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



A Profile of the Richland County Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

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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 1994, 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

Richland County, located in southern Illinois, covers an area of 360 square miles and had a 2003 population of 15,997, according to estimates by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census. Using these figures, Richland County was the 20th smallest county in Illinois geographically, but 30th smallest in terms of population. Combining these two measures, Richland County had the 55th highest population density per square mile among Illinois' 102 counties.

As with the previous reports, information specific to Richland 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 lie 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, Richland County is one of Illinois' 66 Rural counties. Throughout this report, the criminal justice activity trends experienced in Richland 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 Richland 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.

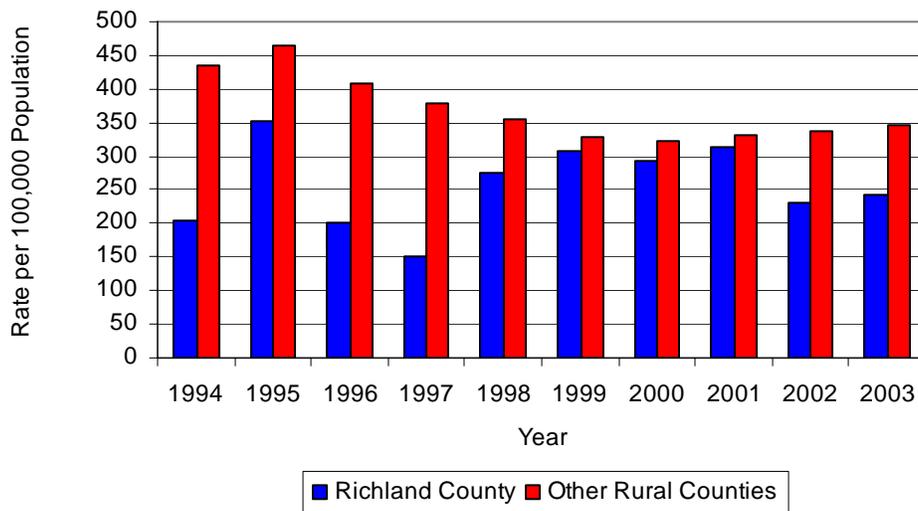
Violent Index Offenses Reported to the Police in Richland County

The number of violent Index offenses reported to the police increased 15 percent in Richland County between 1994 and 2003, from 34 to 39. As in previous years and in most other counties, aggravated assault offenses accounted for the majority (79 percent) of violent Index offenses reported in Richland County in 2003.

Between 1994 and 2003, the violent Index offense rate in Richland County increased 19 percent, from 205 to 244 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 1). During that same period, the violent Index offense rate in the other rural counties decreased 20 percent, from 435 to 347 offenses per 100,000 population. The 2003 violent Index offense rate in Richland County was 30 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 1

Total Violent Index Offense Rates in Richland and Other Rural Counties



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

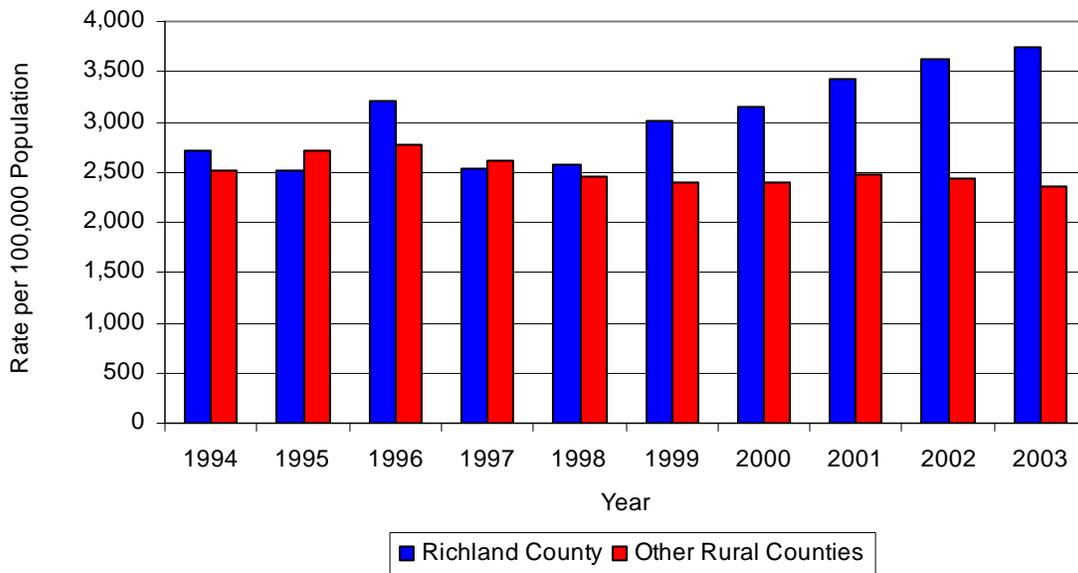
Property Index Offenses Reported to the Police in Richland County

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of property Index offenses reported to the police in Richland County increased 34 percent from 449 to 600. Thefts accounted for 66 percent of all property Index offenses reported in Richland County during 2003.

Between 1994 and 2003, the property Index offense rate in Richland County increased 38 percent, from 2,710 to 3,751 offenses per 100,000 population. Similarly, the property Index offense rate in the other rural counties decreased 7 percent, from 2,520 to 2,349 offenses per 100,000 population. Richland County's 2003 property Index offense rate was 60 percent higher than the rate in the other rural counties (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Total Property Index Offense Rates in Richland and Other Rural Counties



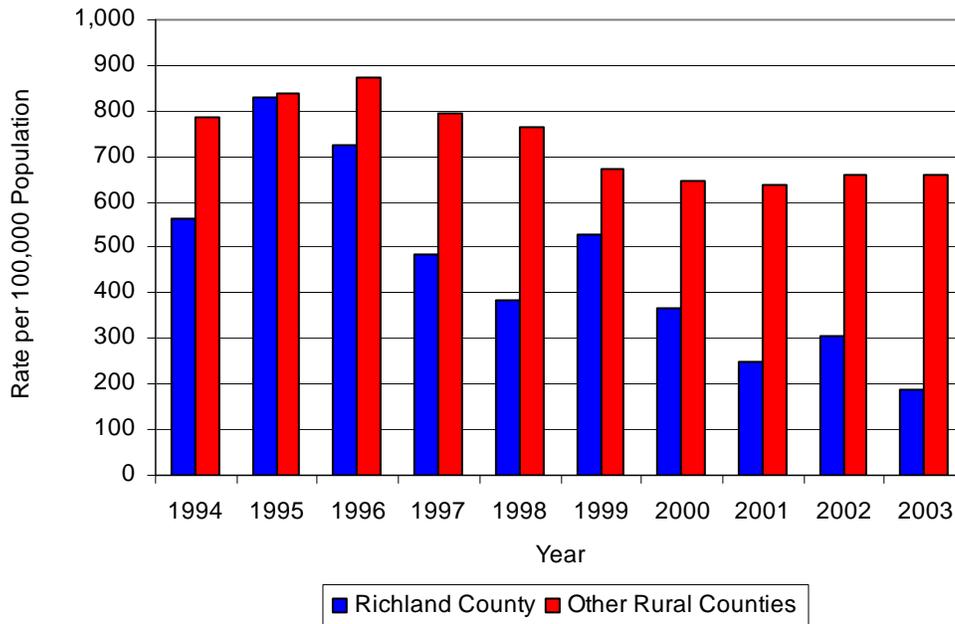
Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

Index Arrests by Richland County Law Enforcement Agencies

Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for total Index offenses by law enforcement agencies in Richland County decreased 68 percent, from 93 to 30. The majority of Index arrests were for property Index offenses. Of the 30 Index arrests made in Richland County during 2003, 43 percent were for violent Index crimes and 57 percent were for property Index crimes. Arrests for theft and aggravated assault accounted for the largest proportion of property and violent Index arrests in Richland County during 2003. Of all violent Index arrests, 77 percent were arrests for aggravated assault, while thefts accounted for 47 percent of all property Index arrests.

Between 1994 and 2003, the Index arrest rate in Richland County decreased 67 percent, from 561 to 188 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 3). During the same period, the Index arrest rate in the other rural counties decreased 16 percent, from 785 to 661 arrests per 100,000 population. In 2003, Richland County's Index arrest rate was 72 percent lower than the Index arrest rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 3
Index Arrest Rates in Richland and Other Rural Counties



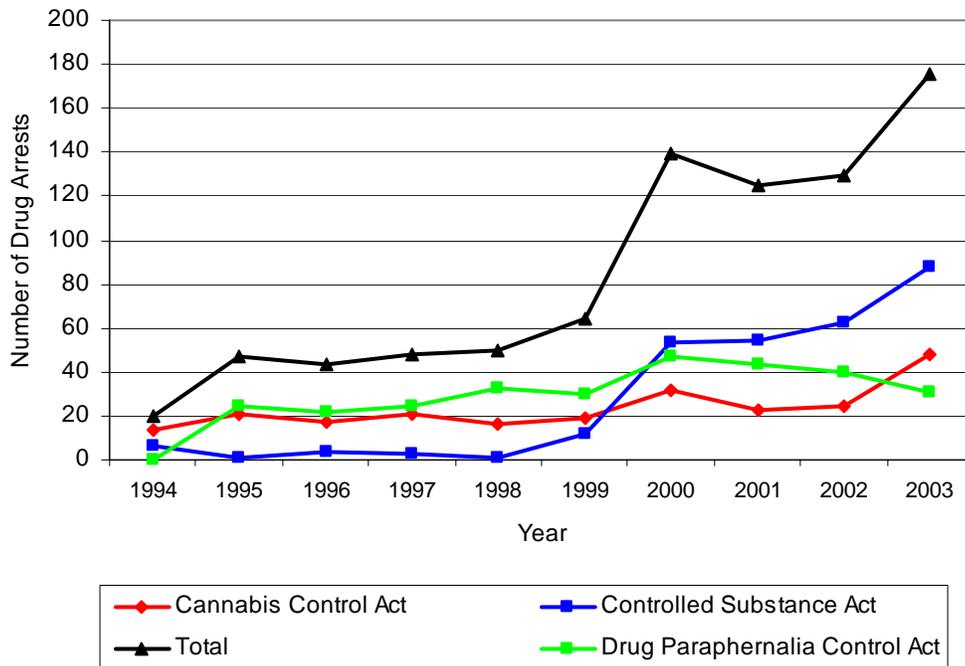
Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

Drug Offense Arrests in Richland 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 almost eight-fold in Richland County, from 20 to 176 (Figure 4). Drug Paraphernalia Control Act violations accounted for the majority of the increase in total drug arrests, increasing from zero arrests in 1994 to 31 in 2003, or in other words, 18 percent of all drugs arrests in 2003.

In six of the ten years covered, arrests for violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act (which prohibits the possession, sale, and cultivation of cannabis) in Richland County have outnumbered 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 Richland County more than tripled, from 14 to 48. On the other hand, arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act increased dramatically from six to 88 in Richland County, during the same period (Figure 4).

Figure 4
Drug Arrests in Richland County

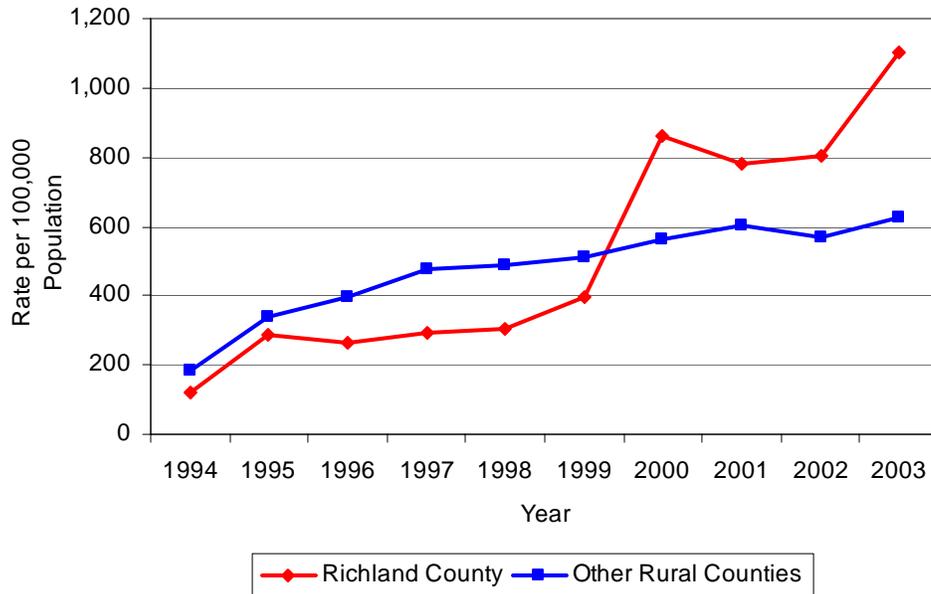


Source: Illinois State Police

Between 1994 and 2003, the arrest rate for all drug law violations in Richland County increased dramatically from 121 to 1,100 per 100,000 population (Figure 5). The total drug arrest rate in the other rural counties increased more than tripled between 1994 and 2003, from 181 to 628 per 100,000 population. In 2003, the drug arrest rate in Richland County was 75 percent higher than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 5

Drug Arrest Rates in Richland and Other Rural Counties



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

Drugs Seized in Richland County

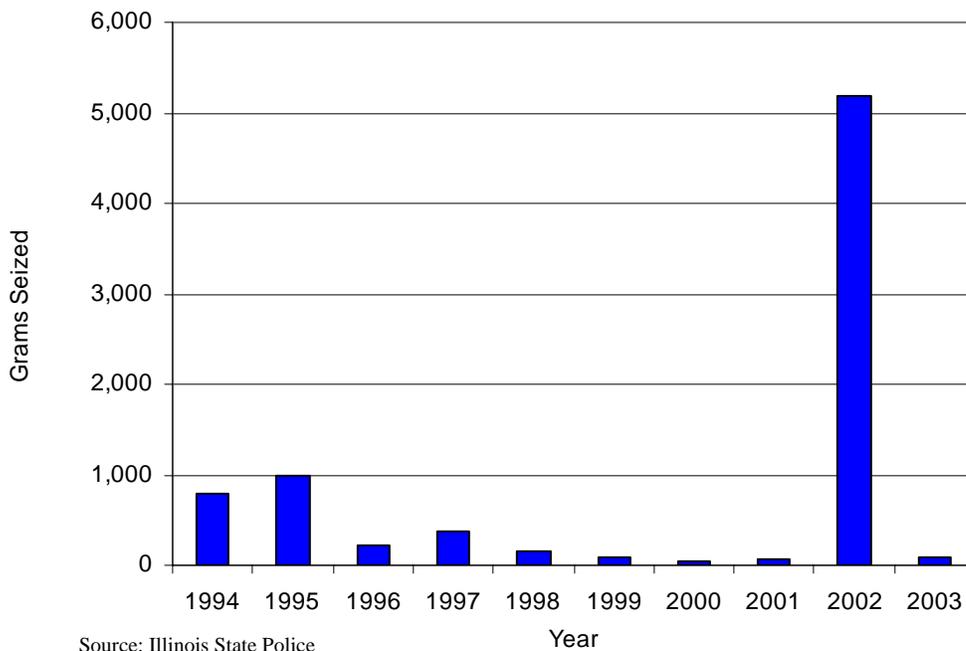
Drugs seized by law enforcement agencies are another indicator of the extent and nature of the illegal drug trade in a jurisdiction. When illegal drugs are seized by law enforcement agencies in Illinois, they are submitted to a crime lab for analysis. Most agencies submit drugs to one of the Illinois 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 Richland County.

Cannabis Seized in Richland County

Cannabis accounts for the majority of drugs seized in Richland 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 Richland County decreased from 291 grams to 92 grams (Figure 6).

Figure 6

Cannabis Seized in Richland County



During the period between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of cannabis seized in the other rural counties decreased 55 percent, from 607,365 grams to 272,551 grams. In 2003, Richland County had a cannabis seizure rate of 576 grams per 100,000 population, compared to a rate of 16,274 grams per 100,000 population in the other rural counties.

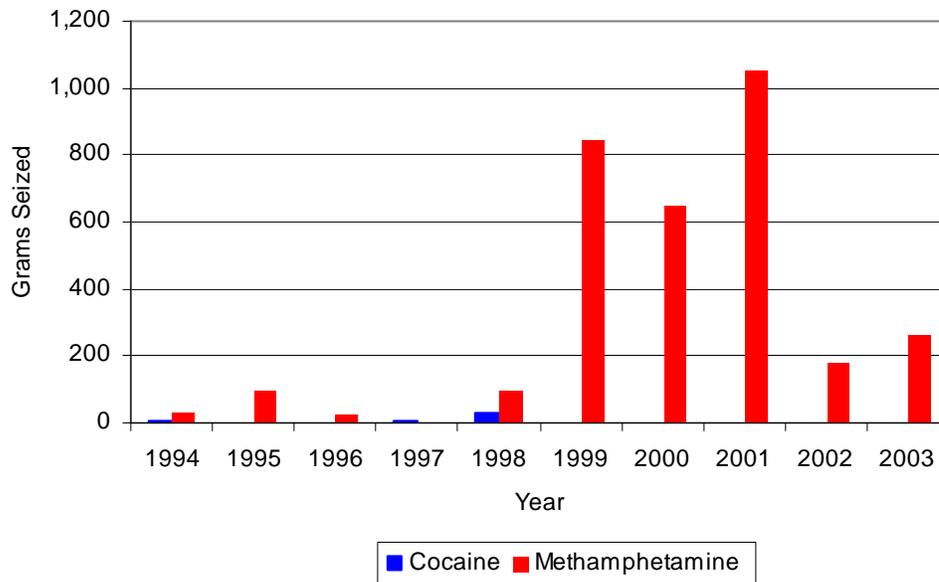
Cocaine and Methamphetamine Seized in Richland County

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.

Although there was no cocaine seized in Richland County in six of the ten years analyzed, there were 45 grams of cocaine seized between 1994 and 2003. Between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of methamphetamine seized in Richland County increased from 28 grams to 263 grams (Figure 7).

Figure 7

Cocaine* and Methamphetamine Seized in Richland County



Source: Illinois State Police

The quantity of cocaine seized in other rural counties decreased 79 percent from 71,270 in 1994 to 15,170 in 2003. Cocaine seizure rates in Richland County peaked in 1998 at 187 grams per 100,000 population and declined every year after, eventually reaching zero in 2003. The quantity of methamphetamine seized in other rural counties increased dramatically from 2,591 grams in 1994 to 12,955 grams in 2003. In 2003, 1,641 grams of methamphetamine per 100,000 population were seized in Richland County, more than double the rate of 774 grams per 100,000 population seized in other rural counties.

III. Adult and Juvenile Court Activity in Richland 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 Richland County and the other rural counties.

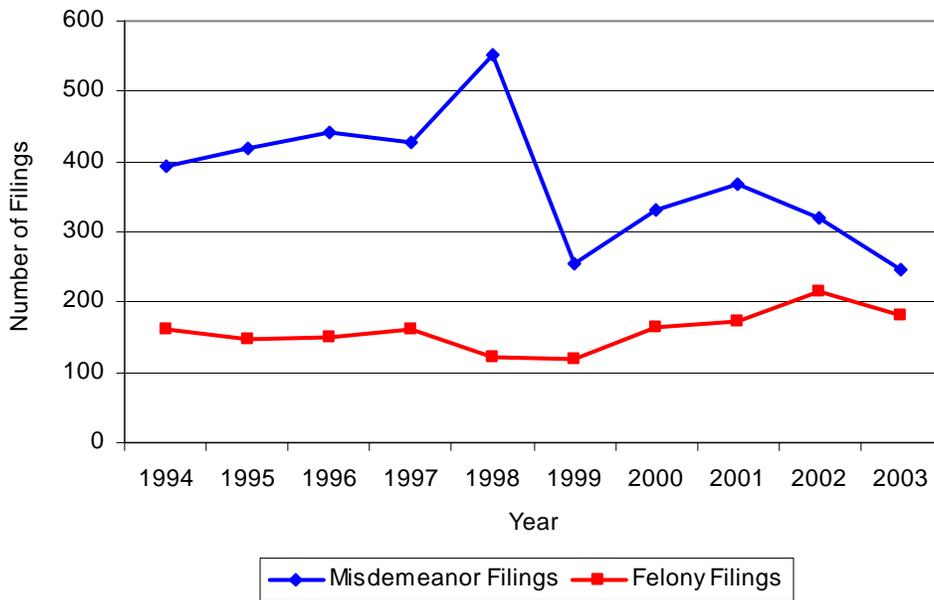
Misdemeanor and Felony Filings in Richland County

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 nearly 11 percent of all filings in Richland County's courts (civil, traffic, family, and other). Between 1994 and 2003, the number of felony filings in Richland County increased 14 percent, from 160 to 182 (Figure 8). During the same period, misdemeanor filings decreased 37 percent, from 393 in 1994 to 247 in 2003.

Figure 8

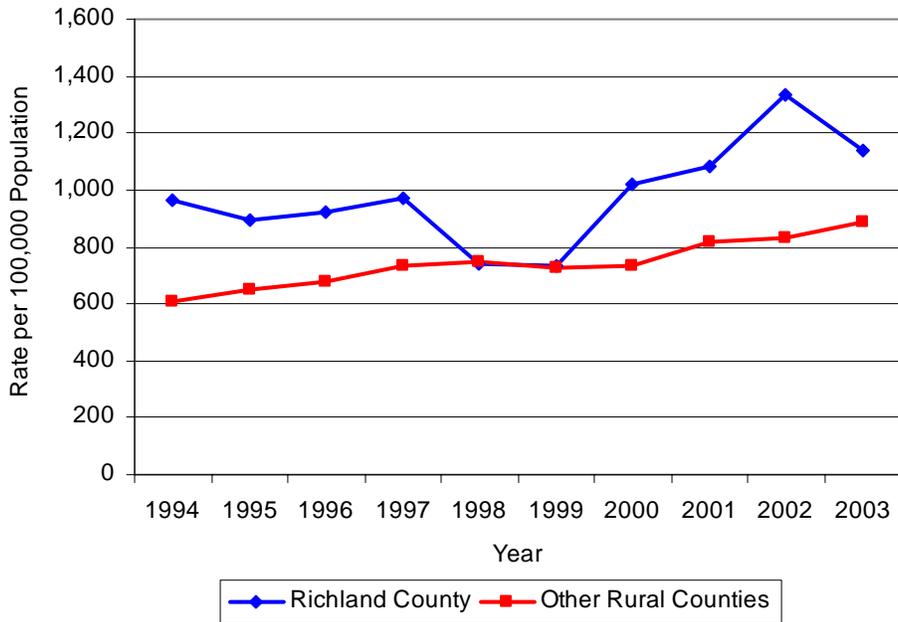
Felony and Misdemeanor Filings in Richland County



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Between 1994 and 2003, the felony-filing rate in Richland County increased 18 percent, from 966 to 1138 cases per 100,000 population (Figure 9). The felony-filing rate in the other rural counties increased 45 percent during this period, from 611 to 887 cases per 100,000 population. In 2003, the felony-filing rate in Richland County was 28 percent higher than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 9
Felony Filing Rates in Richland and Other Rural Counties

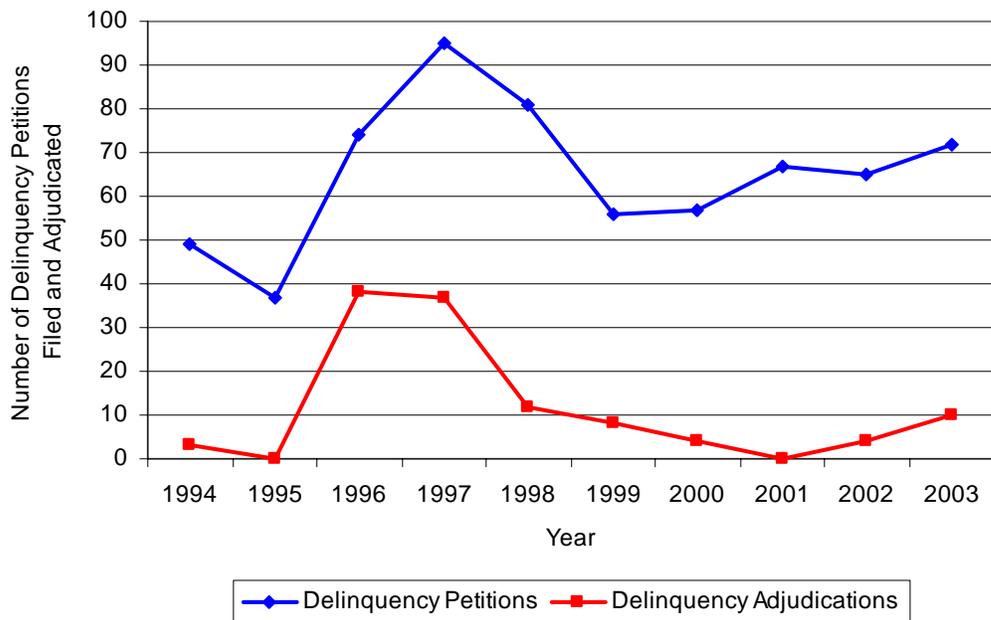


Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts and U.S. Census Bureau data

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of juvenile delinquency petitions filed in Richland County increased 47 percent, from 49 to 72 (Figure 10). In 2003, 14 percent of the juveniles named in delinquency petitions were adjudicated delinquent. Between 1994 and 2003, delinquency adjudications increased, from three to ten. The majority of cases not resulting in an adjudication were continued under supervision.

Figure 10

Juvenile Delinquency Petitions Filed and Adjudicated in Richland County



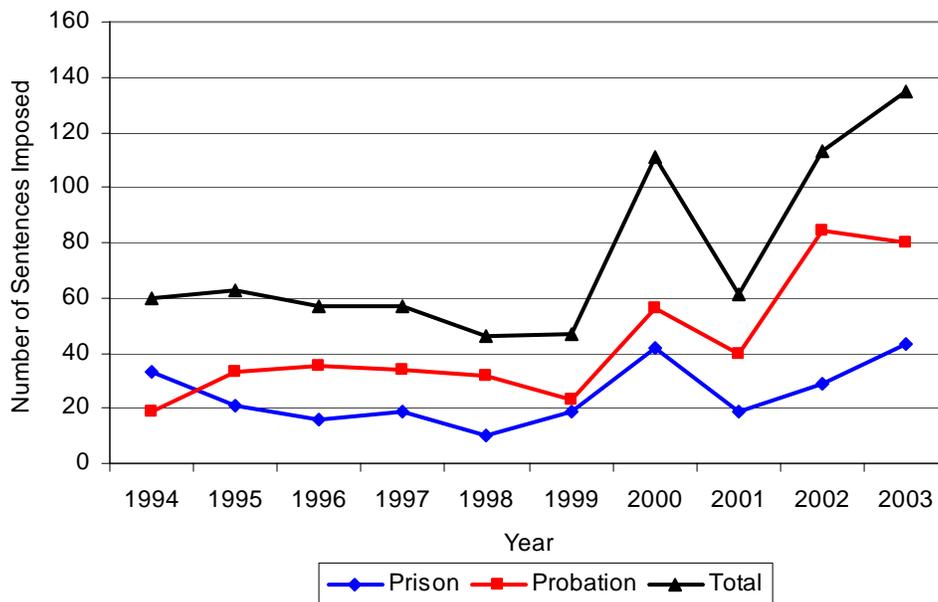
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Between 1994 and 2003, the delinquency petition-filing rate in Richland County increased 50 percent, from 2,864 to 4,296 per 100,000 juveniles. During the same period, the delinquency petition-filing rate in the other rural counties increased 12 percent, from 2,003 to 2,246 petitions per 100,000 juveniles. In 2003, the delinquency petition-filing rate in Richland County was 91 percent higher 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 Richland County more than doubled, from 60 to 135 (Figure 11). The number of convicted felons sentenced to probation during this period increased more than three-fold, from 19 to 80, while the number of felony prison sentences increased 30 percent, from 33 to 43. As a result, felony probation sentences increased as a proportion of total felony sentences; increasing from 32 percent in 1994 to 59 percent in 2003. Between 1994 and 2003, the proportion of felons sentenced to prison decreased from 55 percent to 32 percent. In 2003, 9 percent of convicted felons were sentenced to something other than prison or probation.

Figure 11
Sentences Imposed on Felons
Convicted in Richland County

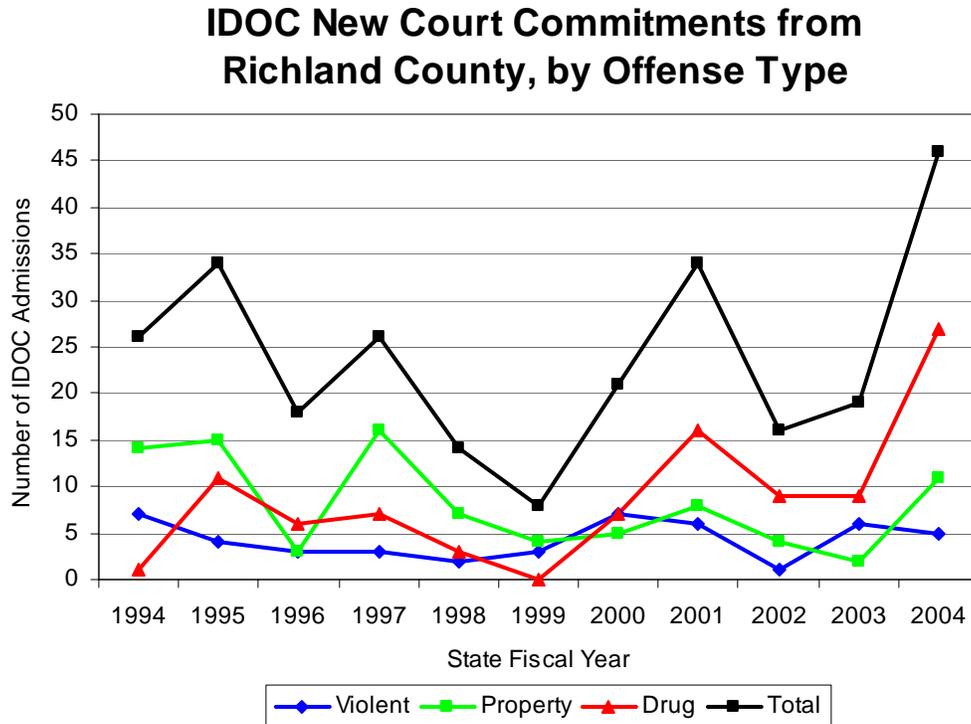


Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Adult Prison Admissions from Richland County

Between State Fiscal Years (SFYs) 1994 and 2004, the number of admissions to the Illinois Department of Corrections' Adult Division from Richland County increased 77 percent, from 26 to 46 (Figure 12). The number of violent offender admissions decreased from seven to five. Drug offender admissions, on the other hand increased from one to 27, property offender admissions decreased from 14 to 11.

Figure 12



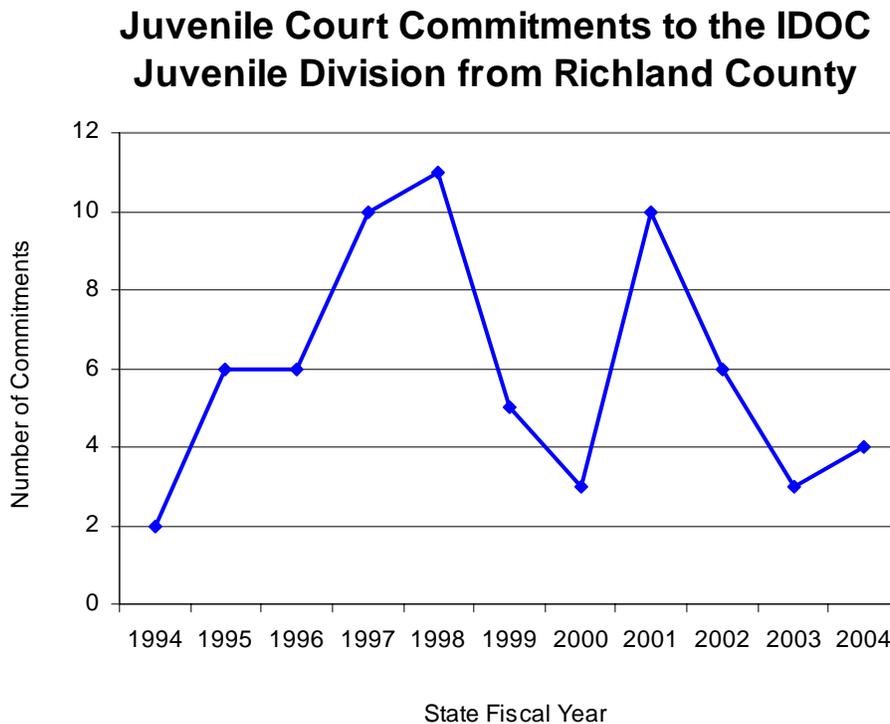
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

In SFY 2004, violent offenders accounted for 11 percent of all IDOC admissions from Richland County, compared to 27 percent in SFY 1994, while property offenders accounted for 24 percent in SFY 2004 compared to 54 percent in SFY 1994. The proportion of admissions accounted for by drug offenders increased from four percent in SFY 1994 to 59 percent in SFY 2004.

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 1994 and SFY 2004, the number of court commitments to the IDOC's Juvenile Division from Richland County doubled from two to four (Figure 13).

Figure 13



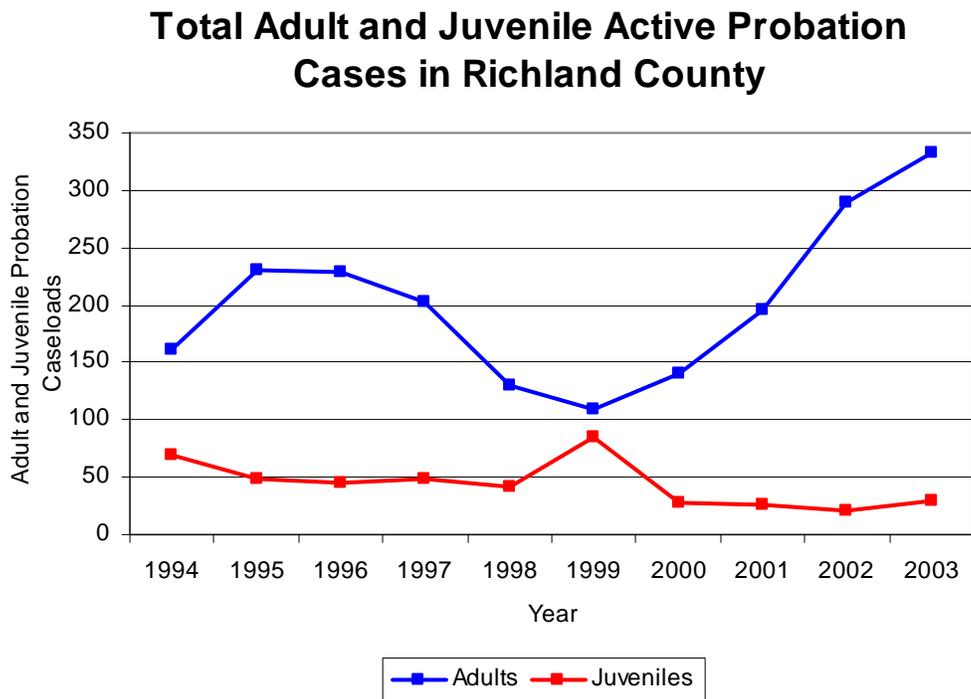
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

In SFY 2004, Richland County's rate of commitments to the IDOC's Juvenile Division of 267 commitments per 100,000 juveniles was 17 percent higher than 229 commitments per 100,000 juveniles from the other rural counties.

Adult and Juvenile Probation Caseloads in Richland County

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of active adult probation cases in Richland County more than doubled, from 161 to 332 (Figure 14). In 2003, felony offenders accounted for 44 percent of Richland County's active adult probation caseload. Between 1994 and 2003, the number of juveniles supervised by the Richland County Juvenile Probation Department decreased 59 percent, from 70 to 29. 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



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

The active adult probation caseload rate per 100,000 population in Richland County also more than doubled between 1994 and 2003, from 972 to 2,075 cases per 100,000 population. During that same period, the active adult probation caseload rate increased 39 percent in the other rural counties, from 742 to 1,034 cases per 100,000 population. In 2003, the active adult probation caseload rate in Richland County was more than double the rate in other rural counties.

IV. Jail Populations in Richland 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 State Fiscal Years 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 SFYs 1991 and 1995 data.

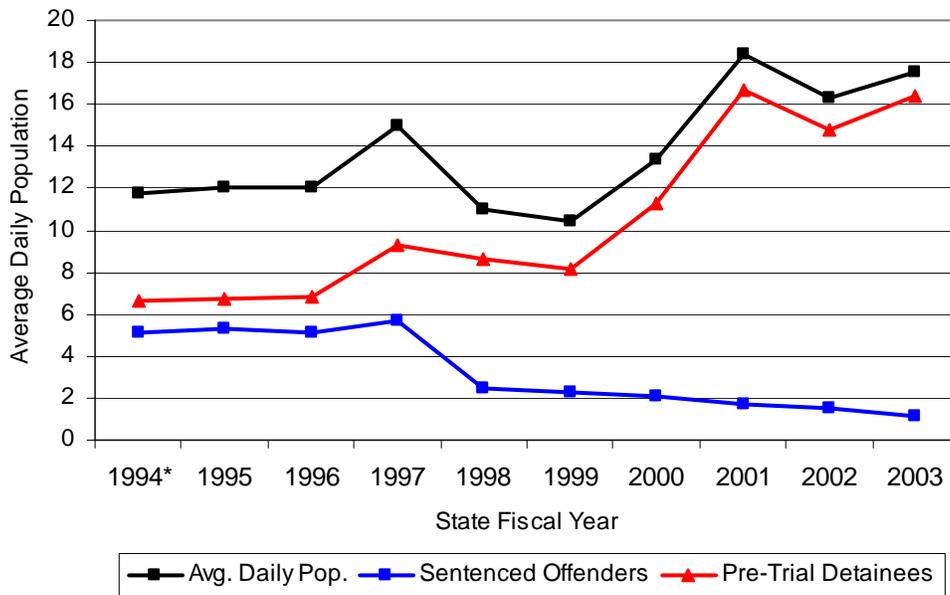
Average Daily Population of the Richland County Jail

The Richland County Jail was one of 91 county jails in operation in Illinois during state fiscal year 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 1994 and SFY 2003, the average daily population of the Richland County Jail increased slightly, from 12 to 18 inmates (Figure 15). During this period, pretrial detainees (those individuals who have been arrested for a crime and are awaiting trial) accounted for an increased percentage of the average daily population; from 56 percent in 1994 to 94 percent in 2003. On the other hand, sentenced offenders (those offenders who have been convicted and sentenced to the county jail) accounted for a decreased percentage; 44 percent in 1994 compared to 6 percent in 2003.

Figure 15

Average Daily Population of the Richland County Jail



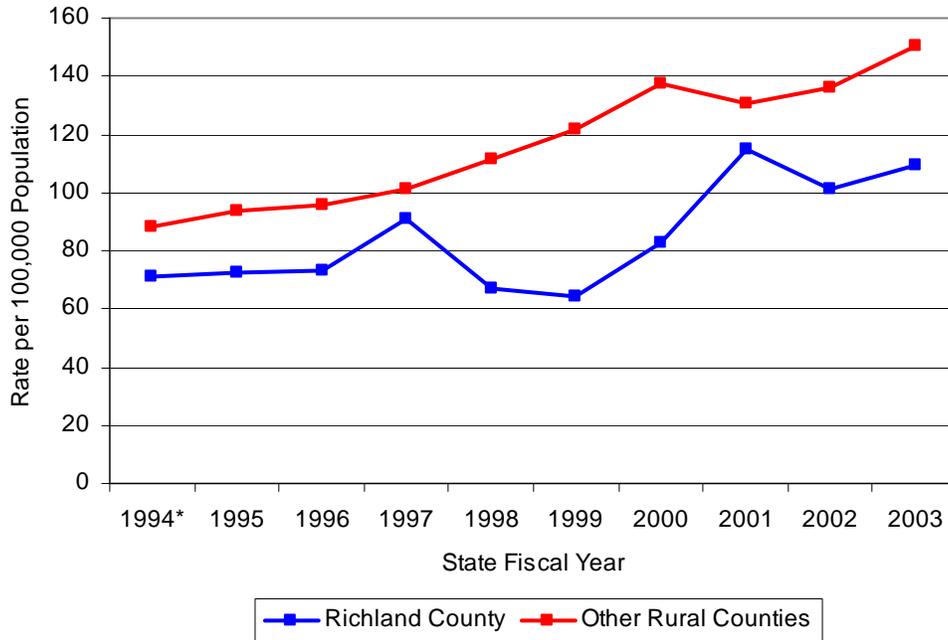
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

* Information estimated by ICJIA

Between State Fiscal Years 1994 and 2003, the average daily jail population rate in Richland County increased 54 percent, from 71 to 110 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 2003, the Richland County Jail had an average daily jail population rate 27 percent lower than the rate in the other rural counties.

Figure 16

**Average Daily Jail Population Rates,
Richland and Other Rural Counties**



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

* Information estimated by ICJIA

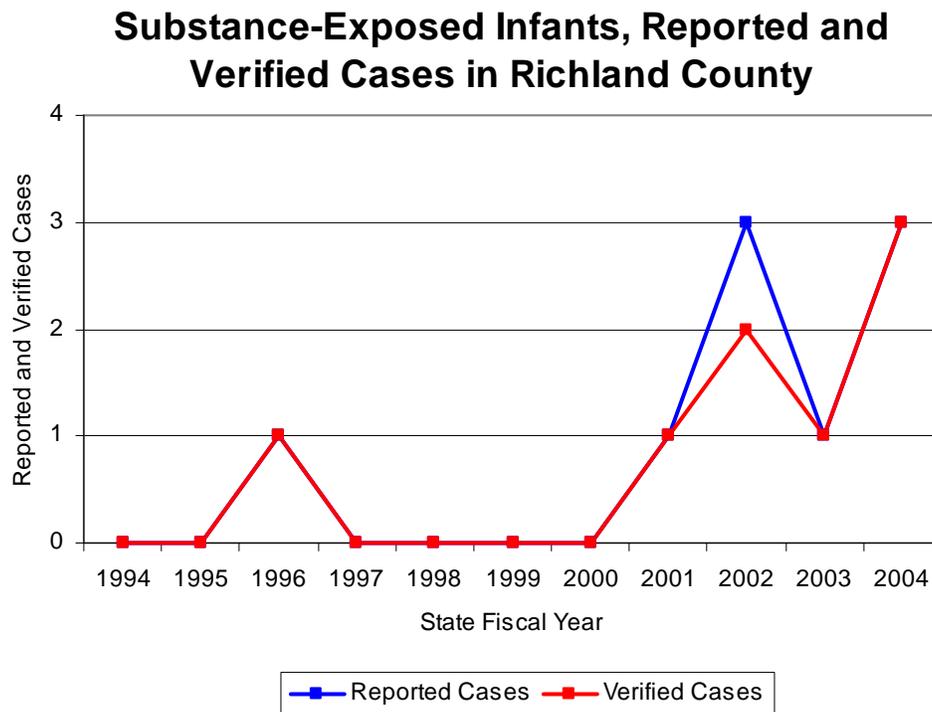
V. Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect in Richland County

Substance-Exposed Infants in Richland 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 State Fiscal Years 1994 and 2004, 96 of Illinois' 102 counties reported at least one case of a substance-exposed infant.

Between State Fiscal Years 1994 and 2004, there were nine reported and eight verified cases of a substance-exposed infant reported in Richland County (Figure 17).

Figure 17



Source: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Between State Fiscal Years 1994 and 2004, the number of reported cases of substance-exposed infants in the other rural counties increased 19 percent, from 83 to 99, while the number of verified cases of substance-exposed infants increased 36 percent, from 44 to 60.

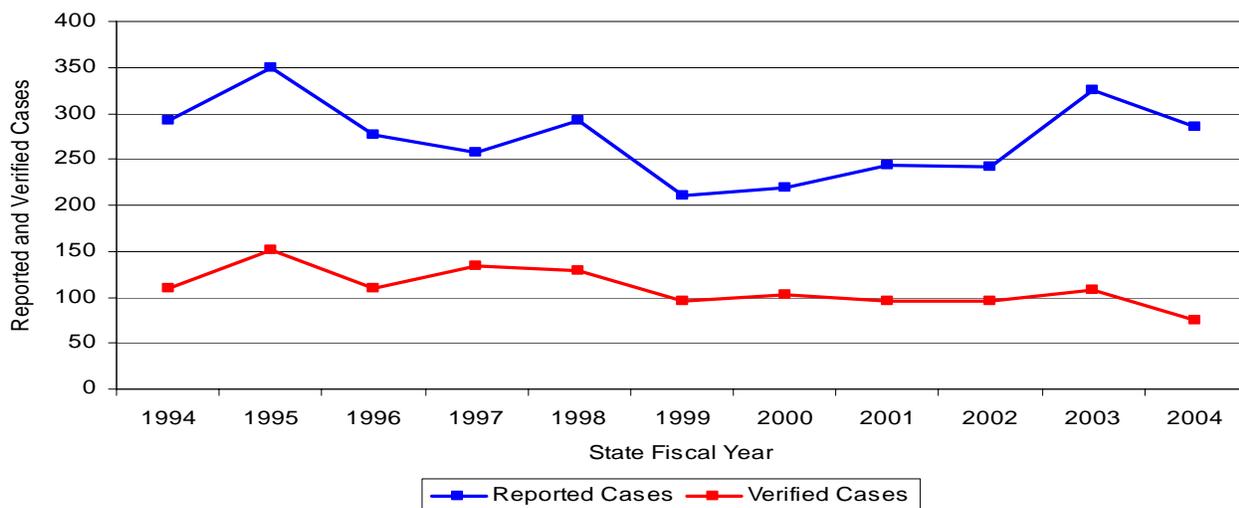
Child Abuse and Neglect Cases Reported and Verified in Richland County

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 State Fiscal Years 1994 and 2004, the number of child abuse and neglect cases reported in Richland County decreased slightly, from 292 to 286 (Figure 18). During that same period, 1,202 cases, or 40 percent of all cases reported, were verified by a DCFS investigation. Verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Richland County decreased 31 percent between SFY 1994 and SFY 2004, from 109 to 75.

Figure 18

Reported and Verified Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect in Richland County



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.

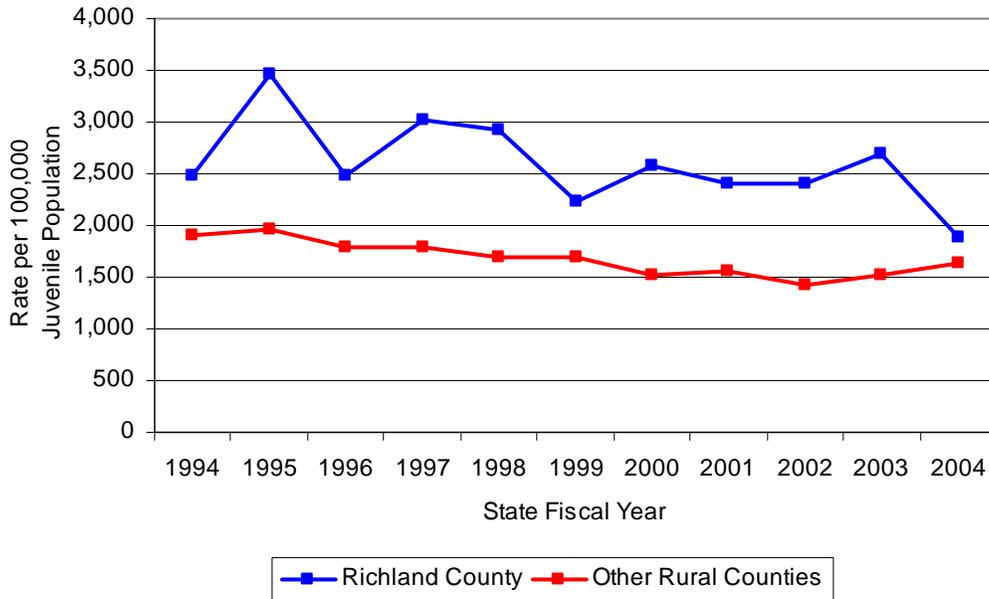
² Kelly, B., Thornberry, T. and Smith, C. 1997. "In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment." *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

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

Between State Fiscal Years 1994 and 2004, the rate of verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Richland County decreased from 2,482 to 1,892 per 100,000 juveniles, an 24 percent decrease (Figure 19). During the same period, the rate of verified child abuse and neglect cases decreased 14 percent in the other rural counties, from 1,903 to 1,632 per 100,000 juveniles. In SFY 2004, the rate of verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Richland County was 16 percent higher than in the other rural counties.

Figure 19

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



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

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