities of the East Central Illinois Task Force and Illinois' other MEGs and task forces, profiles of each of the units were developed by the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit and are available through the Authority's Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse or can be downloaded from the Authority's Website at www.icjia.state.il.us.

Violent Index Offenses Reported to the Police in Douglas County

The number of violent Index offenses reported to the police decreased 1 percent in Douglas County between 1994 and 2003, from 67 to 66. As in previous years and in most other counties, aggravated assault offenses accounted for the majority (89 percent) of violent Index offenses reported in Douglas County in 2003.

Between 1994 and 2003, the violent Index offense rate in Douglas County decreased 3 percent, from 341 to 331 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 1). Similarly, during that same period, the violent Index offense rate in the other rural counties decreased 20 percent, from 434 to 346 offenses per 100,000 population. The 2003 violent Index offense rate in Douglas County was 4 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 1



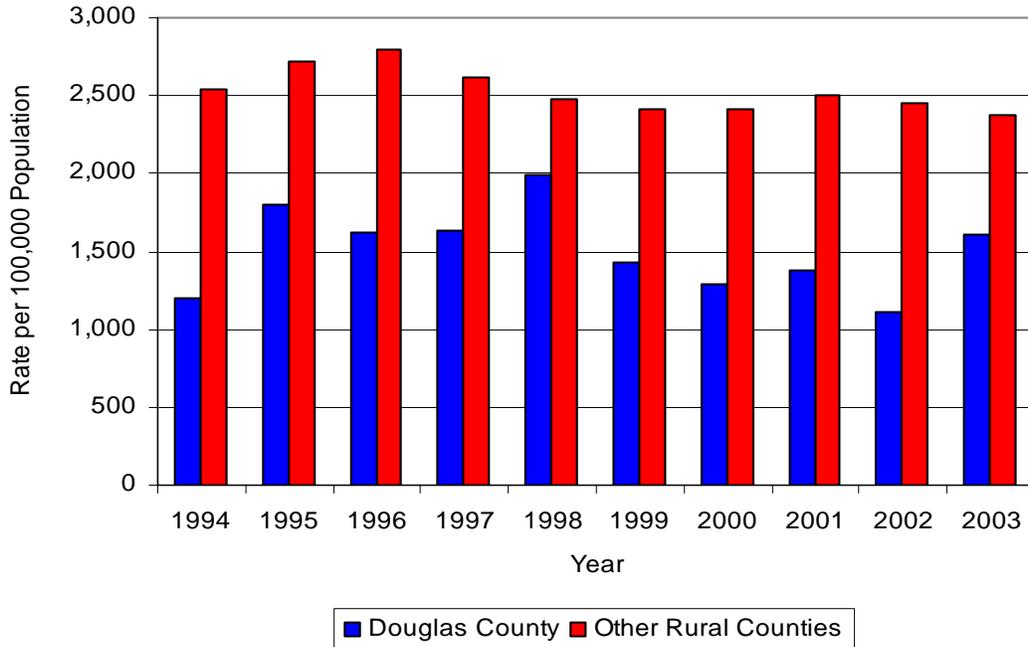
Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

Property Index Offenses Reported to the Police in Douglas County

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of property Index offenses reported to the police in Douglas County increased 36 percent, from 235 to 320. Thefts accounted for 64 percent of all property Index offenses reported in Douglas County during 2003.

Between 1994 and 2003, the property Index offense rate in Douglas County increased 34 percent, from 1,196 to 1,606 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 2). The property Index offense rate in the other rural counties decreased 7 percent, from 2,537 to 2,371 offenses per 100,000 population. Douglas County's 2003 property Index offense rate was 32 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 2
Total Property Index Offense Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

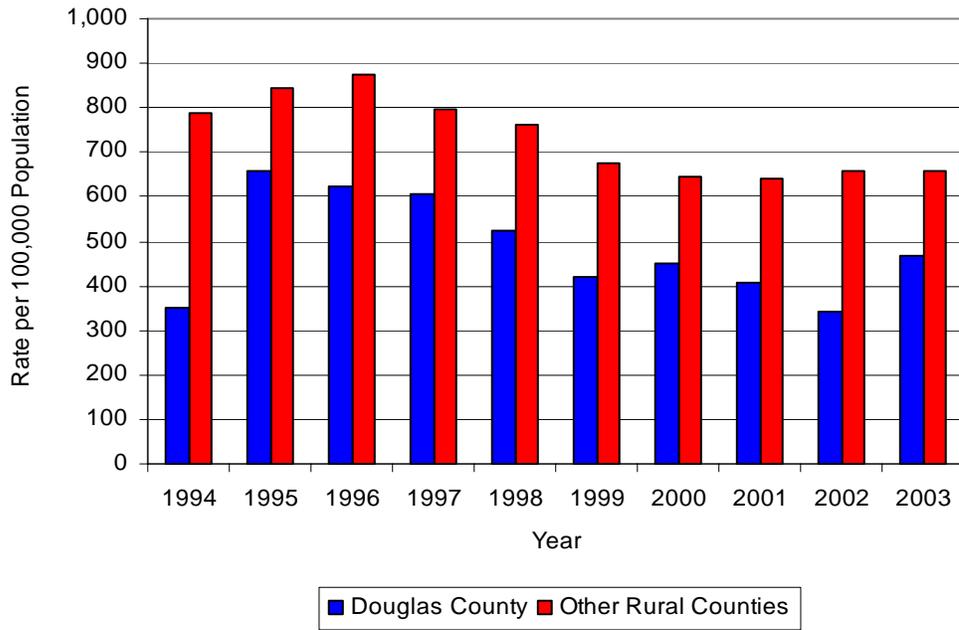
Index Arrests by Douglas County Law Enforcement Agencies

Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for total Index offenses by law enforcement agencies in Douglas County increased 35 percent, from 69 to 93. The majority of Index arrests were for property Index offenses. Of the 93 Index arrests made in Douglas County during 2003, 35 percent were for violent Index crimes and 65 percent were for property Index crimes. Arrests for theft and aggravated assault accounted for the majority of property and violent Index arrests in Douglas County during 2003. Of all violent Index arrests, 85 percent were arrests for aggravated assault, while thefts accounted for 63 percent of all property Index arrests.

Between 1994 and 2003, the Index arrest rate in Douglas County increased 33 percent, from 351 to 467 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 3). During the same period, the Index arrest rate in the other rural counties decreased 16 percent, from 787 to 659 arrests per 100,000 population. In 2003, Douglas County's Index arrest rate was 29 percent lower than the Index arrest rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 3

Index Arrest Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties



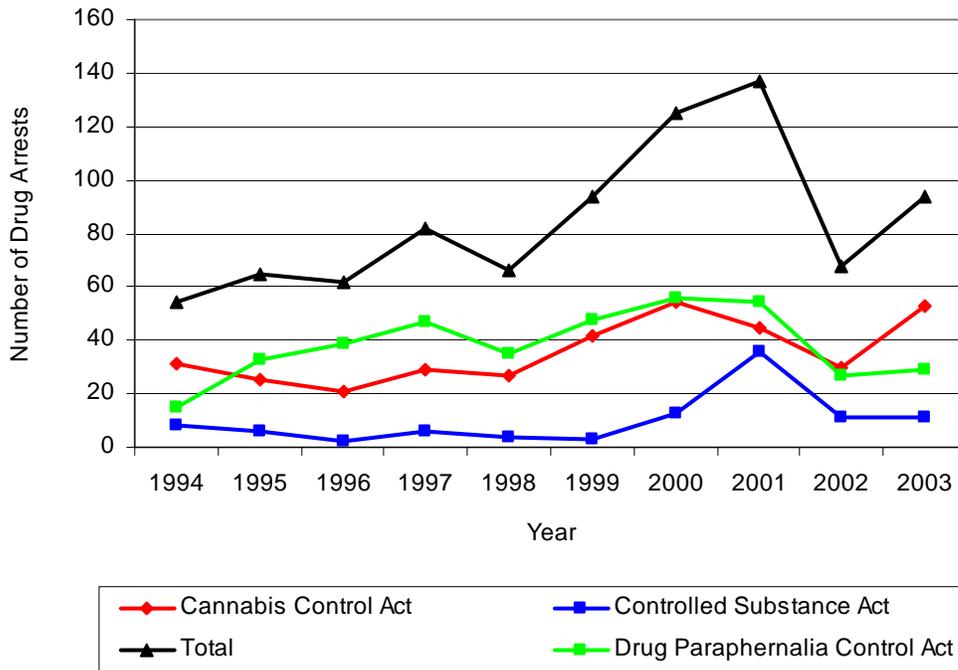
Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

Drug Offense Arrests in Douglas County

Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for total drug offenses (including violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act, Controlled Substances Act, Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, and the Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act) increased 74 percent in Douglas County, from 54 to 94 (Figure 4). Drug Paraphernalia Control Act violations accounted for the majority of the increase in total drug arrests, increasing from 15 arrests in 1994 to 29 in 2003, or in other words, 31 percent of all drugs arrests in 2003.

Arrests for violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act (which prohibits the possession, sale, and cultivation of cannabis) in Douglas County have consistently out-numbered arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act (which prohibits the possession, sale, distribution, or manufacture of all other illegal drugs such as cocaine and opiates). Between 1994 and 2003, the number of arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act in Douglas County increased 71 percent, from 31 to 53. Similarly, arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act increased 38 percent in Douglas County, from eight to 11, during the same period (Figure 4).

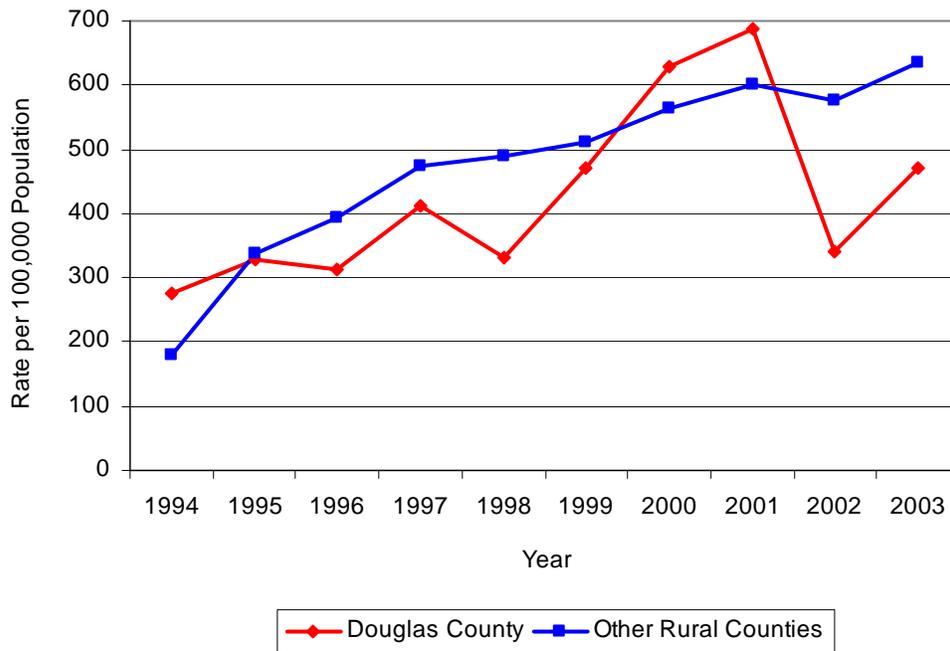
Figure 4
Drug Arrests in Douglas County



Source: Illinois State Police

Between 1994 and 2003, the arrest rate for all drug law violations in Douglas County increased 72 percent, from 275 to 482 per 100,000 population (Figure 5). The total drug arrest rate in the other rural counties more than tripled between 1994 and 2003, from 180 to 634 per 100,000 population. In 2003, the drug arrest rate in Douglas County was 26 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 5
Drug Arrest Rates in Douglas
and Other Rural Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

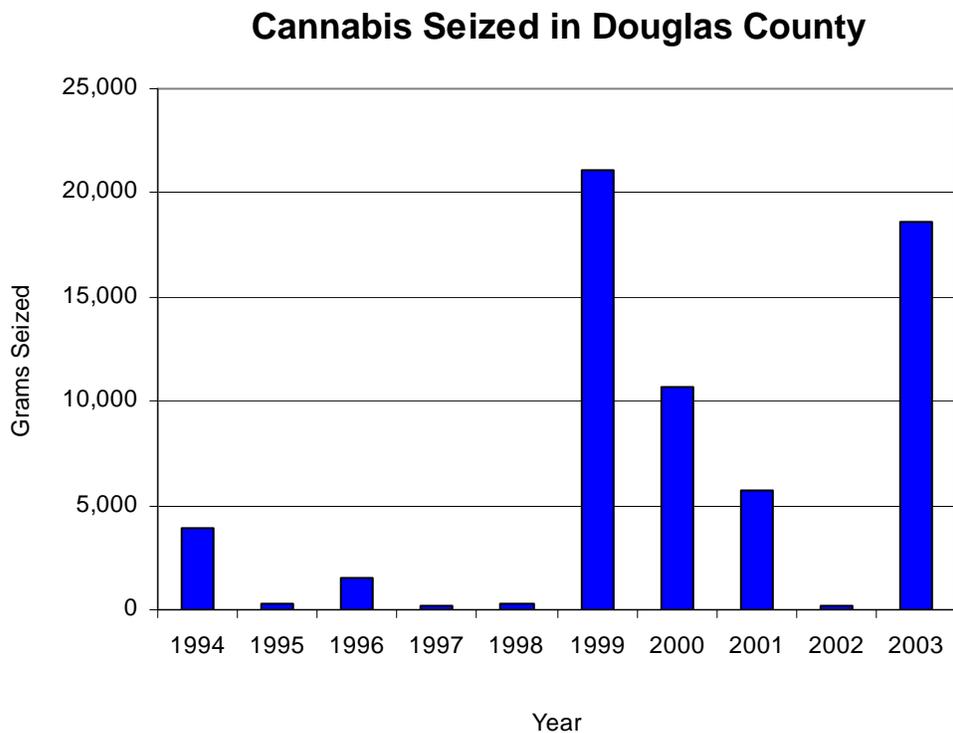
Drugs Seized in Douglas County

Drugs seized by law enforcement agencies are another indicator of the extent and nature of the illegal drug trade in a jurisdiction. When illegal drugs are seized by law enforcement agencies in Illinois, they are submitted to a crime lab for analysis. Most agencies submit drugs to one of the Illinois State Police crime labs. These labs record the quantity of drugs submitted from each county. This section discusses the quantities of illegal drugs seized and submitted to the Illinois State Police from law enforcement agencies in Douglas County.

Cannabis Seized in Douglas County

Cannabis accounts for the majority of drugs seized in Douglas County and in most Illinois jurisdictions. Although there were large variations in the number of grams of cannabis seized between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of cannabis seized in Douglas County increased more than four-fold, from 3,952 grams to 18,612 grams (Figure 6).

Figure 6



Source: Illinois State Police

During the period between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of cannabis seized in the other rural counties decreased 58 percent, from 604,197 grams to 254,031 grams. In 2003, Douglas County had a cannabis seizure rate of 93,420 grams per 100,000 population, compared to a rate of 15,204 grams per 100,000 population in the other rural counties.

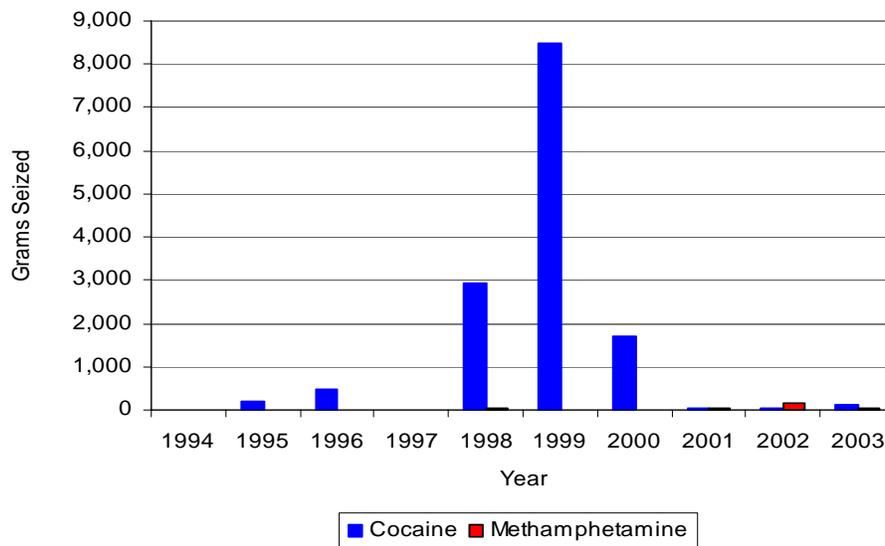
Cocaine and Methamphetamine Seized in Douglas County

During the past decade, it is clear that methamphetamine “activity” in the state has increased dramatically and has become a significant drug problem in many jurisdictions. Further, the extent to which law enforcement agencies are encountering methamphetamine has also dispersed across a large area of the state, with most of this being fueled by activities taking place in Illinois’ rural jurisdictions.

The quantity of methamphetamine seized in Douglas County increased dramatically between 1994 and 2003, from four grams to 41 grams. Likewise, the quantity of cocaine seized in Douglas County increased dramatically between 1994 and 2003, from 12 grams to 105 grams (Figure 7). Similar to most other counties, crack cocaine accounted for a relatively small portion of all cocaine seized in Douglas County.

Figure 7

Cocaine* and Methamphetamine Seized in Douglas County



Source: Illinois State Police
* Cocaine includes Crack and Powder Cocaine

The quantity of methamphetamine seized in the other rural counties increased dramatically between 1994 and 2003, from 2,614 grams to 13,176 grams. Conversely, the quantity of cocaine seized in the other rural counties decreased dramatically between 1994 and 2003, from 71,267 grams to 15,065 grams. In 2003, 528 grams of cocaine per 100,000 population were seized in Douglas County, 41 percent lower than the 902 grams of cocaine per 100,000 population seized in the other rural counties. During the same time frame, 204 grams of methamphetamine per 100,000 population were seized in Douglas County, 74 percent lower than the 789 grams of methamphetamine per 100,000 population seized in the other rural counties.

III. Adult and Juvenile Court Activity in Douglas County

Although Illinois has one of the best court reporting systems in the country, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts only collects information regarding the aggregate number of court filings, dispositions, and probation caseloads. Currently, there are no statewide data available on court filings, dispositions, and convictions by offense type. However, detailed offense data are available from the Illinois Department of Corrections for those convicted felons sentenced to prison.

Trends in the number of delinquency petitions filed and adjudicated in juvenile court are also presented. Illinois statutes define delinquency offenses as those committed by someone younger than 17 years old that would be considered crimes if committed by someone 17 years of age or older.

In Illinois, county probation departments are overseen by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts' Probation Division. This section also presents data on active misdemeanor and felony adult caseloads and the number of juveniles under the supervision of the probation departments in Douglas County and the other rural counties.

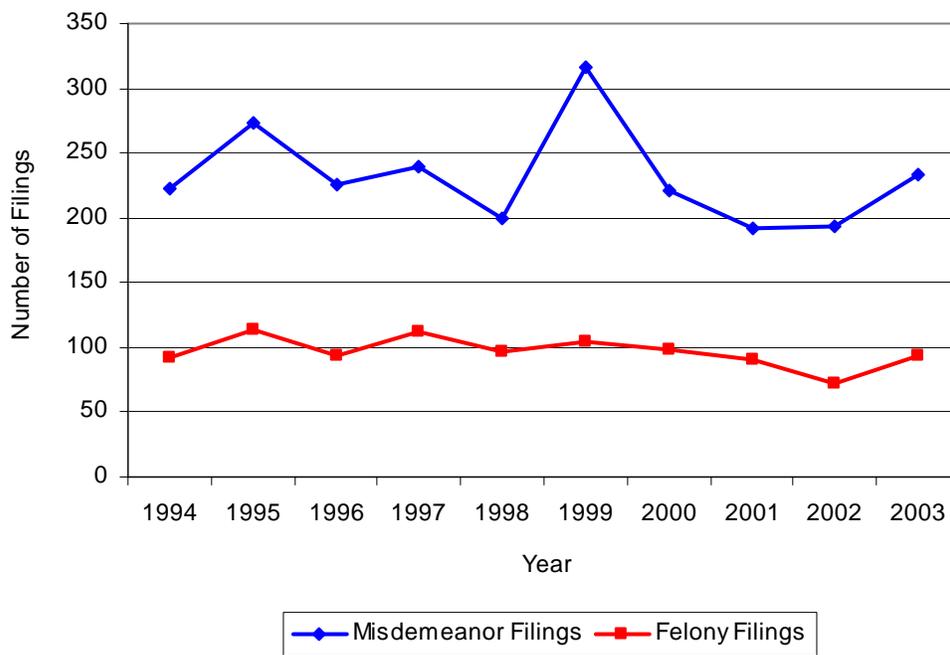
Misdemeanor and Felony Filings in Douglas County

The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts reports data on criminal court cases in two categories: misdemeanors and felonies. After screening a case and deciding it warrants further action, the state's attorney must file formal charges in court. Misdemeanor cases are less serious than felonies and can be punished by a probation sentence of one year or less and less than one year of incarceration. Felony cases, on the other hand, are more serious and can be punished by a probation term up to four years and incarceration for more than one year. When comparing the number of filings across time and across counties, it should be noted that differences in reporting practices exist. For example, when two or more defendants are involved in a single case, some state's attorneys file a single case charging all defendants, while others file a separate case for each suspect.

In 2003, felony and misdemeanor court filings accounted for 6 percent of all filings in Douglas County’s courts (civil, traffic, family, and other). Between 1994 and 2003, the number of felony filings in Douglas County increased slightly, from 92 to 93 (Figure 8). During the same period, misdemeanor filings increased 4 percent, from 223 in 1994 to 233 in 2003. In 2003, misdemeanor filings out-numbered felony filings by more than two to one.

Figure 8

Felony and Misdemeanor Filings in Douglas County

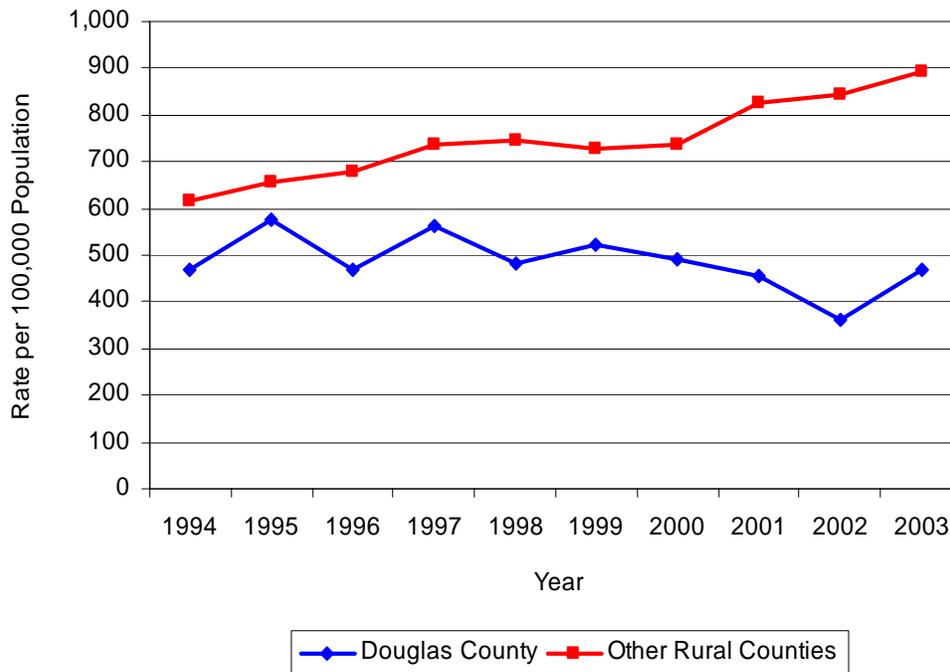


Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Between 1994 and 2003, the felony-filing rate in Douglas County decreased less than 1 percent, from 468 to 466 cases per 100,000 population (Figure 9). The felony-filing rate in the other rural counties increased 45 percent during this period, from 616 to 894 cases per 100,000 population. In 2003, the felony-filing rate in Douglas County was 48 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 9

Felony Filing Rates in Douglas and Other Rural Counties



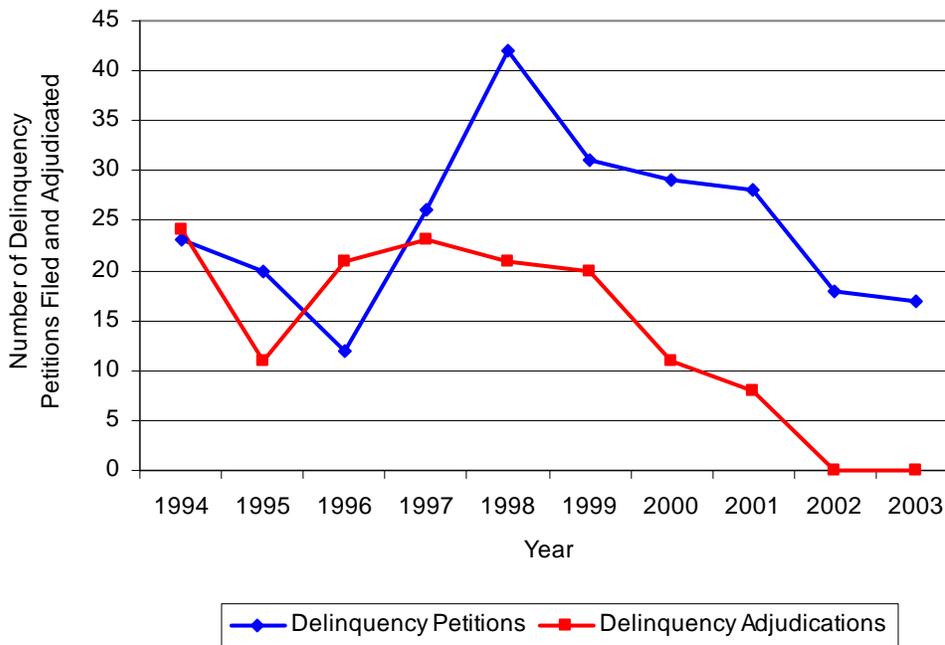
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts and U.S. Census Bureau data

Illinois’ juvenile court system differs in several key aspects from the adult criminal court system. One aspect revolves around the difference in treatment between juveniles and adults: the juvenile court process is somewhat less formal and non-adversarial; authorities are given much more latitude in determining the proper response to each case. Traditionally, the terminology used to describe juvenile proceedings has been less harsh than that used for the adult criminal process. For example, Illinois’ juvenile courts accept “petitions of delinquency” rather than misdemeanor or felony criminal complaints. However, pursuant to the Juvenile Court Reform Act of 1998, criminal court terms, such as “trial” and “sentencing,” have replaced the less harsh “adjudicatory hearing” and “dispositional hearing” terms.

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of juvenile delinquency petitions filed in Douglas County decreased 26 percent, from 23 to 17 (Figure 10). In 2003, none of the juveniles named in delinquency petitions were adjudicated delinquent. Between 1994 and 2003, delinquency adjudications decreased from 24 to zero. The majority of cases not resulting in adjudication were continued under supervision.

Figure 10

Juvenile Delinquency Petitions Filed and Adjudicated in Douglas County



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

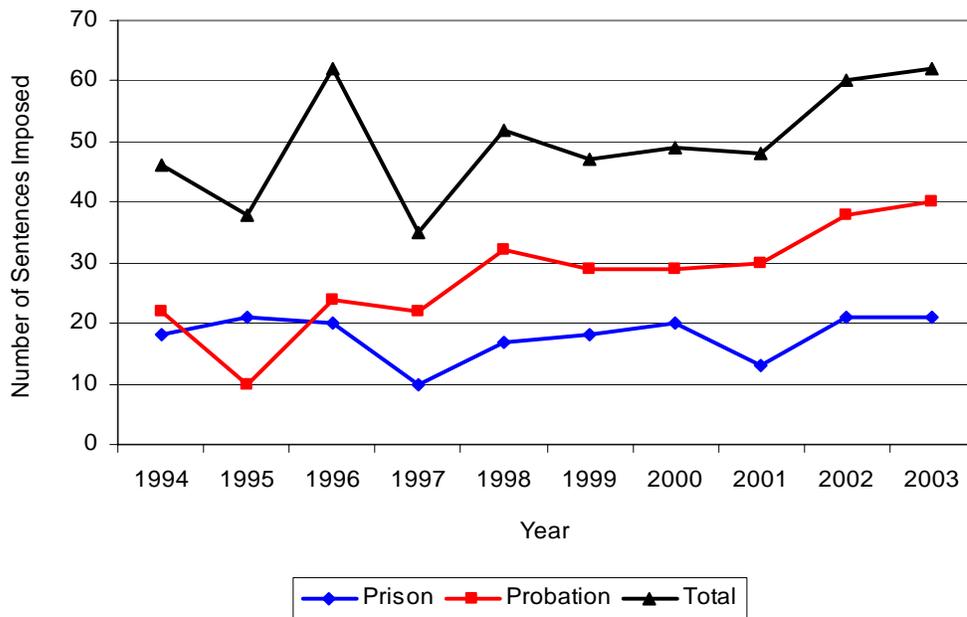
Between 1994 and 2003, the delinquency petition-filing rate in Douglas County decreased 28 percent, from 1,042 to 749 per 100,000 juveniles. During the same period, the delinquency petition-filing rate in the other rural counties increased 13 percent, from 2,024 to 2,287 petitions per 100,000 juveniles. In 2003, the delinquency petition-filing rate in Douglas County was 67 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Anyone convicted of a felony in Illinois can be sentenced either to prison or probation, or receive a conditional discharge. A number of factors influence the type and length of sentence imposed on convicted felons, including the severity of the crime, the offender’s criminal and social history, safety of the community, and legislation affecting certain types of offenses. For some types of convictions a sentence to prison is required by state statute.

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of offenders convicted of a felony and sentenced in Douglas County increased 35 percent, from 46 to 62 (Figure 11). The number of convicted felons sentenced to probation during this period increased 82 percent, from 22 to 40, while prison sentences increased 17 percent, from 18 to 21. As a result, felony probation sentences increased as a proportion of total sentences. In 2003, 65 percent of all convicted felons were sentenced to probation, compared to 48 percent in 1994. Between 1994 and 2003, the proportion of felons sentenced to prison decreased from 39 percent in 1994 to 34 percent in 2003. In 2003, 1 percent of convicted felons were sentenced to something other than prison or probation.

Figure 11

**Sentences Imposed on Felons
Convicted in Douglas County**



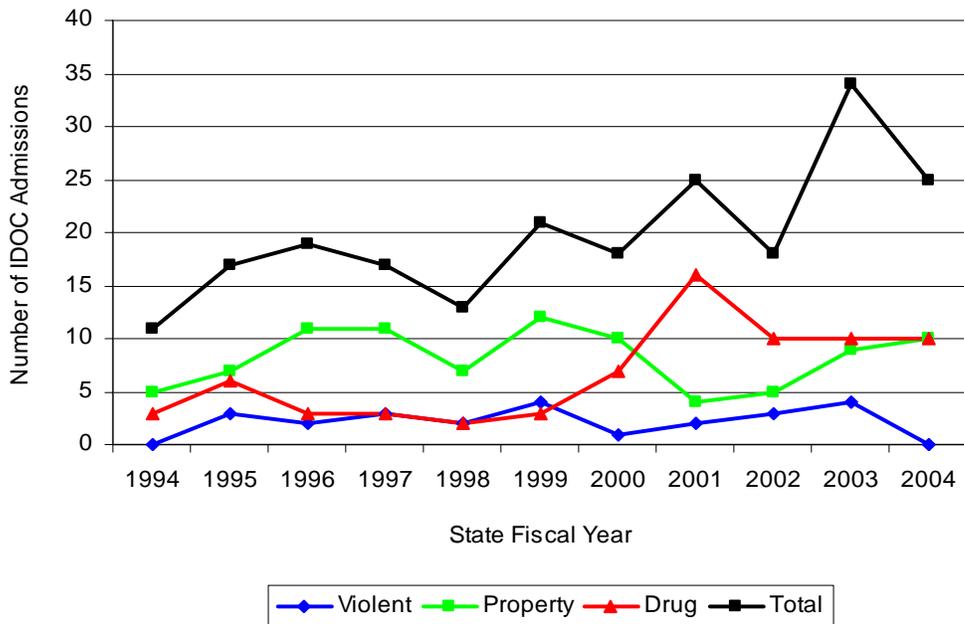
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Adult Prison Admissions from Douglas County

Between State Fiscal Years (SFYs) 1994 and 2004, the number of admissions to the Illinois Department of Corrections' Adult Division from Douglas County more than doubled, from 11 to 25 (Figure 12). During this period, the number of drug and property offender admissions increased, while the number of violent offender admissions remained unchanged at zero in both SFY 1994 and SFY 2004. The number of property offender admissions doubled between SFY's 1994 and 2004, from five to ten, while the number of drug offender admissions more than tripled, from three to ten.

Figure 12

IDOC New Court Commitment from Douglas County, by Offense Type



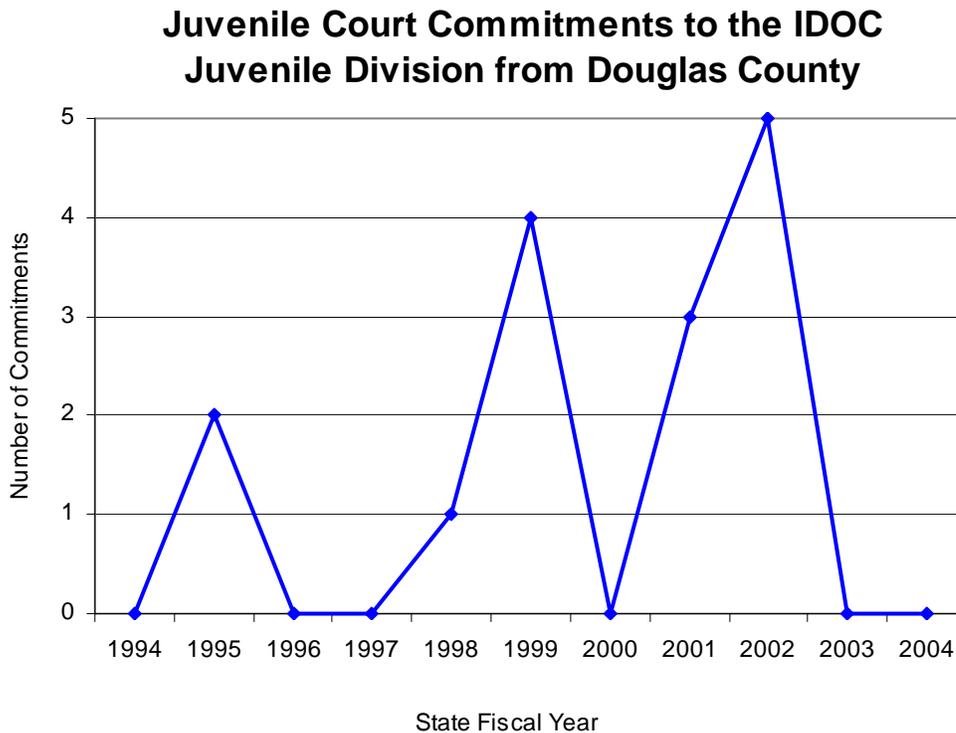
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

In SFY 2004, property offenders and drug offenders each accounted for 40 percent of all admissions from Douglas County, compared to 45 percent and 27 percent in 1994, respectively.

Juvenile Court Commitments to the Illinois Department of Corrections

The Illinois Department of Corrections' Juvenile Division provides long-term custody for youths, 13 to 17 years old, who have been found delinquent by the juvenile court and committed to the IDOC. Youths may remain in an IDOC juvenile facility until they are 21. Between SFY's 1994 and 2004, the number of court commitments to the IDOC's Juvenile Division from Douglas County decreased from one to zero (Figure 13).

Figure 13



Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

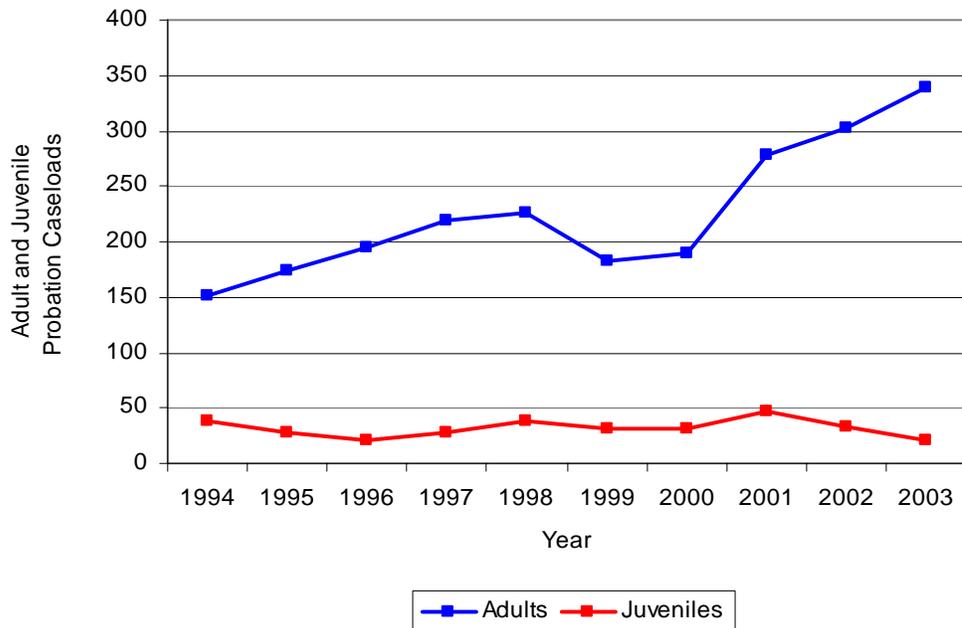
In SFY 2004, Douglas County's rate of commitments to the IDOC's Juvenile Division of zero commitments per 100,000 juveniles was lower than the 232 commitments per 100,000 juveniles from the other rural counties.

Adult and Juvenile Probation Caseloads in Douglas County

Between December 31, 1994 and December 31, 2003, the number of active adult probation cases in Douglas County more than doubled, from 151 to 339 (Figure 14). In 2003, felony offenders accounted for 31 percent of Douglas County's active adult probation caseload. Between 1994 and 2003, the number of juveniles supervised by the Douglas County Juvenile Probation Department decreased 45 percent, from 38 to 21. By comparison, the number of active adult probation cases in the other rural counties increased 38 percent between 1994 and 2003, while the juvenile probation caseloads increased 1 percent.

Figure 14

Total Adult and Juvenile Active Probation Cases in Douglas County



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

The active adult probation caseload rate per 100,000 population in Douglas County more than doubled between 1994 and 2003, from 769 to 1,702 cases per 100,000 population. During that same period, the active adult probation caseload rate increased 39 percent in the other rural counties, from 744 to 1,036 cases per 100,000 population. In 2003, the active adult probation caseload rate in Douglas County was 64 percent higher than in the other rural counties.

IV. Jail Populations in Douglas County

Jail data in Illinois are collected by the Illinois Department of Corrections' Bureau of Inspections and Audits. As with court data, data are not available detailing the specific offenses for which offenders were held in county jails. In addition, between SFY's 1992 and 1994, the IDOC did not collect Illinois jail population data. Data presented for SFY 1994 were estimated by the Authority using the reported SFY's 1991 and 1995 data.

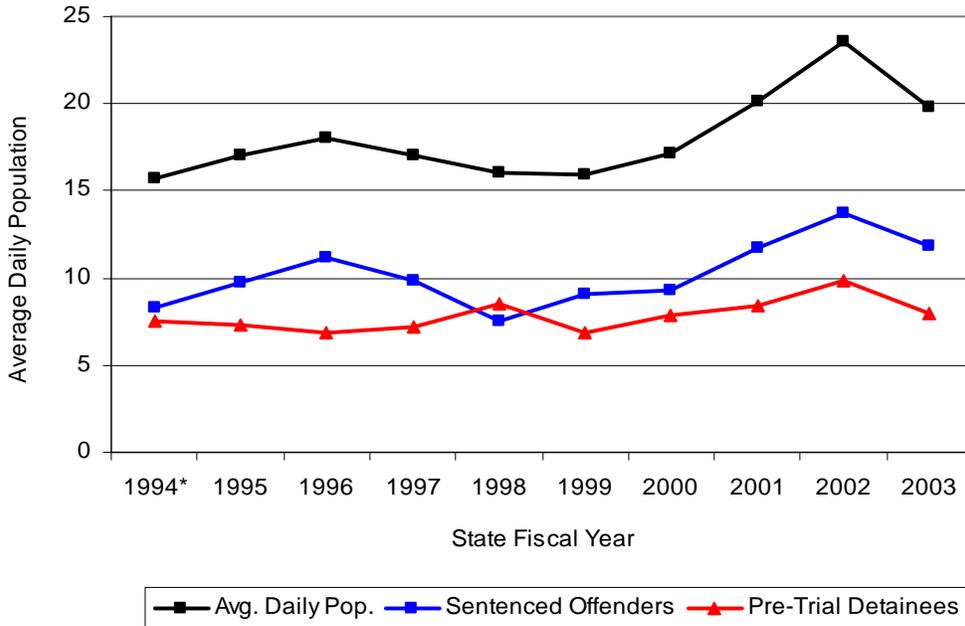
Average Daily Population of the Douglas County Jail

The Douglas County Jail was one of 91 county jails in operation in Illinois during SFY 2003. There are 11 counties that did not operate a jail of their own; they rely on other counties to house their pretrial detainees and sentenced offenders at either a per-diem or contracted rate.

Between SFY's 1994 and 2003, the average daily population of the Douglas County Jail increased 25 percent, from 16 to 20 (Figure 15). During this period, pretrial detainees (those individuals who have been arrested for a crime and are awaiting trial) accounted for a decreased percentage of the average daily population, from 48 percent in SFY 1994 to 40 percent in SFY 2003. On the other hand, sentenced offenders (those offenders who have been convicted and sentenced to the county jail) accounted for an increased percentage of the average daily population, increasing from 53 percent in SFY 1994 to 60 percent in SFY 2003.

Figure 15

Average Daily Population of the Douglas County Jail



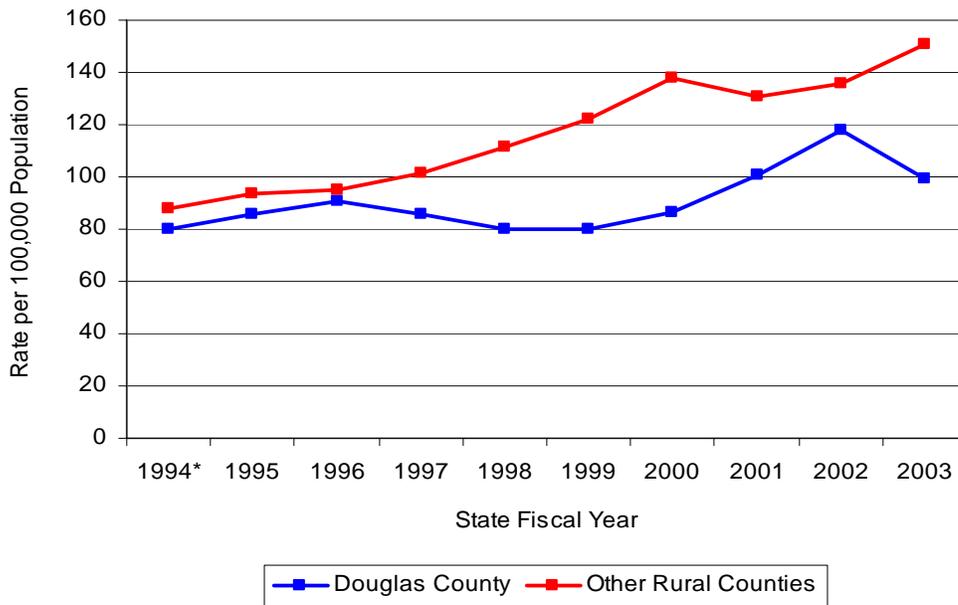
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

* Information estimated by ICJIA

Between SFY's 1994 and 2003, the average daily jail population rate in Douglas County increased from 80 to 99 per 100,000 population (Figure 16). During this same period, the average daily jail population rate in the other rural counties increased 71 percent, from 88 to 151 per 100,000 population. In SFY 2003, the Douglas County Jail had an average daily jail population rate 34 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 16

Average Daily Jail Population Rates, Douglas and Other Rural Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois Department of Corrections and U.S. Census Bureau data

* Information estimated by ICJIA

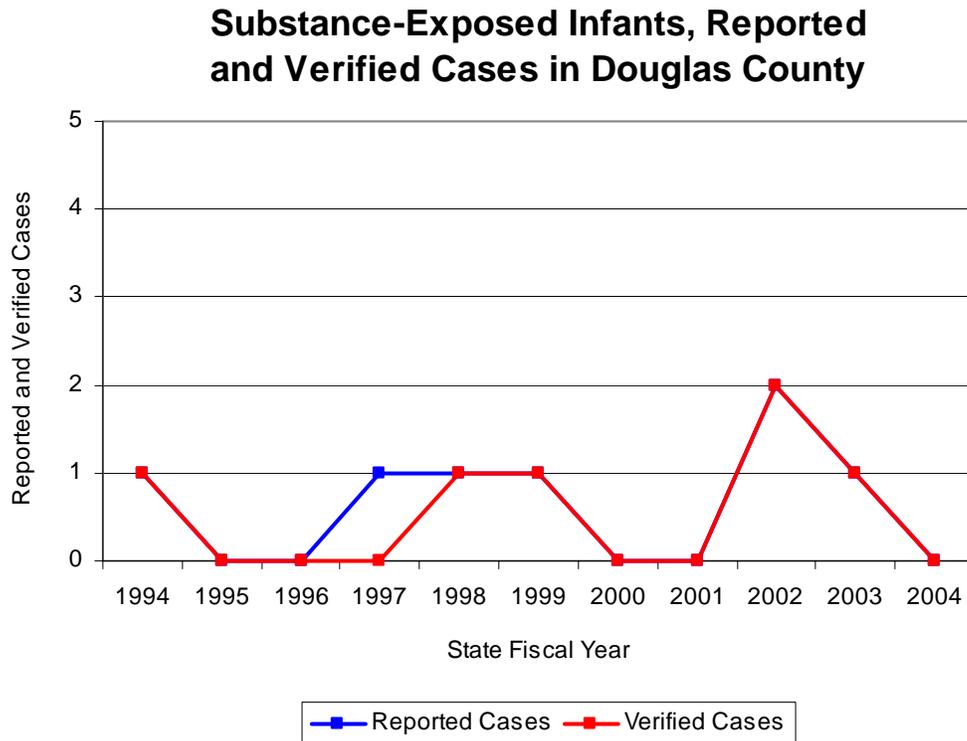
V. Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect in Douglas County

Substance-Exposed Infants in Douglas County

Illinois continues to experience the effects of prenatal substance abuse. In Illinois, if a baby is born and thought to have been exposed to illegal substances or alcohol, either through observation by physicians or toxicology tests, the case is reported to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). These cases are then investigated by DCFS to verify the child's prenatal exposure to either alcohol or illegal substances. Between SFY's 1994 and 2004, 96 of Illinois' 102 counties reported at least one case of a substance-exposed infant.

Between SFY's 1994 and 2004, seven cases of substance-exposed infants were reported in Douglas County, six of which were verified. The number of reported cases of substance-exposed infants in the other rural counties increased 24 percent, from 82 to 102, while the number of verified cases of substance-exposed infants increased 47 percent, from 43 to 63.

Figure 17



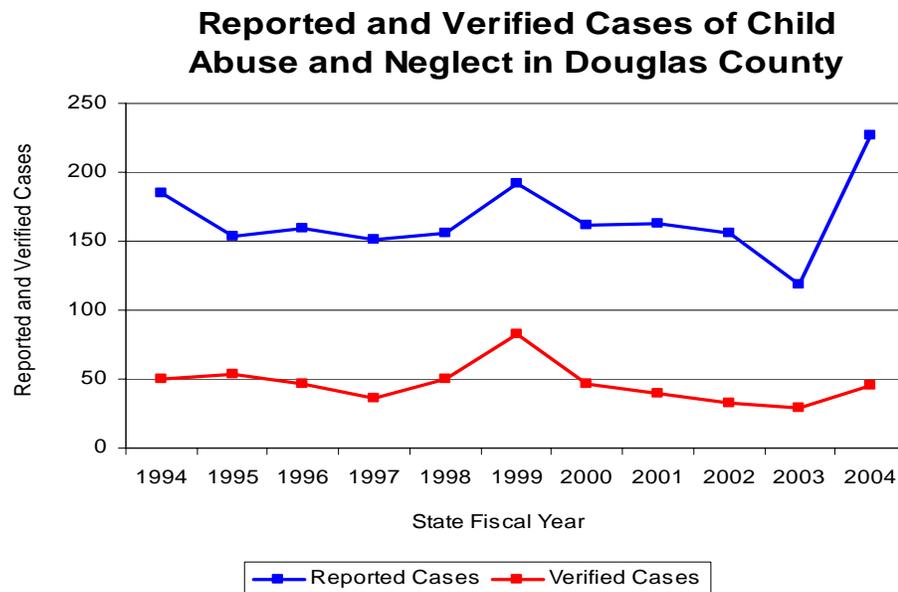
Source: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Child Abuse and Neglect Cases Reported and Verified in Douglas County

Recent research on the relationship between maltreatment of youth and delinquency has revealed an important distinction between child maltreatment and adolescent maltreatment. Using data from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency, researchers have found that youth that were abused during childhood (12 years of age or less) were no more likely to become delinquent than youth who were not abused, but youth who were abused during adolescence (after age 12) were significantly more likely to be delinquent.¹ While prior child abuse may not be linked to juvenile delinquency, studies examining prior child abuse have shown that childhood victimization may be linked to other poor outcomes in youth, including low academic achievement, teenage parenthood (particularly for females), drug use, and symptoms of mental illness.² Additionally, research examining adolescent victimization (including physical and sexual assaults) and adult outcomes has found a correlation between previous victimization and substance abuse, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder in adulthood.³ In Illinois, DCFS investigates reported cases of child abuse.

Between SFY’s 1994 and 2004, the number of child abuse and neglect cases reported in Douglas County increased 23 percent, from 185 to 227 (Figure 17). During that same period, 510 cases, or 28 percent of all cases reported, were verified by a DCFS investigation. Verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Douglas County decreased 10 percent, from 50 in SFY 1994 to 45 in SFY 2004.

Figure 18



Source: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

¹ Thornberry, Terence P., David Huizinga and Rolf Loeber. 2004. “The Causes and Correlates Studies: Findings and Policy Implications.” *Juvenile Justice Journal*. 9:1. Washington, D.C. : U.S. Government Printing Office.

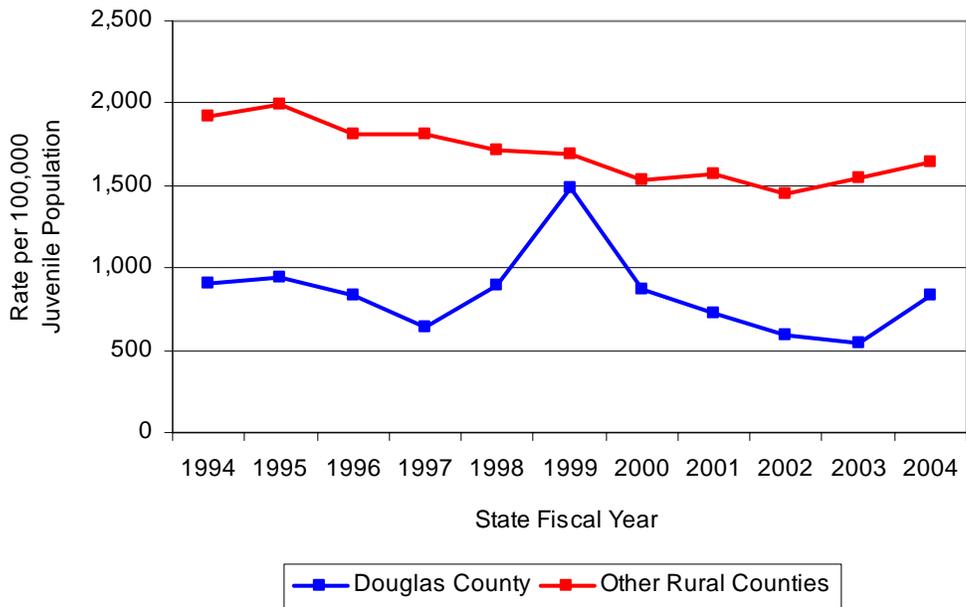
² Kelly, B., Thornberry, T. and Smith, C. 1997. “In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment.” *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

³ Menard, S. 2002. 2002. “Short and Long-Term Consequences of Adolescent Victimization.” *Youth Research Bulletin*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Between SFY's 1994 and 2004, the rate of verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Douglas County decreased 7 percent, from 903 to 835 per 100,000 juveniles (Figure 18). During the same period, the rate of verified child abuse and neglect cases decreased 14 percent in the other rural counties, from 1,922 to 1,646 per 100,000 juveniles. In SFY 2004, the rate of verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Douglas County was 49 percent lower than in the other rural counties.

Figure 19

Rate of Verified Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect, Douglas and All Other Rural Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and U.S. Census Bureau data

VII. Bibliography

Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, *Annual Report to the Supreme Court of Illinois*. 1994 through 2003 reports, Springfield, Illinois.

Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts' Probation Division, *Statewide Probation Data Report*. 1994 through 2003 reports, Springfield, Illinois.

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, *Child Abuse/Neglect Statistics Report*. State Fiscal Years 1994 through 2003 reports, Springfield, Illinois.

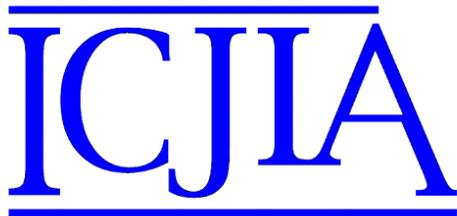
Illinois Department of Corrections. *Jail and Detention Statistics and Information*. State Fiscal Years 1995 through 2004 reports, Springfield, Illinois.

Illinois Department of Corrections. Research and Planning Division, State Fiscal Years 1994 through 2004 Springfield, Illinois.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Illinois Population Estimates*. 1994-2003, Washington, D.C.

Illinois State Police, *Crime in Illinois*. 1994 through 2003 reports, Springfield, Illinois.

Illinois State Police, *Drug Statistics Report*. Monthly reports, January 1994 through December 2003, Springfield, Illinois.



Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312-793-8550
TDD: 312-793-4170
Fax: 312-793-8422
www.icjia.state.il.us



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
Sheldon Sorosky, Chairman
Lori G. Levin, Executive Director