



Methamphetamine: Quick Facts

Trends in Measures of Methamphetamine Activities in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report was developed to provide an overview of the extent and nature of methamphetamine use and abuse in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit. The analyses compares methamphetamine trends in the First Judicial Circuit to drug trends in Illinois and examines how selected measures used in the analyses could be more effectively identified, gauged, monitored, and evaluated.

Through the use of existing local- and state-level aggregate data, the research sought to gauge the migratory characteristics of methamphetamine as an emerging drug by examining prevalence indicators (efforts undertaken by law enforcement, such as controlled substances drug arrests, clandestine methamphetamine lab seizures, new court commitments to prison, and the quantity of methamphetamine seized, as well as the number of methamphetamine submissions to Illinois State Police (ISP) crime laboratories) relative to consequence indicators (admissions to treatment for methamphetamine abuse data).

When reading this report, it is important to view it as a whole. Statistical measures can be open to different interpretations. No single indicator can accurately reflect the complexity of the problems associated with the prevalence of methamphetamine activity. Multiple indicators used and taken together, however, can and do provide at least a rough indication of patterns and trends in the spread of methamphetamine in Illinois.

While the data presented in this report are by no means inclusive of all indicators, they do provide a general overview of methamphetamine activities and the response and impact of the criminal justice system. In addition, these data are readily available and consistently defined through existing statewide data collection mechanisms. Some data presented in this profile have been analyzed differently than in previous years and caution must be taken when comparing numbers presented with previous reports.

Many of the analyses presented in this report were structured to provide an overview of methamphetamine activity across each county in the First Judicial Circuit. In addition to examining county-level trends, the report also examines methamphetamine activities across Illinois. Some of the findings of this report include:

- In 2003, counties within the First Judicial Circuit were generally less populated than most regions of the state (page 1).
- Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for *total* drug-law violations nearly tripled in the circuit, from 360 to 1,036, while total drug arrests increased 53 percent statewide. In 2003, the total drug arrest rate of 483 arrests per 100,000 population in the circuit was 44 percent lower than the statewide rate of 861 arrests per 100,000 population (pages 2 and 3).
- The Controlled Substances Act (which excludes Cannabis Control Act, Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act, and Drug Paraphernalia Control Act arrests) arrest rate in the circuit more than doubled between 1994 and 2003. Between 1994 and 2003, all counties in this circuit had Controlled Substances Act arrest rates lower than the statewide rate. In

2003, the Controlled Substances Act arrest rate of 113 arrests per 100,000 population in the circuit was 69 percent lower than the statewide rate of 370 arrests per 100,000 population (page 5).

- Among the nine counties within this circuit, only four are covered by a multijurisdictional drug task force, which in many of the state's other rural communities, are responsible for a large portion of drug enforcement activity (page 7).
- The quantity of methamphetamine seized by police in counties within this circuit increased dramatically, from 18 grams in 1994 to 2,358 grams in 2003. Although counties within this circuit accounted for 1 percent of all drug seizures in Illinois, meth seizures within this circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide meth seizures, from 1 percent in 1994 to 9 percent in 2003 (page 11).
- In 2003, the circuit had a meth seizure rate more than five times higher than the statewide rate. Also, the counties within this circuit accounted for 18 percent of all meth seized in rural counties in the state. As a result, the meth seizure rate for counties within this circuit was 49 percent higher than the rate of all other rural counties combined (page 13).
- Methamphetamine submissions from counties within the circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide meth submissions, climbing from 5 percent in 1998 to 8 percent in 2003. Moreover, the meth submission rate in the circuit increased dramatically during the period, from 14 to 129 submissions per 100,000 population (pages 16 and 17).
- Clandestine methamphetamine labs were seized in all nine counties within the circuit throughout the period analyzed. In 2003, the circuit had a methamphetamine lab seizure rate nearly eleven times higher than the statewide rate and accounted for 19 percent of all labs seized in Illinois in 2003, compared to 29 percent in 1997 (pages 21 and 22).
- Between state fiscal years (SFYs) 1996 and 2003, the number of new court commitments for methamphetamine offenses from counties within the circuit increased from six to 345 commitments. As a result of this increase, the proportion of statewide commitments for methamphetamine offenses increased during the period, from 0 percent in SFY 1996 to 7 percent in SFY 2003, while accounting for a period high of 13 percent in SYF 2002 (page 25).
- Admissions to treatment for methamphetamine abuse from counties within the circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine treatment admissions, jumping from 32 percent in SFY 1994 to 89 percent in SFY 2003. In SFY 2003, methamphetamine treatment admissions accounted for 19 percent of the total illicit drug treatment admissions in all nine counties within the circuit (pages 30 and 31).

FOREWORD

While the 1980s saw the emergence of crack cocaine across drug markets in the U.S., it appears that the 1990s will be looked upon as the time when the popularity of methamphetamine spread, resulting in a greater demand for criminal justice as well as treatment resources. Methamphetamine has also dramatically changed the extent and nature of the drug problem, as seen by both the justice system and drug treatment agencies in Illinois' rural communities.

This report examines the emergence of methamphetamine in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit and statewide through an examination of various law enforcement and drug treatment indicators, and pays particular attention to how the drug's production and use has progressed across the state's diverse geographic regions.

The Authority's Research and Analysis Unit developed this useful summary format to put this information into the hands of local and state criminal justice policymakers. Many of the analyses presented were structured to provide an overview of methamphetamine activity across all counties within Illinois' First Judicial Circuit. In addition to examining county- and circuit-wide trends, the report also examines methamphetamine activities across Illinois.

The information presented in this report was provided to the Authority by the Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Human Service's Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and Illinois Department of Corrections. The support and cooperation of these agencies and their staffs have helped make this report an informative and timely source of information on the emergence and spread of methamphetamine activities in Illinois.

Throughout this report, the measures of methamphetamine activity trends experienced in the circuit 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.



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

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

I. Introduction

Illinois' First Judicial Circuit includes Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, and Williamson counties in southern Illinois. Combined, these counties had a 2003 estimated population of 214,506, 2 percent of the total statewide population.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, all nine counties within the First Judicial Circuit are classified as being rural in that they are not part of a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). A geographic area qualifies as a MSA: if it includes a city of at least 50,000 population or if it includes an urbanized area of at least 50,000 population with a total metropolitan population of at least 100,000, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census. In addition to the county containing the main city or urbanized area, a MSA may include counties having strong economic or social ties to the central county (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census).

Between 1994 and 2003, it is estimated that the statewide population increased 6 percent. Conversely, six of the nine counties studied experienced decreases in their populations (Alexander, Jackson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, and Saline), while three experienced an increase (Johnson, Union, and Williamson). Five counties ranked in the lower third of the state's counties with the smallest populations. The population density—people per square mile—of two counties (Pope and Pulaski) mirrored the population trends. In 2003, the population density for the state was 227 persons per square mile, while the population density for the First Judicial Circuit was 42 persons per square mile, ranging from 11 persons per square mile in Pope County to 147 persons per square mile in Williamson County. In addition, five counties ranked in the middle third of Illinois counties with the lowest population density. Thus, counties within the First Judicial Circuit tend to be less populated (in actual numbers and in terms of the population density) than most regions of the state.

According to the ISP, as of October 31, 2003, there were 34 law enforcement agencies employing 404 full-time police officers in the nine counties. The officers accounted for 1 percent of the total number of sworn police officers statewide. The rate of full-time police officers per resident in eight of the nine counties were below the statewide rate of 271 full-time police officers per 100,000 population, and four of the nine counties had rates that were one-half or lower than the statewide rate.

As a result, full-time police officers in counties within this Circuit had considerably greater areas to cover per officer. For example, statewide, there is one full-time police officer for every two square miles. Within the First Judicial Circuit, there is one full-time police officer for every eight square miles. More notable are the differences observed across individual counties, ranging from one full-time police officer for every three square miles in Williamson County to one full-time police officer for every 93 square miles in Pope County.

II. Law Enforcement Activities in Illinois and the First Judicial Circuit

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 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.

Arrest data were obtained through the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) Program. These data, which are reported at the agency level, were subsequently aggregated to the county level. The only distinction that can be made in terms of the substance involved in drug arrests by local police departments, as reported through the I-UCR, is between those involving cannabis (identified as violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act (CCA)) and all other illegal substances (identified as violations of Illinois' Controlled Substances Act (CSA)). This presents a major limitation with using UCR data in that drug arrests reported by local police departments do not distinguish between arrests for the various substances, but are reported in aggregate as a violation of Illinois' Controlled Substances Act. Although statewide methamphetamine arrest data are not currently available, presenting arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act offers an overview of statewide trends and allows for a comparison between the counties within the circuit and the rest of the state. Through examination of arrests made by Illinois' multijurisdictional enforcement units, which do report arrests by specific drug-type, these conclusions can be further supported.

Total Drug Arrests in the First Judicial Circuit

Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for *total* drug-law violations (including violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act, Controlled Substances Act, Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, and Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act) nearly tripled in the circuit, from 360 to 1,036, while the number of drug arrests increased 53 percent statewide. When individual counties were examined, it was noted that six of the nine counties within the circuit experienced notable increases in drug arrests, while two counties (Alexander and Pope) experienced decreases in the number of drug arrests between 1994 and 2003 (Table 1).

Table 1
Total Drug Arrests and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Alexander	18 (179.05)	65 (650.72)	52 (525.84)	61 (631.54)	57 (591.78)	29 (301.42)	11 (114.75)	22 (232.04)	6 (63.25)	15 (160.82)	-0.17% (0.10%)
Jackson	153 (248.86)	294 (481.19)	339 (556.88)	361 (595.64)	304 (504.11)	283 (471.46)	282 (473.32)	378 (638.43)	444 (756.20)	428 (725.72)	1.80 (1.92)
Johnson	17 (143.47)	98 (792.88)	104 (825.79)	117 (925.85)	165 (1276)	202 (1580.84)	123 (951.79)	133 (1014.11)	63 (492.38)	87 (671.76)	4.12 (3.68)
Massac	40 (264.20)	58 (382.79)	47 (309.05)	48 (312.42)	59 (383.66)	74 (484.99)	112 (740.64)	193 (1283.24)	106 (700.78)	150.00 (990.88)	2.75 (2.75)
Pope	7 (159.67)	37 (836.91)	71 (1611.07)	119 (2710.09)	39 (892.45)	52 (1191.02)	34 (768.54)	4 (92.06)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	-1.00 (-1.00)
Pulaski	27 (363.93)	27 (360.87)	12 (161.70)	29 (395.42)	26 (350.12)	18 (243.05)	16 (218.52)	18 (249.38)	27 (375.31)	64 (904.34)	1.37 (1.48)
Saline	34 (125.80)	31 (115.33)	54 (199.45)	70 (260.26)	73 (270.91)	104 (386.93)	118 (442.93)	142 (539.64)	126 (480.86)	111 (424.34)	2.26 (2.37)
Union	24 (133.08)	26 (143.24)	30 (164.10)	45 (245.81)	46 (251.75)	38 (207.05)	91 (498.44)	49 (269.94)	35 (192.75)	28 (154.10)	0.17 (0.16)
Williamson	40 (66.72)	93 (153.90)	81 (133.60)	65 (106.22)	65 (105.91)	77 (125.25)	108 (176.39)	125 (202.37)	145 (233.47)	153 (245)	2.83 (2.67)
Circuit Total	360 (167.18)	729 (337.56)	834 (365.10)	915 (422.85)	834 (384.99)	877 (405.71)	895 (416.12)	1,064 (495.71)	952 (444.63)	1,036 (482.97)	1.88 (1.89)
Statewide	71,375 (599.16)	86,186 (717.71)	92,314 (762.80)	98,298 (806.67)	93,174 (759.25)	110,674 (895.49)	115,959 (932.23)	112,570 (899.32)	105,335 (836.89)	108,938 (860.93)	0.53 (0.44)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	

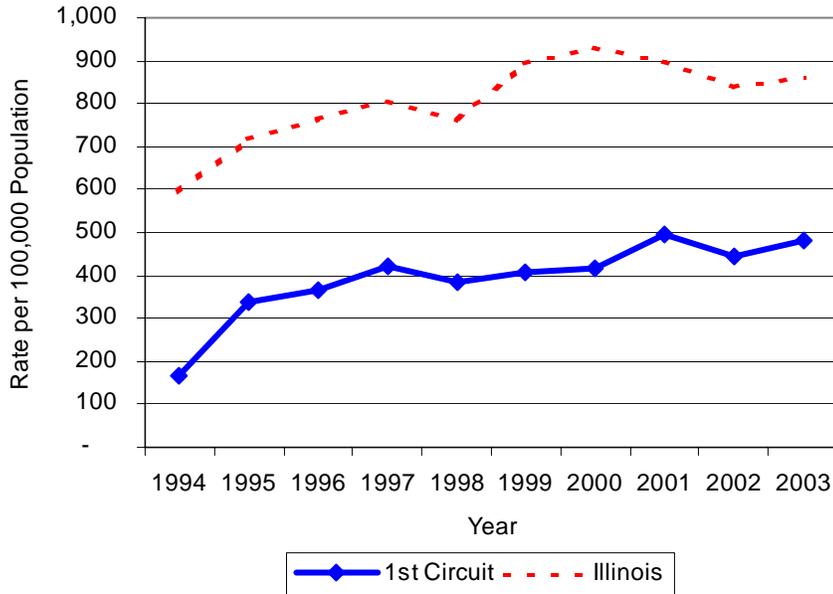
Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

*Rates in parentheses

Similar to the *number* of drug arrests, the total drug arrest *rate* in the circuit more than doubled between 1994 to 2003, from 167 arrests to 483 arrests per 100,000 population in 2003. In 1994, all nine counties had a lower total drug arrest rate than the statewide rate. However, by 2003, Pulaski and Massac counties had higher total drug arrest rates than the statewide total drug arrest rate. As a result, in 2003, the total drug arrest rate of 483 arrests per 100,000 population in the circuit was 44 percent lower than the statewide rate of 861 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 1).

Figure 1

**Total Drug Arrest Rates,
First Judicial Circuit, 1994 - 2003**



Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

During the period analyzed, the number of arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act more than doubled in the circuit, from 101 arrests in 1994 to 243 arrests in 2003. Between 1994 and 2003, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Saline, Union and Williamson counties experienced increases in the number of Controlled Substances Act arrests (Table 2). As a result, Controlled Substances Act arrests accounted for a decreasing proportion of total drug arrests in the First Judicial Circuit, declining from 28 percent in 1994 to 23 percent in 2003.

Table 2
Controlled Substances Act Arrests and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Alexander	4 (39.79)	20 (200.02)	20 (202.24)	8 (82.82)	15 (155.73)	4 (41.58)	0 (0.00)	6 (63.28)	1 (10.54)	0 (0.00)	-1.00% (-1.00%)
Jackson	54 (87.83)	49 (80.20)	43 (70.64)	38 (62.70)	46 (76.28)	42 (69.97)	55 (92.31)	55 (92.89)	77 (131.14)	56 (94.95)	0.04 (0.08)
Johnson	1 (8.44)	19 (153.72)	6 (47.64)	11 (87.05)	34 (262.93)	69 (539.99)	8 (61.91)	53 (404.12)	16 (125.05)	27 (208.48)	26.00 (23.70)
Massac	6 (39.63)	9 (59.40)	3 (19.73)	8 (52.07)	7 (45.52)	10 (65.54)	23 (152.10)	39 (259.31)	33 (218.17)	35 (231.21)	4.83 (4.83)
Pope	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	5 (113.46)	3 (68.32)	2 (45.77)	4 (91.62)	0 (0.00)	2 (46.03)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	---** ---**
Pulaski	19 (256.10)	8 (106.92)	3 (40.43)	2 (27.27)	4 (53.86)	3 (40.51)	4 (54.63)	8 (110.83)	6 (83.40)	8 (113.04)	-0.58 (-.56)
Saline	7 (25.90)	7 (26.04)	7 (25.85)	7 (26.03)	12 (44.53)	13 (48.37)	20 (75.07)	41 (155.81)	54 (206.08)	43 (164.39)	5.14 (5.35)
Union	4 (22.18)	4 (16.53)	8 (43.76)	5 (27.31)	8 (43.78)	7 (38.14)	15 (82.16)	18 (99.16)	11 (60.58)	6 (33.02)	0.50 (0.49)
Williamson	6 (10.01)	11 (18.20)	8 (13.20)	9 (14.71)	9 (14.66)	8 (13.01)	22 (35.93)	35 (56.66)	68 (109.49)	68 (108.89)	10.33 (9.88)
Circuit Total	101 (46.90)	126 (58.34)	103 (47.60)	91 (42.05)	137 (63.24)	160 (74.02)	147 (68.35)	257 (119.73)	266 (124.23)	243 (113.28)	1.41 (1.42)
Statewide	46,220 (387.99)	50,787 (422.50)	51,131 (430.60)	52,472 (430.60)	43,484 (354.34)	52,224 (422.56)	54,565 (438.67)	51,758 (413.50)	47,151 (374.60)	46,786 (369.75)	0.01 (-0.05)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	<1%	1%	1%	1%							

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

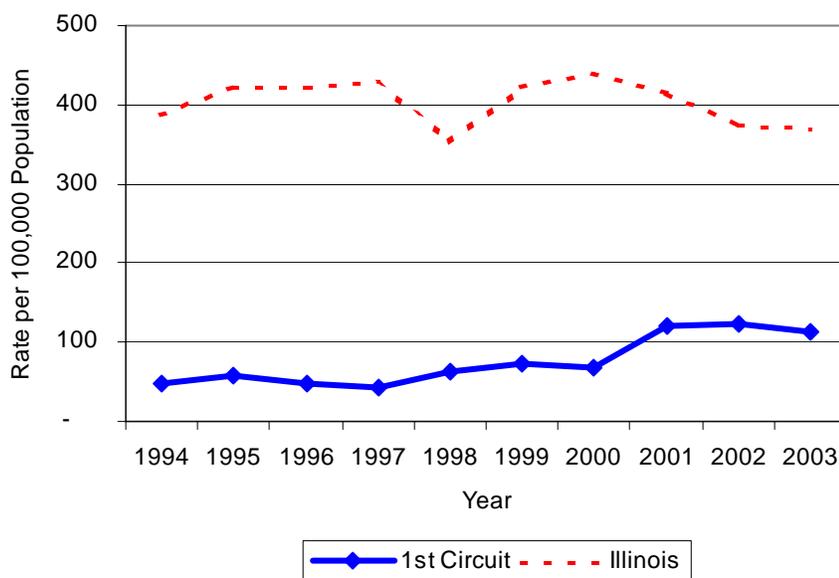
*Rates in parentheses

**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

Similar to the number of Controlled Substances Act arrests, the Controlled Substances Act arrest rate (which excludes Cannabis Control Act, Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act, and Drug Paraphernalia Control Act arrests) more than doubled between 1994 to 2003, from 47 arrests to 113 arrests per 100,000 population. Between 1994 and 2003, all counties in the circuit had Controlled Substances Act arrest rates lower than the statewide rate. Thus, in 2003, the Controlled Substances Act arrest rate of 113 arrests per 100,000 population was 69 percent lower than the statewide rate of 370 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Controlled Substances Act Arrest Rates, First Judicial Circuit, 1994 - 2003



Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Multijurisdictional Task Force Drug Arrest Data

Another way to examine the rates and patterns of methamphetamine arrests in Illinois is through analyses of the cases developed by the State's 20 multijurisdictional enforcement units (referred to as metropolitan enforcement groups (MEGs) and Task Forces). While these units tend to focus on a different type of drug offender than local police departments, they do report arrest data that is drug-specific, unlike that reported through the UCR program. Data on drug arrests made by Illinois' MEGs and task forces are reported quarterly to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Further, MEGs and task forces are classified as being either *mostly urban*, *mostly rural*, or *mixed urban/rural* based upon the classification of the county(s) that each unit covers. When these multijurisdictional units were classified as serving either mostly urban, mixed urban/rural, or mostly rural jurisdictions, patterns consistent with those seen in other methamphetamine indicators were found.

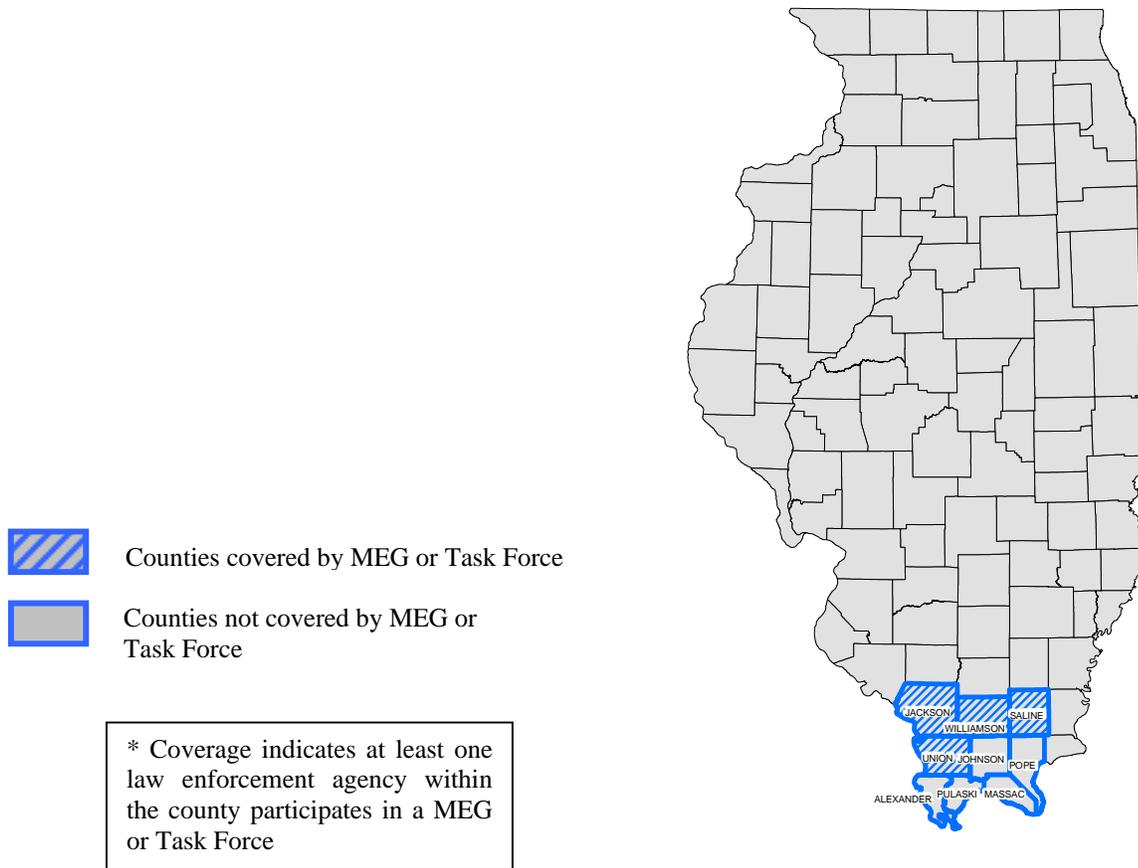
As a proxy to present the extent and nature of arrests for methamphetamine in Illinois, the numbers of methamphetamine arrests made by Illinois' multijurisdictional task forces were examined. Based on analyses of these data, Illinois' multijurisdictional units did not begin to make arrests involving methamphetamine until 1997, but after that, arrests involving methamphetamine jumped dramatically. For example, between 1997 and 2003, the number of methamphetamine arrests by these multijurisdictional units increased from just three to 1,112.

While methamphetamine arrests increased across all regions covered by a MEG or task force during the late-1990s and early 2000s, units serving mostly rural areas experienced the greatest increase in methamphetamine arrests, jumping from zero in 1997 to 514 by 2003, followed by mixed urban/rural units and mostly urban units, which increased from three to 373 arrests and zero to 225 arrests, respectively. Thus, in 2003, multijurisdictional units in mostly rural areas accounted for nearly one-half (46 percent) of all methamphetamine arrests by MEGs and task forces in the state. In response to these patterns, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority provided additional funding to a number of multijurisdictional units in the state to address the growing problem of methamphetamine production and distribution.

Jackson, Williamson, Saline and Union counties are the only counties covered by a multijurisdictional drug task force, which in many of the state's other rural communities, are responsible for a large portion of drug enforcement activity. Saline County is covered by the Southern Illinois Drug Task Force (SIDTF), a mixed urban/rural unit, which also serves the counties of Clinton, Washington, Franklin, and White; while Jackson, Williamson, and Union counties are served by the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group (SIEG) (Map 1 on page 8).

Map 1

MEG and Task Force Coverage of Counties within Illinois' First Judicial Circuit, 2003



Between 1997 and 2003, total drug arrests by SIEG and SIDTF (made by the units across counties within their respective jurisdictions), combined, increased 32 percent, from 256 arrests to 338 arrests. The majority of that increase was accounted for by SIDTF when total drug arrests increased 36 percent between 1997 and 2003, from 130 to 177 arrests. Similarly, the number of total drug arrests made by SIEG increased 28 percent during the same period, from 126 to 161 arrests. Despite these increases, the proportion of all MEG and task force drug arrests made for by SIEG and SIDTF decreased from 10 percent in 1997 to 9 percent in 2003.

However, differences were noted, when methamphetamine arrests were examined for these two units. Between 1997 and 2003, the number of combined SIEG and SIDTF methamphetamine arrests increased from three to 208. During the period analyzed, the number of SIEG arrests for methamphetamine increased from zero to 92, while SIDTF arrests for methamphetamine increased from three to 116. Thus, in 2003, methamphetamine arrests accounted for 57 percent of all Controlled Substances Act arrests made by SIEG and 66 percent of all Controlled Substances Act arrests made by SIDTF.

Methamphetamine arrests accounted for 31 percent of total Controlled Substances Act arrests made by all MEGs and task forces in 2003. In 2003, SIEG and SIDTF, accounted for just 9 percent of total Controlled Substances Act arrests made by all MEGs and task forces, as well as 19 percent of all methamphetamine arrests made by Illinois' MEGs and task forces.

*To provide more comprehensive information on drug enforcement activities of Illinois' MEGs and task forces, including SIEG and SIDTF, profiles of each of the 20 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.

Drug Seizures and Submissions in Illinois and the First Judicial Circuit

The quantity of drugs seized and the number of drug submission cases by law enforcement agencies are additional indicators 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 an Illinois State Police crime lab. These labs record the quantity and type of drugs submitted from each county.

Drug Seizure Data

Between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of drugs seized in Illinois increased 34 percent. Although total drug seizures varied across the individual counties, between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of total drugs seized in the circuit decreased 37 percent, from 79,786 grams to 50,413 grams. Between 1994 and 2003, total drug seizures by law enforcement agencies within the circuit accounted for a stable, but low proportion of statewide total drug seizures (less than 2 percent) (Table 3).

Table 3
Total Drug Seizures (in grams) and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Alexander	295.8 (2,94.42)	384.6 (3850.24)	744.9 (7,532.61)	3,304.8 (34214.72)	1,035 (10,745.43)	2,076.3 (21,580.92)	141.3 (1,474.02)	444.2 (4,685.16)	40.7 (429.05)	5,546.7 (59,469.28)	17.76% (19.22%)
Jackson	17,200.2 (27,976.45)	7,779.4 (12,732.45)	21,640.4 (35,548.91)	10,809.1 (17,834.74)	12,992.6 (21,545.17)	20,704 (34,491.72)	21,464.4 (36,026.79)	3,324.6 (5,615.12)	20,483.4 (34,886.14)	12,266.1 (20,798.46)	-0.29 (-0.26)
Johnson	1,567.4 (13,228.12)	150.9 (1,220.87)	4,820.8 (38,278.55)	11132 (88,090.53)	455.6 (3,523.32)	1,857.3 (14,535.14)	1,327.8 (10,274.70)	2,756.2 (21,015.63)	1,063.9 (8,314.97)	21,518.1 (166,150.10)	12.73 (11.56)
Massac	1,459.7 (9,641.35)	11,747.4 (77,530.36)	12,267.1 (80,662.15)	1,541.8 (10,035.15)	1,517.7 (9,869.29)	5,235.6 (34,313.80)	2,100 (13,887.05)	1,366 (9,082.45)	1,540.3 (10,183.13)	724 (4,782.67)	-0.50 (-0.50)
Pope	0 (0.00)	357.1 (8,077.36)	126 (2,859.09)	806.5 (18,367.11)	348.6 (7,977.12)	276.5 (6,333.03)	13.5 (305.15)	684.8 (15,760.64)	14,998.8 (346,472.63)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
Pulaski	139.6 (1,881.66)	3,112.3 (41,597.17)	1,019.1 (13,732.65)	179.6 (2,448.87)	494.1 (6,653.65)	312.9 (4,224.95)	278.6 (3,804.97)	432.8 (5,996.12)	264.6 (3,678.07)	2,137.4 (30,202.06)	14.31 (15.05)
Saline	1,095.3 (4,052.61)	551 (2,049.85)	1,461.4 (5,397.60)	1,332.3 (4,953.52)	538.5 (1,998.44)	596.5 (2,219.29)	2,037.1 (7,646.48)	11,374.3 (43,225.28)	2,285.2 (8,721.14)	1,953.1 (7,466.55)	0.78 (0.84)
Union	23,073.7 (127,945.55)	8,419.3 (46,384.77)	1,201.5 (6,572.40)	586.8 (3,205.33)	237.7 (1,300.90)	579.84 (3,159.16)	9,637.1 (52,785.78)	2,471.8 (13,617.23)	245.1 (1,349.82)	543.8 (2,992.85)	-0.98 (-0.98)
Williamson	34,954.7 (58,301.56)	60,968.1 (100,890.45)	9912.8 (16,350.20)	3564.2 (5,824.43)	11,287.8 (18,392.43)	7,277.9 (11,838.60)	6,008.4 (9,813.16)	18030.8 (29,191.17)	6,246.4 (10,057.48)	5,723.3 (9,164.91)	-0.84 (-0.84)
Circuit Total	79,786.2 (37,050.92)	93,470.1 (43,280.41)	53194 (24,583.83)	33,257.1 (15,369.13)	28,907.6 (13,344.17)	38,916.8 (18,003.53)	43,008.2 (19,996.19)	40,885.5 (19,048.32)	47,168.4 (22,029.68)	50,412.5 (23,501.67)	-0.37 (-0.37)
Statewide	2,545,598 (21,368.98)	3,389,422 (28,225.34)	4,744,475 (39,204.06)	4,622,197 (37,931.27)	3,932,659 (32,046.19)	5,870,224 (47,497.49)	4,345,056 (34,931.40)	3,234,626 (25,841.51)	5,304,142 (42,141.69)	3,398,631 (26,859.12)	0.34 (0.26)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	3%	3%	1%								

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data
*Rates in parentheses

However, when methamphetamine seizures were examined, significant differences were noted. Statewide, the quantity of methamphetamine seized and submitted to Illinois State Police increased dramatically between 1994 and 2003, jumping from 3,433 grams to 26,600 grams. While all Illinois' geographic regions reported increases in methamphetamine seizures between 1994 and 2003, rural counties continued to account for the largest proportion of all methamphetamine seized during the period analyzed, decreasing from 76 percent to slightly less than 50 percent. The quantity of methamphetamine seized by police in counties within the circuit increased dramatically, from 18 grams in 1994 to 2,358 grams in 2003 (Table 4).

Table 4
Methamphetamine Seizures (in grams) and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Alexander	0.4 (3.98)	3 (30.03)	0 (0001)	11.7 (121.13)	88.5 (918.81)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	8.5 (89.65)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	-1.00% (-1.00%)
Jackson	0 (0.00)	219.3 (358.93)	901.3 (1,480.57)	0.5 (0.82)	21.9 (36.32)	35.6 (59.31)	62 (104.06)	96.7 (163.32)	18.4 (31.34)	81.9 (138.87)	---** (---**)
Johnson	2.9 (24.47)	0.1 (0.81)	0.2 (1.59)	137.5 (1,088.07)	0.1 (0.77)	93.5 (731.73)	2.1 (16.25)	52.4 (399.54)	37.3 (291.52)	166.6 (1,286.39)	56.4 (51.6)
Massac	0 (0.00)	3.1 (20.46)	11.6 (76.28)	3.3 (21.48)	44.3 (288.07)	40 (262.16)	125.7 (831.24)	193.3 (1,285.24)	14.5 (95.86)	75.2 (496.76)	---** (---**)
Pope	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	35.1 (810.81)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Pulaski	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4.1 (55.21)	0 (0.00)	6.8 (92.87)	125.6 (1,740.09)	107.7 (1,497.08)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Saline	0.5 (1.85)	2.8 (10.42)	6 (22.16)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	58.2 (216.53)	26.2 (98.34)	77.2 (293.38)	135.5 (517.12)	640.7 (2,449.35)	1,280.4 (1,323)
Union	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	491.9 (2,690.77)	0 (0.00)	0.6 (3.28)	22.6 (123.14)	4.4 (24.10)	26.4 (145.44)	13.6 (74.90)	214.8 (1,182.17)	---** (---**)
Williamson	14 (23.35)	69.9 (115.67)	0.4 (0.66)	44.5 (72.72)	295 (480.68)	26.5 (43.11)	14.2 (23.19)	249.3 (403.61)	401.8 (646.95)	1,178.7 (1,887.49)	83.19 (79.83)
Circuit Total	17.8 (8.27)	298.2 (138.08)	1,411.4 (652.28)	197.5 (91.27)	452.5 (209.80)	276.4 (127.87)	241.4 (112.24)	829.4 (386.41)	763.9 (356.77)	2,357.9 (1,099.22)	122.47 (131.92)
Statewide	3,432.7 (28.82)	10,107.8 (84.17)	3,675.9 (30.37)	2,470.1 (20.27)	6,833.9 (55.69)	11,837.6 (95.78)	11,496.6 (92.42)	19,575.9 (156.39)	28,002.4 (222.48)	26,599.6 (210.22)	675.0 (630.0)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	<1%	3%	<40%	1%	7%	2%	2%	4%	3%	9%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative office of the Illinois Courts data

*Rates in parentheses

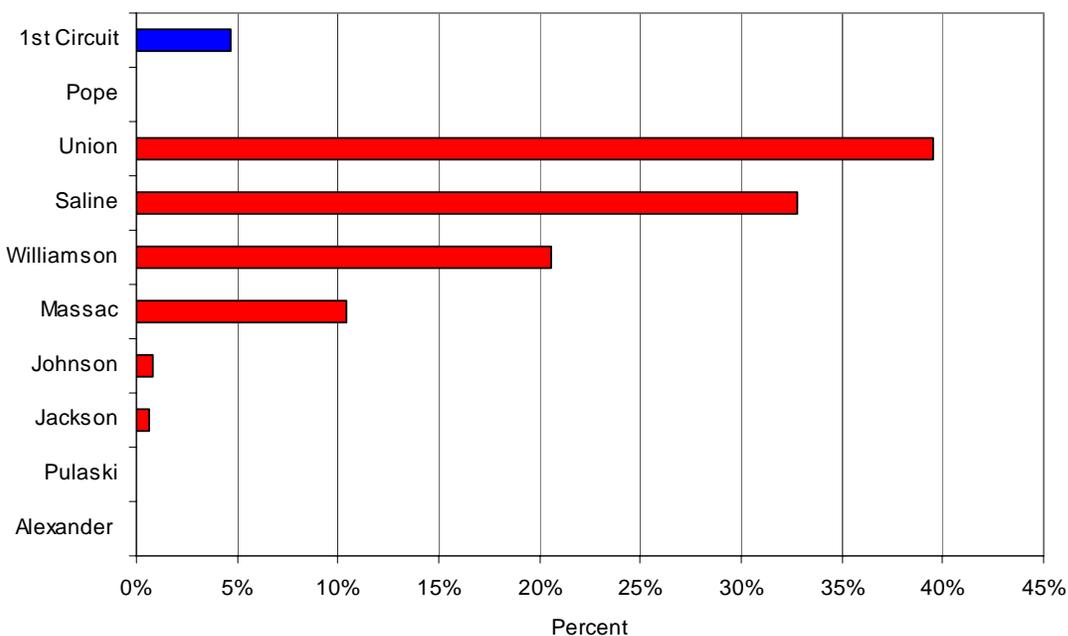
**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

As a result, methamphetamine seizures within the circuit accounted for a growing proportion of statewide methamphetamine seizures, increasing from 1 percent in 1994 to 9 percent in 2003.

In 2003, methamphetamine seizures accounted for less than 5 percent of total drug seizures within the circuit (Figure 3).

Figure 3

Proportion of Total Drug Seizures in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit Accounted for by Methamphetamine, 2003

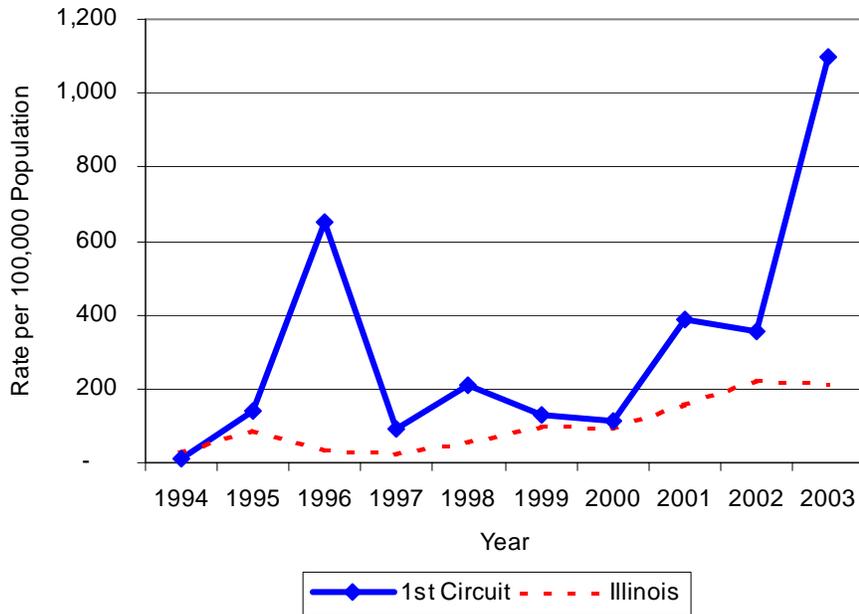


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between 1994 and 2003, the statewide methamphetamine seizure rate increased from 29 grams to 210 grams per 100,000 population. In 2003, the methamphetamine seizure rate in the circuit also increased dramatically, from eight grams to 1,099 grams per 100,000 population (Figure 4).

Figure 4

**Methamphetamine Seizure Rates,
First Judicial Circuit, 1994 - 2003**

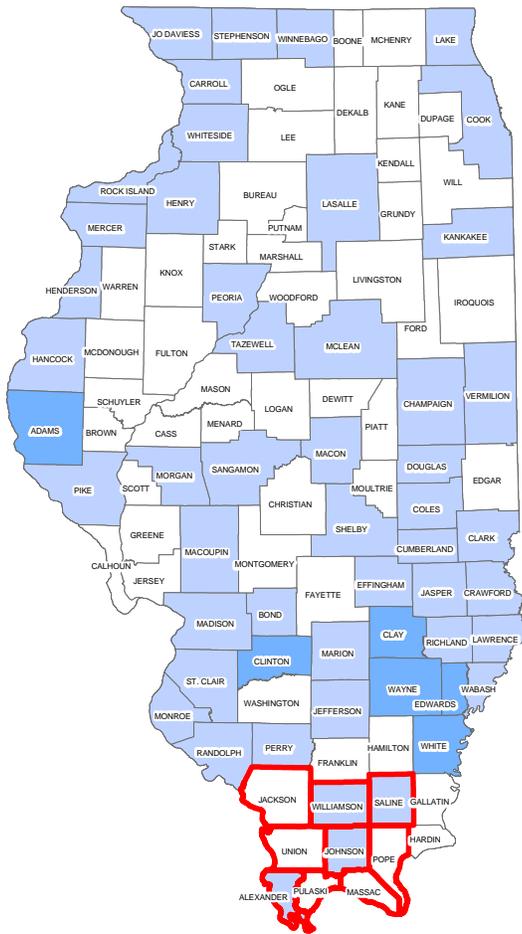


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Thus, in 2003, the First Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine seizure rate more than five times higher than the statewide rate. Also, the counties within the circuit accounted for 18 percent of all methamphetamine seized in rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine seizure rate for the circuit was 49 percent higher than the rate of 736 seizures per 100,000 population for all other rural counties combined.

The number of counties seizing methamphetamine also increased during the period. In 1994, 53 of Illinois' 102 counties submitted methamphetamine to ISP crime labs. However, by 2003, methamphetamine had been seized in all but nine counties. Rural counties accounted for more than three-quarters, or 92 percent, of those counties where methamphetamine was seized. Map 2 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine seizures across Illinois between 1994 and 2003, while depicting the seizure rates for Illinois counties.

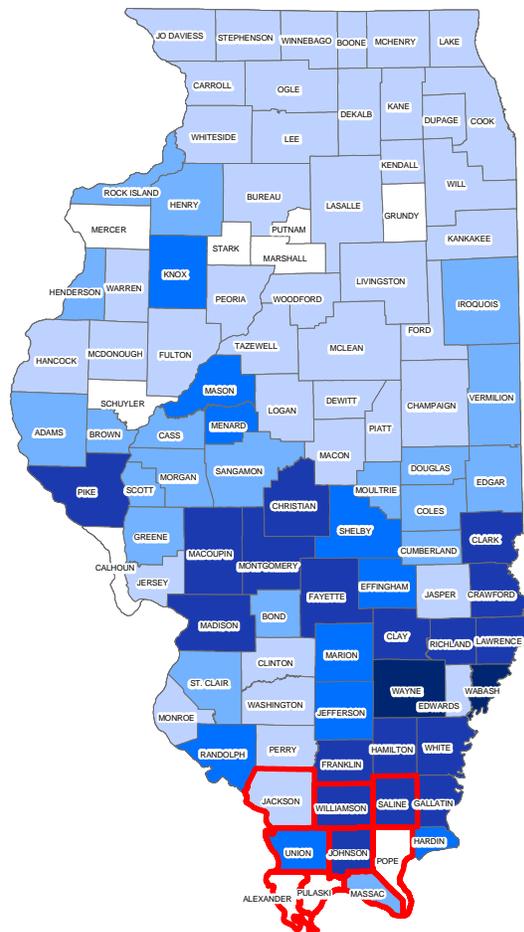
1994



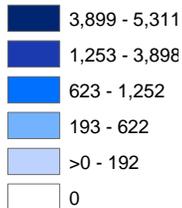
Map 2

Trends in Methamphetamine Seizure Rates, 1994 -2003

2003



Methamphetamine Seizure Rates
(Rate per 100,000 Grams Seized)



Counties within First
Judicial Circuit

Drug Submission Data

Statewide, the number of total drug submission cases sent to ISP crime labs remained relatively stable between 1998 and 2003, increasing less than one-half of 1 percent. During the same period, however, the number of total drug submissions by counties within the circuit increased 57 percent, from 911 to 1,431. Between 1998 and 2003, total drug submissions from the circuit accounted for a stable, but low proportion of statewide total drug submissions (1 percent) (Table 5).

Table 5
Total Drug Submissions (cases) and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1998 - 2003
Alexander	50 (519.10)	67 (696.39)	47 (490.30)	57 (601.20)	30 (316.26)	33 (353.81)	-0.34% (-0.32%)
Jackson	401 (664.96)	528 (879.62)	286 (480.03)	286 (483.04)	286 (487.10)	313 (530.72)	-0.22 (-0.20)
Johnson	63 (487.20)	74 (579.12)	56 (433.34)	63 (480.37)	41 (320.44)	61 (471.01)	-0.03 (-0.03)
Massac	78 (507.22)	87 (570.19)	116 (767.09)	87 (578.46)	84 (555.34)	134 (885.19)	72% (75%)
Pope	19 (434.78)	13 (297.76)	3 (67.81)	17 (391.25)	20 (462.00)	2 (46.94)	-0.89 (-0.89)
Pulaski	33 (444.38)	45 (607.62)	37 (505.33)	48 (665.00)	57 (792.33)	83 (1,172.80)	1.52 (1.64)
Saline	89 (330.29)	83 (308.80)	147 (551.78)	165 (627.04)	218 (831.97)	291 (1,112.47)	2.27 (2.37)
Union	38 (207.97)	39 (212.50)	83 (454.62)	53 (291.98)	47 (258.84)	54 (297.19)	0.42 (0.43)
Williamson	140 (228.12)	153 (248.88)	253 (413.21)	285 (461.40)	227 (365.50)	460 (736.61)	2.29 (2.23)
Circuit Total	911 (420.53)	1,089 (503.79)	1,028 (477.96)	1,061 (494.31)	1,010 (471.71)	1,431 (667.11)	0.57 (0.59)
Statewide	101,306 (825.52)	97,431 (788.34)	100,552 (808.37)	98,341 (785.65)	97,702 (776.25)	101,722 (803.90)	0.00 (-0.03)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	<2%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

* Rates in parentheses

However, significant differences were noted when methamphetamine submissions were examined. Statewide, between 1998 and 2003, the number of methamphetamine submissions for analysis to crime labs increased more than four-fold, from 628 to 3,250. During the period analyzed, the number of methamphetamine submissions accounted for by the nine counties within the circuit increased more than eight-fold, from 30 submissions in 1998 to 276 submissions in 2003 (Table 6).

Table 6
Methamphetamine Submissions (cases) and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1998 - 2003
Alexander	10 (103.82)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (31.64)	1 (10.54)	1 (10.72)	-0.9% (-0.90%)
Jackson	3 (4.97)	22 (36.65)	21 (35.25)	24 (40.54)	18 (30.66)	29 (49.17)	8.67 (8.89)
Johnson	2 (115.47)	21 (164.34)	6 (46.43)	15 (114.37)	8 (62.52)	21 (162.15)	9.5 (0.40)
Massac	5 (32.51)	5 (32.77)	16 (105.81)	20 (132.98)	12 (79.33)	17 (112.30)	2.40 (2.45)
Pope	0 (0.00)	1 (22.90)	0 (0.00)	2 (46.03)	2 (46.20)	1 (23.47)	---** (---**)
Pulaski	4 (53.86)	2 (27.01)	9 (122.92)	8 (110.83)	18 (250.21)	0 (0.00)	-1.00 (-1.00)
Saline	1 (3.71)	9 (33.48)	12 (45.04)	38 (144.41)	67 (255.70)	119 (454.93)	118.00 (121.62)
Union	4 (21.89)	11 (59.94)	8 (43.82)	6 (33.05)	10 (55.07)	28 (154.10)	6.00 (6.04)
Williamson	1 (1.63)	50 (8.13)	11 (17.97)	48 (77.71)	32 (51.52)	60 (96.08)	59.00 (57.94)
Circuit Total	30 (13.85)	76 (35.16)	83 (38.59)	164 (76.41)	168 (78.46)	276 (128.67)	8.20 (8.29)
Statewide	628 (5.12)	855 (6.92)	1,268 (10.19)	2,148 (17.16)	2,717 (21.59)	3,250 (25.68)	418.00 (402.00)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	5%	8%	7%	8%	6%	8%	

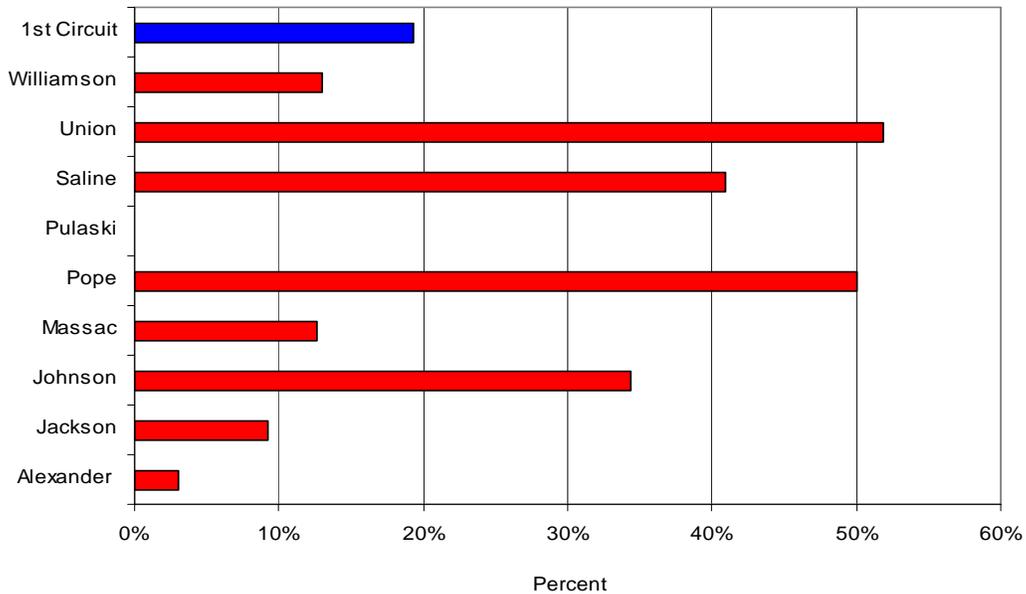
Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data
 *Rates in parentheses
 **Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

As a result, methamphetamine submissions by counties within the circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine submissions, climbing from 5 percent in 1998 to 8 percent in 2003.

When individual counties within the circuit were examined, the differences were more remarkable. In 2003, methamphetamine submissions accounted for one-half or more of total drug submissions in two of the nine counties within the circuit. For example, methamphetamine accounted for 52 percent of all drug submissions in Union County, followed by Pope County with 50 percent (Figure 5).

Figure 5

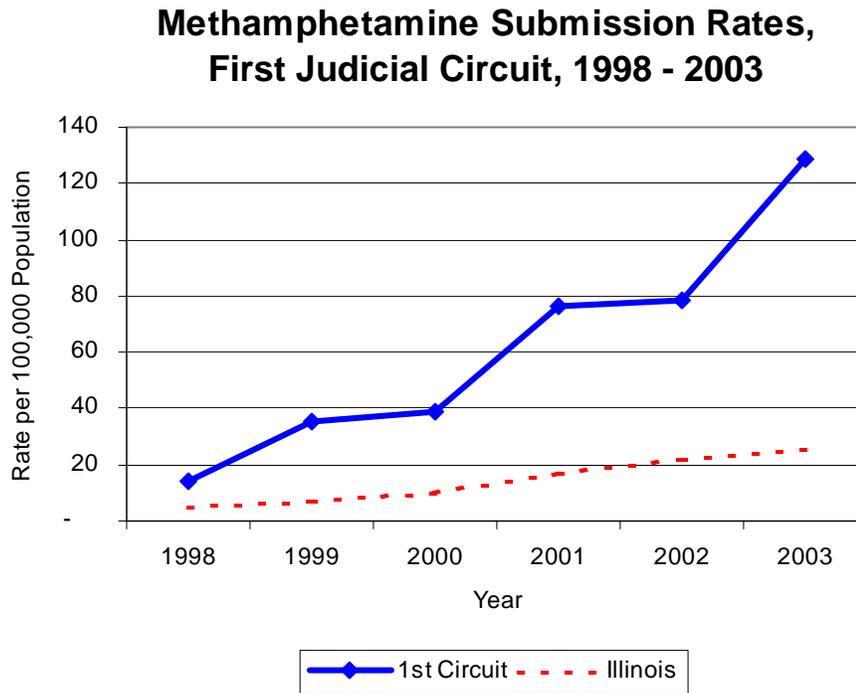
Proportion of Total Drug Submissions (cases) in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit Accounted for by Methamphetamine, 2003



Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between 1998 and 2003, the statewide methamphetamine submission rate increased more than four-fold, from five to 26 submissions per 100,000 population, as well as increasing across all Illinois geographic regions. Moreover, the methamphetamine submission rate in the circuit increased more dramatically during the period, from 14 to 129 submissions per 100,000 population (Figure 6).

Figure 6

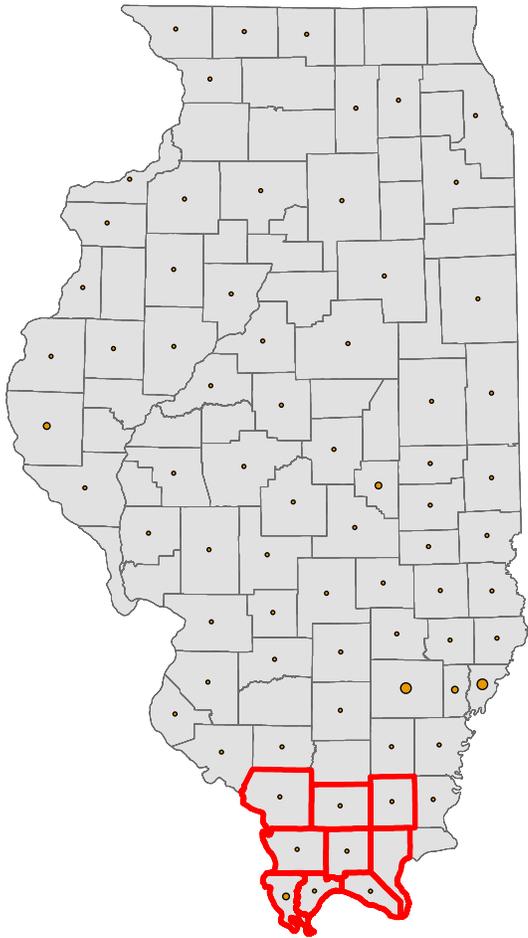


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Thus, in 2003, counties within the circuit had a methamphetamine submission rate nearly five times greater than the rate for the entire state. Also, counties within the circuit accounted for 12 percent of all methamphetamine submissions by rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine submission rate for counties within the circuit was 7 percent lower than the rate of 138 submissions per 100,000 population for all other rural counties combined.

The number of counties submitting methamphetamine to ISP crime labs also increased during the period. In 1998, 72 of Illinois' 102 counties submitted methamphetamine to ISP crime labs. However, by 2003, methamphetamine had been submitted to labs by all but 10 counties. Rural counties accounted for nearly three-quarters of the counties where methamphetamine was seized and submitted to Illinois State Police. Map 3 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine submissions across Illinois between 1998 and 2003, while depicting the submission rates for Illinois counties.

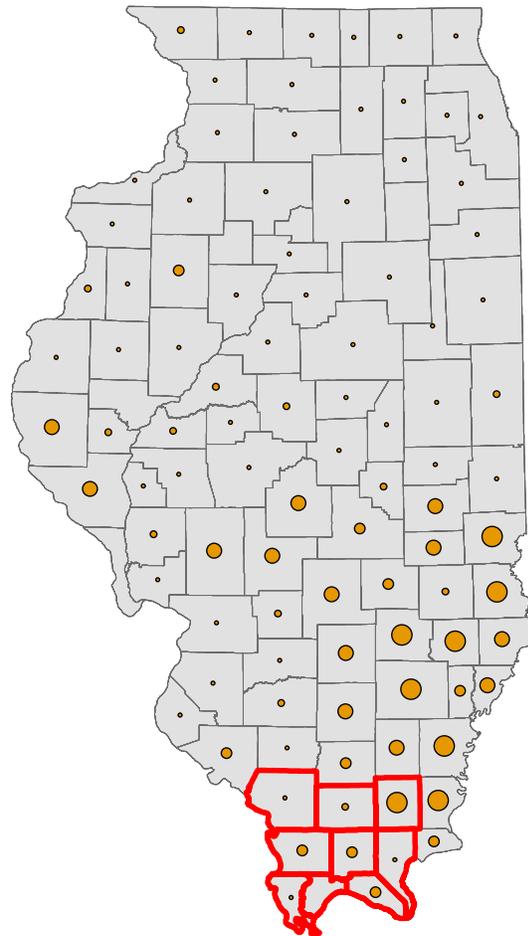
1998



Map 3

Trends in Methamphetamine Submission Rates, 1998 -2003

2003



**Methamphetamine Submission Rates
(Submissions per 100,000 Population)**

- 363 - 1,060
- 204 - 362
- 114 - 203
- 57 - 113
- >0 - 56



Counties within First
Judicial Circuit

Clandestine Laboratory Seizure Data

Methamphetamine labs are reported to, and tracked by, the Strategic Information and Analysis Group within the Illinois State Police (ISP). The number of clandestine methamphetamine labs seized increased dramatically between 1997 and 2003, from 24 to 971. During the period examined, there were 23 labs were seized in Cook County and the collar county region. However, rural counties continue to account for the majority of lab seizures. In 2003, 651 labs were seized in the rural counties, a dramatic increase from the 23 labs seized in 1997. Meanwhile, the number of labs seized in urban counties also continues to increase, from one in 1997 to 318 in 2003. As a result, rural counties account for the largest, but decreasing proportion of labs seized in Illinois, at 96 percent in 1997 and 67 percent in 2003. This indicates the spread of the manufacture of methamphetamine into more diverse regions.

When individual counties within the circuit were examined, similar trends were noted. The number of labs seized increased from seven in 1997 to 181 in 2003 (Table 7).

**Table 7
Methamphetamine Lab Seizures and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit**

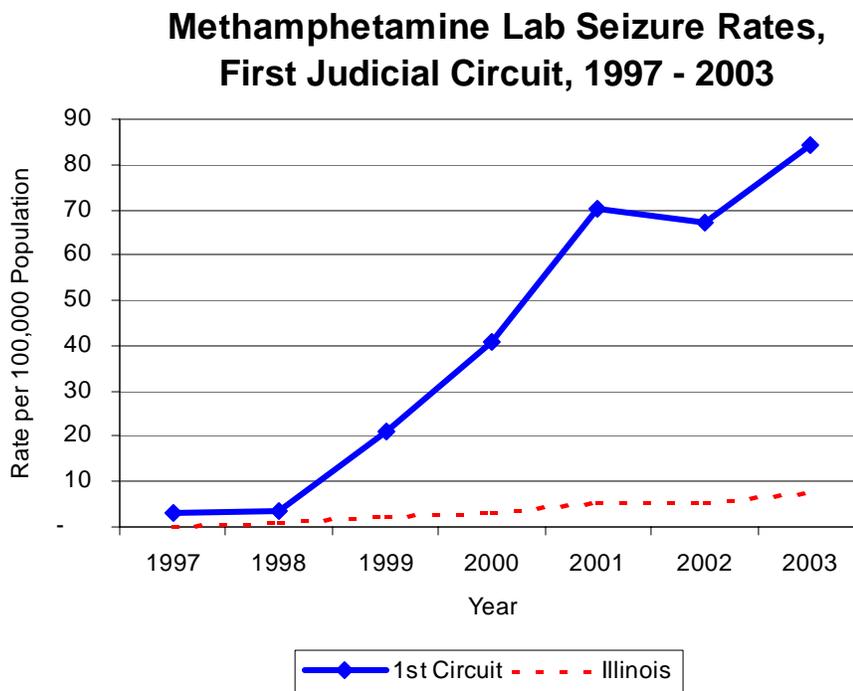
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1997 - 2003
Alexander	1 (10.35)	2 (20.76)	4 (41.58)	5 (52.16)	7 (73.83)	1 (10.54)	1 (10.72)	0.00 (0.04)
Jackson	0 (0.00)	1 (1.66)	25 (41.65)	39 (65.46)	33 (55.74)	57 (97.08)	44 (74.61)	---** (---++)
Johnson	2 (15.83)	0 (0.00)	3 (23.48)	0 (0.00)	6 (45.75)	3 (23.45)	3 (23.16)	0.5 (0.46)
Massac	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (19.66)	5 (33.06)	9 (59.84)	5 (33.06)	1 (6.61)	---** (---**)
Pope	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (45.81)	0 (0.00)	2 (46.03)	1 (23.10)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Pulaski	1 (13.64)	0 (0.00)	2 (27.01)	5 (68.29)	7 (96.98)	1 (13.90)	0 (0.00)	-1.00 (-1.00)
Saline	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (11.16)	2 (7.51)	10 (38.00)	6 (22.90)	6 (22.94)	---** (---**)
Union	3 (16.39)	4 (21.89)	3 (16.35)	10 (54.77)	30 (165.27)	26 (143.19)	40 (220.14)	12.33 (12.43)
Williamson	0 (0.00)	1 (1.63)	1 (1.63)	22 (35.93)	47 (76.09)	44 (70.85)	86 (137.71)	---** (---**)
Circuit Total	7 (3.23)	8 (3.69)	46 (12.28)	88 (40.91)	151 (70.35)	144 (67.25)	181 (84.38)	24.86 (25.12)
Statewide	24 (0.20)	87 (0.71)	247 (2.00)	406 (3.26)	666 (5.32)	681 (5.41)	971 (7.67)	39.46 (37.35)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	29%	<10%	<20%	22%	23%	21%	19%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data
*Rates in parentheses
**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

Between 1997 and 2003, the methamphetamine lab seizure rate increased statewide, from 0.2 to nearly eight labs per 100,000 population. The methamphetamine lab seizure rates in Cook County and the collar county region remained stable and low throughout the period analyzed. Conversely, the methamphetamine lab seizure rate in the rural counties increased dramatically, from one lab to 35 labs seized per 100,000 population, while the urban county region experienced the greatest rate increase, from 0.4 to 12 labs seized per 100,000 population. Thus, in 2003, the rural counties had a lab seizure rate nearly five times greater than the rate for the entire state.

Difference were noted when counties within the circuit were examined. Between 1997 and 2003, clandestine methamphetamine labs were seized in each county. As a result, the methamphetamine lab seizure rate increased from three to 84 labs seized per 100,000 population. Thus, in 2003, the circuit had a methamphetamine lab seizure rate nearly eleven times higher than the statewide rate (Figure 7).

Figure 7



Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between 1997 and 2003, counties within the circuit accounted for a decreased proportion of labs seized statewide. In 2003, the counties accounted for 19 percent of all labs seized in Illinois, compared to just 29 percent in 1997. During the period analyzed, the counties accounted for 26 percent of methamphetamine labs seized by rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine seizure rate for counties within the circuit was more than double the rate of 33 lab seizures per 100,000 population for all other rural counties combined.

The number of counties seizing methamphetamine labs also increased during the period. In 1997, clandestine methamphetamine labs were seized in 10 of Illinois' 102 counties, nine of which were rural counties. But, by 2003, labs were seized in 71 counties. Map 4 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine lab seizures across Illinois between 1997 and 2003, while depicting the lab seizure rates for Illinois counties.

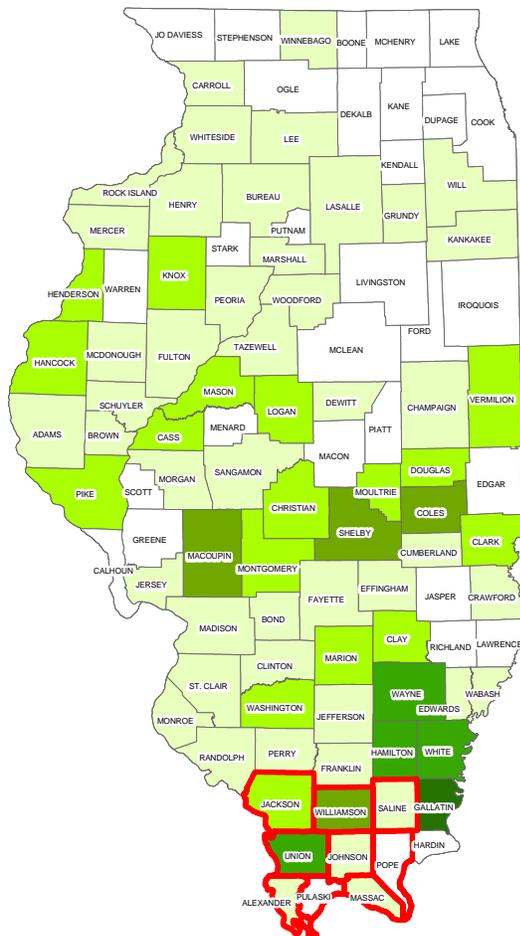
1997



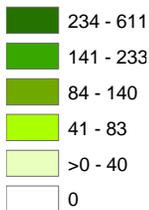
Map 4

Trends in Methamphetamine Lab Seizure Rates, 1997 -2003

2003



Methamphetamine Lab Seizure Rates
(Rate of Labs Seized per 100,000 Population)



Counties within First
Judicial Circuit

Adult New Court Commitments to the Illinois Department of Corrections Data

The aggregate number of individuals committed to prison for drug offenses was obtained for each county from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). IDOC data are reported by state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Between state fiscal years 1996 and 2003, the number of new court commitments to the IDOC's Adult Division for drug offenses increased 42 percent statewide. Although the number of prison commitments for drug offenses increased in four of the nine counties, the number varied across the individual counties. Between SFYs 1996 and 2003, the number of commitments for drug offenses in the circuit more than doubled, from 38 to 79. During that period, the number of prison commitments for drug offenses from counties within the circuit accounted for a stable, but low proportion of statewide total drug commitments (less than 1 percent) (Table 8).

**Table 8
Total Drug Commitments to IDOC and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit**

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1996 - 2003
Alexander	1 (10.11)	3 (31.06)	3 (31.15)	4 (41.58)	4 (41.73)	0 (0.00)	3 (31.63)	2 (21.44)	1.00% (1.12%)
Jackson	4 (6.57)	4 (6.60)	5 (8.29)	5 (8.33)	10 (16.78)	7 (11.82)	7 (11.92)	3 (5.09)	-0.25 (-0.23)
Johnson	1 (7.94)	4 (31.65)	5 (38.67)	6 (46.96)	6 (46.43)	9 (68.62)	16 (125.05)	14 (108.10)	13.00 (-0.86)
Massac	6 (39.45)	8 (52.07)	7 (45.52)	2 (13.11)	3 (19.84)	6 (39.89)	13 (85.94)	6 (39.64)	0.00 (0.00)
Pope	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (22.88)	1 (22.90)	0 (0.00)	1 (23.01)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Pulaski	6 (80.85)	3 (40.91)	0 (0.00)	1 (13.50)	2 (27.31)	0 (0.00)	5 (69.50)	0 (0.00)	-1.00 (-1.00)
Saline	7 (25.85)	9 (33.46)	8 (29.69)	6 (22.32)	4 (15.01)	6 (22.80)	14 (53.43)	26 (99.40)	2.71 (2.85)
Union	5 (27.35)	1 (5.46)	2 (10.95)	2 (10.90)	5 (27.39)	5 (27.55)	5 (27.54)	4 (22.01)	-0.20 (-0.20)
Williamson	8 (13.20)	4 (6.54)	3 (4.89)	8 (13.01)	2 (3.27)	9 (14.57)	24 (38.64)	24 (38.43)	2.00 (1.91)
Circuit Total	38 (17.56)	36 (16.64)	34 (15.69)	35 (16.19)	36 (16.74)	43 (20.03)	87 (40.63)	79 (36.83)	1.08 (1.10)
Statewide	8,011 (66.20)	9,264 (76.02)	9,431 (76.85)	10,156 (82.17)	9,816 (78.91)	9,744 (77.85)	10,979 (87.23)	11,389 (90.01)	0.42 (0.36)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Corrections, U.S.

Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

*Rates in parentheses

**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

However, when commitments for methamphetamine offenses were examined, significant differences were noted. Statewide, the number of new court commitments for methamphetamine offenses increased dramatically between SFYs 1996 and 2003, jumping from six to 345 commitments. The number of new court commitments for methamphetamine offenses from counties within the circuit increased from zero commitment in SFY 1996 to 25 commitments in SFY 2003 (Table 9). Some drug offenses involve an amount of a substance that does not meet a minimum threshold such as the manufacture or delivery of less than five grams of methamphetamine (720 ILCS 570/401(d) and the possession of less than 15 grams of methamphetamine (720 ILCS 570/402(c). Since these offenses do not distinguish between the various types of controlled substances, they have been excluded from the analysis.

Table 9
Methamphetamine Commitments to IDOC and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1996 - 2003
Alexander	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Jackson	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (1.69)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Johnson	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	6 (46.80)	4 (30.89)	---** (---**)
Massac	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (6.65)	5 (33.06)	1 (6.61)	---** (---**)
Pope	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Pulaski	1 (20.09)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (13.90)	0 (0.00)	---** (---**)
Saline	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (11.45)	7 (26.76)	---** (---**)
Union	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (16.52)	3 (11.01)	---** (---**)
Williamson	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	4 (6.48)	15 (24.15)	11 (17.01)	---** (---**)
Circuit Total	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	6 (2.80)	33 (15.41)	25 (11.65)	---** (---**)
Statewide	6 (0.05)	3 (0.02)	5 (0.04)	6 (0.05)	38 (0.31)	71 (0.57)	247 (1.96)	345 (2.73)	56.50 (5,399)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	13%	7%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Corrections, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

*Rates in parentheses

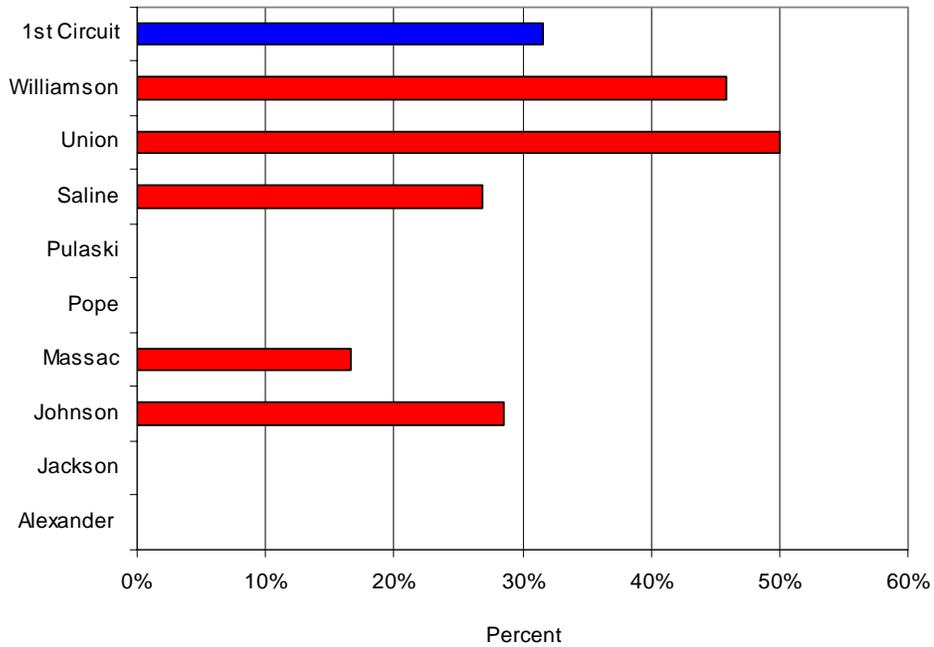
**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

The number of new court commitments to IDOC for methamphetamine offenses from counties within the circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide commitments for methamphetamine offenses from zero percent in SFY 1996 to 7 percent in SFY 2003, with accounting for a period high of 13 percent in SFY 2002.

However, significant differences were noted, when individual counties within the circuit were examined. In 2003, commitments for methamphetamine offenses accounted for one-quarter or more of new court commitments for drug offenses in Williamson, Union, Saline, and Johnson counties (Figure 8).

Figure 8

Proportion of Total IDOC Drug Commitments in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit Accounted for by Methamphetamine, SFY 2003

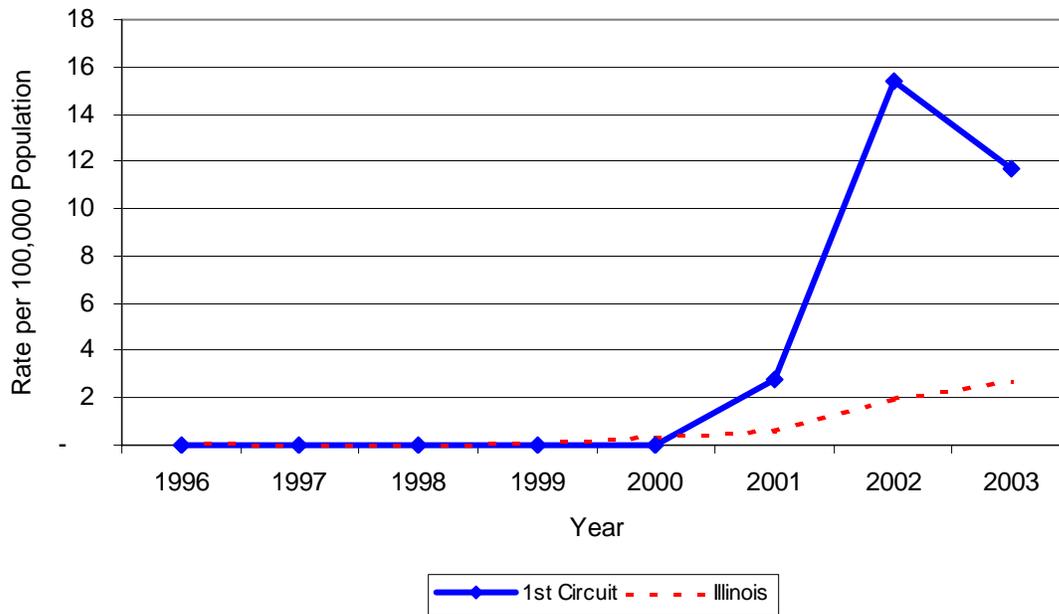


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Corrections, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between SFYs 1996 and 2003, the statewide commitment rate for methamphetamine offenses increased 54 percent, from 0.05 commitments to slightly less than three commitments per 100,000 population. During the same period, the methamphetamine commitment rate in the circuit increased from zero to 12 commitments per 100,000 population (Figure 9).

Figure 9

IDOC Commitment Rates for Methamphetamine Offenses, First Judicial Circuit, SFYs 1996 - 2003



Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Corrections, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Thus, in 2003, the First Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine offense commitment rate more than four times higher than the statewide commitment rate. Also, counties within the circuit accounted for 10 percent of all commitments for methamphetamine offenses by rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine offense commitment rate for those counties was 32 percent lower than the rate of 15 commitments per 100,000 population for all other rural counties combined.

The number of counties committing offenders to IDOC for methamphetamine offenses also increased during the period. In SFY 1996, three of Illinois' 102 counties committed offenders to IDOC for methamphetamine offenses. However, by SFY 2003, commitments for methamphetamine offenses had been reported in 66 counties. Rural counties accounted for 74 percent of those counties where commitments for methamphetamine offenses were reported. Map 5 demonstrates the spread of IDOC commitments for methamphetamine offenses across Illinois between SFYs 1996 and 2003, while depicting the methamphetamine commitment rates for Illinois counties.

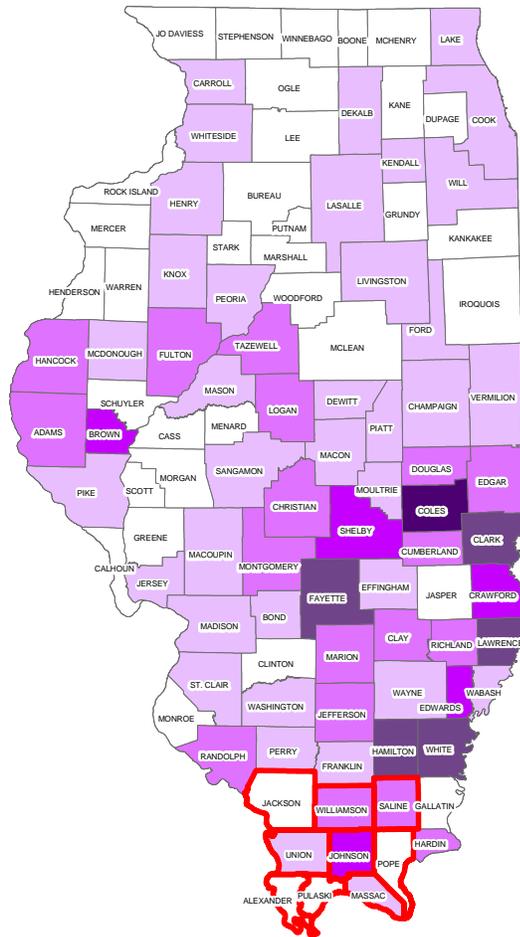
1996



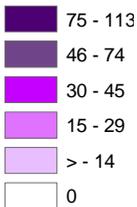
Map 5

Trends in IDOC Commitments for Methamphetamine Offenses, SFYs 1996 - 2003

2003



Methamphetamine IDOC Commitment Rates
(Rate of Commitments per 100,000 Population)



Counties within First Judicial Circuit

III. Trends in Drug Treatment Admissions in Illinois and the First Judicial Circuit

Drug Treatment Admission Data

To examine the extent of methamphetamine as being “problematic” in Illinois, the distribution of methamphetamine treatment admissions as a non-justice system proxy was used. Specifically, the aggregate number of individuals admitted to treatment for drug abuse was obtained for each county from the Illinois Department of Human Services’ Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASA). OASA data also are reported by state fiscal year. Although the characteristics and substances abused by those admitted to treatment may not be reflective of general drug use patterns within a region, one can interpret treatment admissions as reflective of more serious substance abusers.

Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, the number of treatment admissions where an illicit drug was identified as the primary substance of abuse more than doubled in Illinois. During the same period, the number of illicit drug treatment admissions from counties within the circuit more than tripled from 516 in SFY 1994 to 1,557 in SFY 2003. Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, illicit drug treatment admissions within the circuit accounted for a stable but low proportion (1 percent) of statewide total illicit drug treatment admissions (Table 10).

Table 10
Total Illicit Drug Treatment Admissions and Rates*
in Illinois’ First Judicial Circuit

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Alexander	76 (755.99)	81 (810.89)	48 (485.39)	75 (776.48)	57 (591.78)	73 (758.76)	71 (740.66)	60 (632.84)	38 (400.59)	72 (771.95)	-0.05% (0.02%)
Jackson	239 (388.74)	215 (351.89)	243 (399.18)	337 (556.04)	338 (560.49)	351 (584.75)	393 (659.63)	386 (651.94)	309 (526.27)	353 (598.55)	0.48 (0.54)
Johnson	5 (42.20)	13 (105.18)	18 (142.93)	27 (213.66)	45 (348.00)	48 (375.65)	51 (394.65)	66 (503.24)	45 (351.70)	56 (432.40)	10.20 (9.25)
Massac	22 (145.31)	31 (204.59)	43 (282.75)	86 (559.75)	104 (676.29)	69 (452.22)	81 (535.64)	127 (844.41)	176 (1,163.56)	128 (845.55)	4.82 (4.82)
Pope	5 (114.05)	9 (203.57)	5 (113.46)	24 (546.57)	11 (251.72)	23 (526.80)	13 (293.85)	23 (529.34)	44 (1,016.40)	60 (1,408.12)	11.00 (11.35)
Pulaski	367 (485.24)	24 (320.77)	33 (444.68)	36 (490.86)	18 (242.39)	31 (418.58)	53 (723.85)	39 (540.32)	30 (417.01)	35 (494.56)	-0.03 (0.02)
Saline	42 (155.40)	67 (249.26)	68 (251.15)	89 (330.90)	110 (408.22)	60 (223.23)	100 (375.36)	194 (737.25)	213 (812.88)	251 (959.55)	4.98 (5.17)
Union	36 (199.62)	48 (264.45)	97 (530.61)	102 (557.16)	89 (487.08)	79 (430.45)	75 (410.80)	94 (517.85)	128 (704.92)	141 (776.00)	2.92 (2.89)
Williamson	55 (91.74)	149 (246.57)	180 (296.89)	245 (400.37)	209 (340.55)	265 (431.06)	324 (529.17)	293 (474.36)	317 (510.41)	461 (738.21)	7.38 (7.05)
Circuit Total	516 (239.62)	637 (294.96)	735 (339.68)	1,021 (471.84)	981 (452.84)	999 (462.15)	1,161 (539.79)	1,282 (597.28)	1,300 (607.16)	1,557 (725.85)	2.02 (2.03)
Statewide	40,663 (341.34)	56,670 (471.92)	60,811 (502.49)	63,684 (522.61)	53,753 (438.02)	65,930 (533.46)	76,400 (614.21)	89,449 (714.61)	81,938 (651.00)	107,658 (850.81)	1.65 (1.49)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	1%										

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Human Services’ Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

* Rates in parentheses

However, when methamphetamine treatment admissions were examined, significant differences were noted. Statewide, the number of methamphetamine treatment admissions increased dramatically between SFYs 1994 and 2003, jumping from 97 to 3,582. While all Illinois' geographic regions reported increases in methamphetamine treatment admissions between SFYs 1994 and 2003, all but the rural counties experienced a decreased proportion of total treatment admissions accounted for by methamphetamine. For example, in 2003, rural counties accounted for 74 percent of all treatment admissions for methamphetamine abuse, compared to 47 percent in 1994. The number of methamphetamine treatment admissions from counties within the circuit also increased dramatically from three in SFY 1994 to 298 in SFY 2003 (Table 11).

Table 11
Methamphetamine Treatment Admissions and Rates*
in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Alexander	0 (0.00)	5 (10.01)	1 (10.11)	3 (31.06)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (21.08)	3 (32.16)	---** (---**)
Jackson	0 (0.00)	4 (6.55)	5 (8.21)	2 (3.30)	6 (9.95)	10 (16.66)	15 (25.18)	36 (60.80)	64 (109.00)	72 (122.08)	---** (---**)
Johnson	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (7.73)	0 (0.00)	4 (30.95)	10 (76.25)	8 (62.52)	11 (84.94)	---** (---**)
Massac	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	5 (32.88)	9 (58.58)	6 (39.02)	3 (19.66)	5 (33.06)	28 (186.17)	17 (112.39)	19 (125.51)	---** (---**)
Pope	0 (0.00)	2 (45.24)	0 (0.00)	7 (159.42)	3 (68.65)	7 (160.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	52 (115.50)	19 (445.90)	---** (---**)
Pulaski	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (40.40)	1 (13.50)	0 (0.00)	2 (27.71)	3 (41.70)	5 (70.65)	---** (---**)
Saline	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (3.72)	1 (3.71)	2 (7.44)	5 (18.77)	26 (98.81)	24 (91.59)	68 (259.96)	---** (---**)
Union	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (5.47)	8 (43.70)	3 (16.42)	2 (10.90)	9 (49.30)	25 (137.73)	11 (60.58)	26 (143.09)	---** (---**)
Williamson	3 (5.00)	1 (1.65)	1 (1.65)	0 (0.00)	11 (17.92)	2 (3.25)	20 (32.66)	22 (35.62)	21 (33.81)	75 (120.10)	24.00 (23.02)
Circuit Total	3 (1.39)	8 (3.70)	13 (6.01)	30 (13.86)	34 (15.69)	27 (12.49)	58 (26.97)	149 (69.42)	155 (72.39)	298 (138.92)	98.33 (98.72)
Statewide	97 (0.81)	184 (1.53)	369 (3.05)	376 (3.09)	381 (3.10)	464 (3.75)	740 (5.96)	1,528 (12.21)	2,149 (17.07)	3,582 (28.31)	3,593.00 (3,377.00)
1st Circuit Percent of State Total	3%	4%	4%	8%	9%	6%	8%	10%	7%	8%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

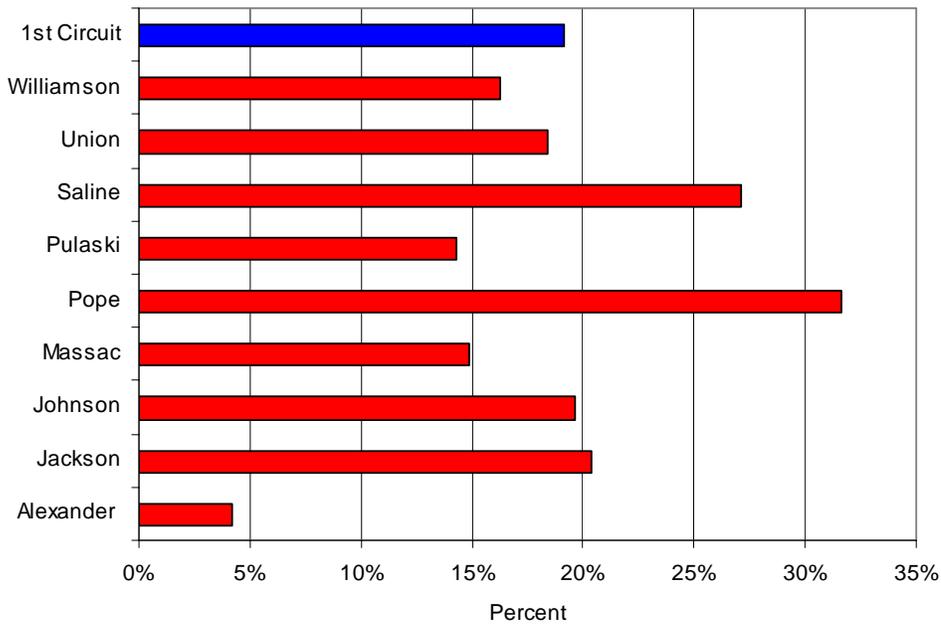
* Rates in parentheses

As a result, admissions to treatment for methamphetamine abuse from counties within the circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine treatment admissions, jumping from 3 percent in SFY 1994 to 8 percent in SFY 2003.

However, differences were noted when individual counties within the circuit were examined. In SFY 2003, methamphetamine treatment admissions accounted for one-fifth or more of total illicit drug treatment admissions in four counties within the circuit. For example, in 2003, methamphetamine accounted for 32 percent of all illicit drug treatment admissions from Pope County, followed by Saline county (27 percent), and Jackson and Johnson counties (20 percent each) (Figure 10).

Figure 10

Proportion of Total Illicit Drug Treatment Admissions in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit Accounted for by Methamphetamine, SFY 2003

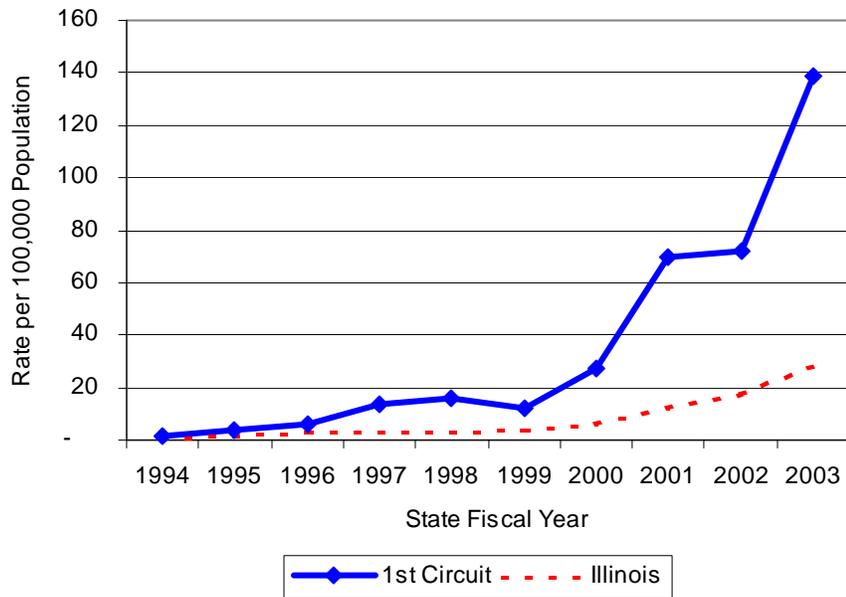


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, the statewide methamphetamine treatment admission rate increased from 0.8 to 28 admissions per 100,000 population. Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, the methamphetamine treatment admission rate in the circuit increased dramatically, from one to 139 admissions per 100,000 population (Figure 11).

Figure 11

Methamphetamine Treatment Admission Rates, First Judicial Circuit, 1994 - 2003

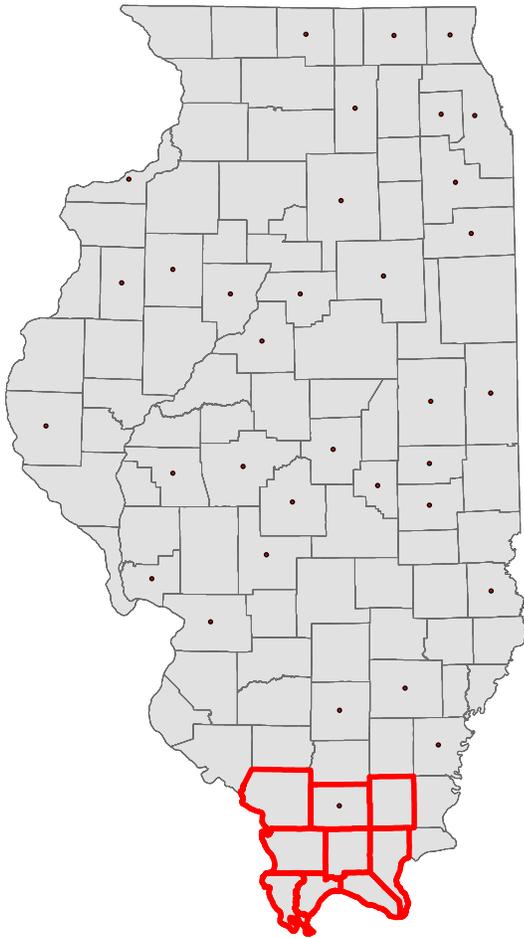


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Thus, in SFY 2003, the First Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine treatment admission rate nearly five times higher than the statewide methamphetamine treatment admission rate. Also, counties within the circuit accounted for 11 percent of all methamphetamine treatment admissions from rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine treatment admission rate for counties within the circuit was 15 percent lower than the rate of 160 admissions per 100,000 population for all other rural counties combined.

The number of counties experiencing methamphetamine treatment admissions also increased during the period. In SFY 1994, 34 of Illinois' 102 counties reported treatment admissions for methamphetamine abuse. However, by SFY 2003, methamphetamine treatment admissions had been reported in all but 10 counties. Rural counties accounted for nearly three-quarters of those where methamphetamine treatment admissions were reported. Map 6 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine treatment admissions across Illinois between SFYs 1994 and 2003, while depicting the methamphetamine treatment admission rates for Illinois counties.

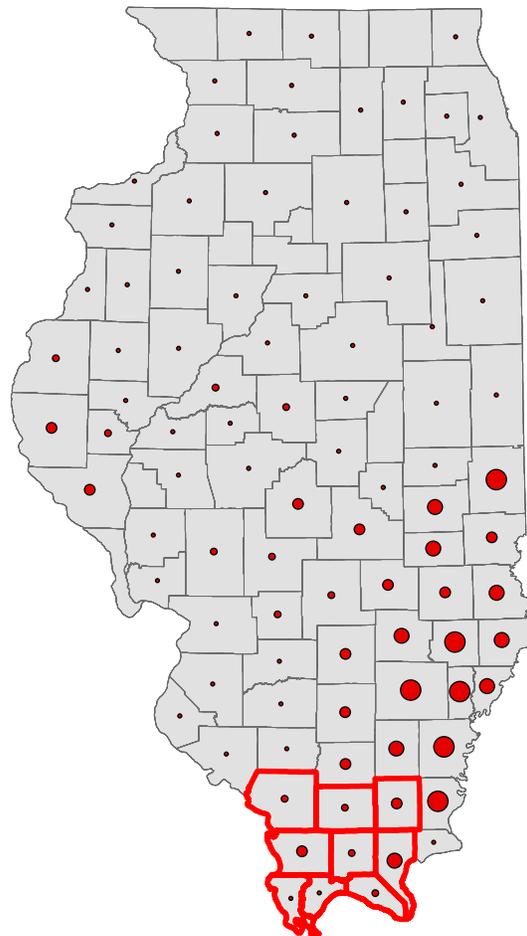
1994



Map 6

Trends in Methamphetamine Treatment Admission Rates, SFYs 1994 -2003

2003



Methamphetamine Treatment Admission Rates
(Rate of Admissions per 100,000 Population)

- 572 - 1,162
- 333 - 571
- 144 - 332
- 71 - 143
- >0 - 70



Counties within First
Judicial Circuit

IV. Summary of the Methamphetamine Situation

Today, methamphetamine can no longer be referred to as an emerging drug. High rates of prevalence and consequence indicators of methamphetamine use and abuse show that methamphetamine has migrated predominantly into rural counties in the south and central regions of the state and is moving rapidly into more urbanized regions. The expansion of methamphetamine trafficking and the growth of independent clandestine laboratories have dramatically increased the availability and abuse of methamphetamine in Illinois. This is evidenced by the increase in measures of methamphetamine activity in more urban regions.

However, when specific regions were examined, findings indicate that rural counties have experienced the greatest impact of methamphetamine. Rural counties, and to a greater degree, those within the First Judicial Circuit, have been greatly impacted by the presence and growth of methamphetamine, and are responsible for driving the escalating levels of methamphetamine arrests, drug seizures and submissions, clandestine lab seizures, methamphetamine commitments to IDOC, and methamphetamine treatment admissions. Some counties within the circuit that have been impacted the most by methamphetamine rank among the highest across all methamphetamine measures examine statewide.

To develop a general assessment of the methamphetamine problem in each county the circuit, a “composite index” score was created. The composite index was calculated by giving a county the value of its rank order in each category measured. For example, the county with the highest drug treatment admission rate, or volume, received a score of 1, while the county that ranked ninth received a score of 9. The composite index was calculated by adding all of the scores for those counties across all the categories and dividing by the number of categories.

Table 12 presents the ranking of each county within the circuit across all of the methamphetamine activity measures examined in this report. The rates and volume of activity measures for each county in 2003 were examined and then rank-ordered from highest to lowest. Rates, which are the left numbers, are expressed in bold type, while volume measures are the right figures.

As can be seen in Table 12, there was great variation when the overall rankings of rates versus volume were examined. Despite the variation, Pulaski County ranked highest using both the rate and volume methods of analysis, followed by Pope County. It also indicates that Saline County appears to be the least impacted by methamphetamine when examining all the activity measures, combined, among counties within the First Judicial Circuit.

Table 12
Methamphetamine Activity Composite Index Measures and
Rankings for Counties within Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

	Drug Seizures	Drug Submissions	Meth Lab Seizures	Meth Treatment Admissions	Controlled Substances Act Arrests	Meth-related IDOC Commitment	Felony Filings	Average Composite Score	Overall Ranking
Alexander	7/7	7/8	6/6	9/9	8/8	6/6	8/8	7.3/7.2	8/7
Jackson	5/6	3/6	2/3	2/5	2/6	7/7	1/8	5.5/3.5	6/3
Johnson	4/3	5/2	5/4	7/7	5/2	3/1	7/6	3.2/4.8	2/5
Massac	6/5	6/4	7/7	5/4	4/1	5/5	6/4	4.3/5.5	5/6
Pope	8/8	8/7	8/8	6/1	9/9	8/8	9/9	6.8/7.8	7/8
Pulaski	9/9	9/9	9/9	8/8	6/4	9/9	4/1	8.0/8.3	9/9
Saline	2/1	1/1	4/5	3/2	3/3	2/2	3/2	2.3/2.5	1/2
Union	3/4	4/3	3/1	4/3	7/7	4/4	5/5	3.7/4.2	3/4
Williamson	1/2	2/5	1/2	1/6	1/5	1/3	2/7	3.8/1.2	4/1

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

*(rate / volume)

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