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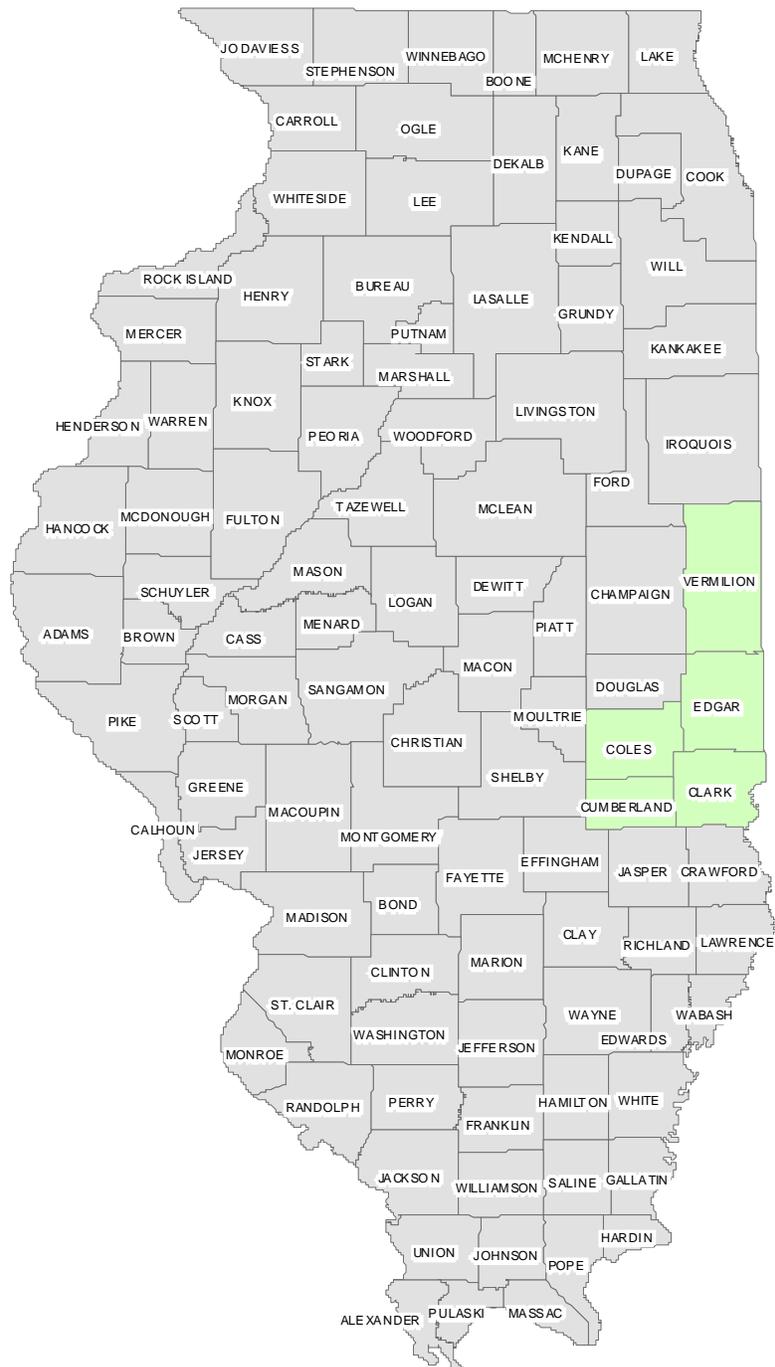
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Methamphetamine: Quick Facts



Trends in Measures of Methamphetamine Activities in Illinois' Fifth 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' Fifth Judicial Circuit, how this compares to trends in Illinois and how these measures 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, and 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 use and abuse 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; therefore, 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 of the 12 counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. In addition to examining county-level trends, the report also examines methamphetamine activities across Illinois. The following are some of the findings of this report:

- In 2003, the majority of counties within the Fifth 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit, from 506 to 1,366, while total drug arrests increased 53 percent statewide. In 2003, the total drug arrest rate of 750 arrests per 100,000 population in the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 15 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit more than quadrupled between 1994 to 2003, from 74 arrests to 318 arrests per 100,000 population in 2003. In 1994, all five counties in the Fifth Judicial Circuit had Controlled Substances Act arrest rates lower than the statewide rate. However, by 2003, two of those counties had rates higher than the statewide rate. Thus, in 2003, the Controlled Substances Act arrest rate of 318 arrests per 100,000 population

in the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 16 percent lower than the statewide rate of 370 arrests per 100,000 population (page 5).

- Among the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit, only one is not 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 the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased, from 17 grams in 1994 to 1,295 grams in 2003, while reaching a period high of 2,030 grams seized in 2002. Although counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for a slightly increased proportion of all drug seizures in Illinois, methamphetamine seizures within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine seizures, from 1 percent in 1994 to 5 percent in 2003 (pages 10 and 11).
- In 2003, the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine seizure rate more than three times higher than the statewide seizure rate. Also, the counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 10 percent of all methamphetamine seized in rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine seizure rate of 711 grams per 100,000 population for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 20 percent higher than the rate of 591 grams seized per 100,000 population for all other rural counties combined (page 13).
- Methamphetamine submissions from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine submissions, climbing from 5 percent in 1998 to 9 percent in 2003. Moreover, the methamphetamine submission rate in the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased dramatically during the period, from 16 to 168 submissions per 100,000 population (pages 16 and 17).
- Clandestine methamphetamine labs have been seized in all five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit throughout the period analyzed. In 2003, the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine lab seizure rate nine times higher than the statewide rate and accounted for 13 percent of all labs seized in Illinois in 2003, compared to zero 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit increased from zero to 58 commitments. As a result of this increase, the proportion of statewide commitments for methamphetamine offenses increased during the period, from zero percent in SFY 1996 to 17 percent in SFY 2003 (page 25).
- Admissions to treatment for methamphetamine abuse from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increasing proportion of statewide methamphetamine treatment admissions, nearly doubling from 7 percent in SFY 1994 to 13 percent in SFY 2003. In SFY 2003, methamphetamine treatment admissions accounted for one-third or more of total illicit drug treatment admissions in four of the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit (pages 30 and 31).

FOREWORD

While the 1980s saw the emergence of crack cocaine across drug markets in the United States and Illinois, 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’ Fifth Judicial Circuit and Illinois 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 has developed this report in a useful summary format in order to put this information into the hands of local and state criminal justice policymakers. Many of the analyses presented in this report were structured to provide an overview of methamphetamine activity across all counties within Illinois’ Fifth 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 has been provided to the Authority by a number of state agencies, specifically: the Illinois State Police, the Illinois Department of Human Service’s Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and the 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 five-county 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' Fifth Judicial Circuit includes the following five counties in eastern Illinois: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Edgar, and Vermilion. Combined, these counties had a 2003 estimated population of 182,141 – accounting for 1 percent of the total statewide population.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, all but one county (Vermilion) within the Fifth 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 in one of two ways defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census: 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. 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). By definition, Vermilion County is classified as a MSA and, thus, an urban county.

Between 1994 and 2003, it is estimated that the statewide population increased 6 percent. Conversely, among the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit, three counties (Coles, Edgar, and Vermilion) experienced decreases in their populations, while the population in Clark County increased 3 percent, and Cumberland County's population remained relatively unchanged. Only Cumberland County ranked in the lower third of the state's counties with the smallest populations, while Edgar and Clark counties ranked in the middle third and Coles and Vermilion ranked in the upper third. Similarly, trends in the population density --people per square mile-- mirrored the population trends. In 2003, the population density for the state was 227 persons per square mile, while the population density for the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 63 persons per square mile, ranging from 31 persons per square mile in Edgar County to 102 persons per square mile in Coles County. Three of the counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit ranked in the lowest third of Illinois counties with the lowest population density. Thus, the majority of the counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were generally less populated (in actual numbers and in terms of the population density) than most regions of the state.

According to the Illinois State Police, as of October 31, 2003, there were 34 law enforcement agencies employing 321 full-time police officers in the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit, combined. Thus, the officers within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for less than 1 percent of the total number of sworn police officers statewide. The rate of full-time police officers per resident in each of the five individual counties was below the statewide rate of 271 full-time police officers per 100,000 population.

As a result, full-time police officers in counties within the Fifth Judicial 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit, combined, there is one full-time police officer for every nine square miles. More notable are the differences observed across individual counties, ranging from one full-time police officer for every four square miles in Coles County to one full-time police officer for every 27 square miles in Cumberland County.

II. Law Enforcement Activities in Illinois and the Fifth 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 cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, etc., but are instead 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 as well as allowing for a comparison between the counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit and the rest of the state. Further, 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 Fifth 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit, from 506 to 1,366, while the number of drug arrests increased 53 percent statewide. When individual counties were examined, it was noted that all five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit experienced notable increases in drug arrests between 1994 and 2003 (Table 1).

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

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Clark	53 (321.62)	46 (278.28)	91 (545.86)	88 (524.81)	97 (572.34)	109 (640.76)	85 (500.24)	115 (677.75)	138 (812.24)	234 (1,376.63)	342% (328%)
Coles	63 (117.93)	115 (217.50)	163 (306.78)	142 (266.06)	187 (349.83)	231 (432.20)	332 (625.92)	353 (675.53)	483 (931.71)	395 (761.37)	527 (546)
Cumberland	6 (54.37)	23 (207.28)	24 (214.32)	40 (357.59)	26 (232.77)	34 (303.95)	59 (523.89)	50 (447.27)	89 (802.81)	87 (786.41)	1,350 (1,346)
Edgar	89 (446.99)	79 (392.41)	76 (374.33)	68 (338.48)	79 (394.61)	89 (449.02)	114 (579.95)	113 (577.89)	133 (685.85)	175 (902.25)	97 (102)
Vermilion	295 (335.52)	474 (547.53)	576 (675.28)	554 (649.67)	554 (543.55)	462 (347.67)	293 (669.30)	561 (781.67)	653 (598.74)	498 (573.64)	61 (71)
Circuit Total	506 (268.05)	737 (393.69)	930 (498.39)	892 (477.80)	851 (456.08)	756 (407.02)	1,151 (622.93)	1,284 (699.75)	1,341 (734.86)	1,366 (749.97)	170 (180)
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)	53 (44)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	

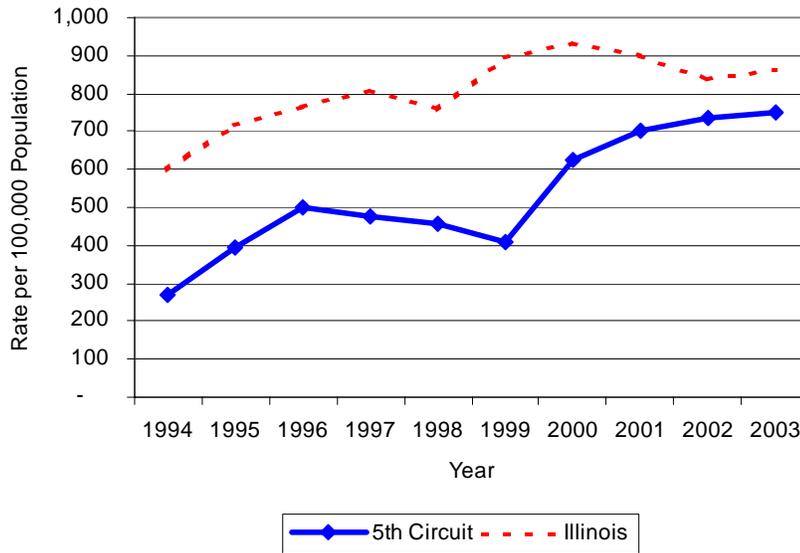
Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

*Rates in parentheses

Similar to the *number* of drug arrests, the total drug arrest *rate* in the Fifth Judicial Circuit also nearly tripled between 1994 to 2003, from 268 arrests to 750 arrests per 100,000 population in 2003. In 1994, none of the five counties in the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a higher total drug arrest rate than the statewide rate; however, by 2003, two of the five counties in the Fifth Judicial Circuit had higher total drug arrest rates than the statewide total drug arrest rate and two counties had rates that were less than 14 percent lower than the statewide rate. As a result, in 2003, the total drug arrest rate of 750 arrests per 100,000 population in the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 15 percent lower than the statewide rate of 861 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 1).

Figure 1

**Total Drug Arrest Rates,
Fifth 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 quadrupled in the Fifth Judicial Circuit, from 139 arrests in 1994 to 580 arrests in 2003. Between 1994 and 2003, all of the counties in the Fifth Judicial Circuit experienced significant increases in the number of Controlled Substances Act arrests. As a result, Controlled Substances Act arrests accounted for an increasing proportion of total drug arrests in the Fifth Judicial Circuit, climbing from 27 percent in 1994 to 42 percent in 2003 (Table 2).

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

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Clark	4 (24.27)	2 (12.10)	18 (107.97)	7 (41.75)	7 (41.30)	11 (64.66)	6 (35.31)	24 (141.44)	56 (329.61)	84 (494.18)	2,000% (1,936%)
Coles	13 (24.33)	11 (20.80)	7 (13.17)	10 (18.74)	19 (35.54)	37 (69.23)	80 (150.82)	94 (179.89)	145 (279.71)	155 (298.77)	1,092 (1,128)
Cumberland	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	3 (26.82)	2 (17.91)	4 (35.76)	3 (26.64)	10 (89.45)	21 (189.43)	13 (117.51)	---** (---)**
Edgar	6 (30.13)	14 (69.54)	18 (88.66)	13 (64.71)	12 (59.94)	17 (85.77)	26 (132.27)	44 (225.02)	64 (330.03)	133 (685.71)	2,117 (2,176)
Vermilion	116 (131.94)	114 (131.69)	119 (139.51)	137 (160.66)	126 (148.24)	93 (110.35)	177 (211.17)	264 (316.02)	210 (252.48)	195 (235.50)	68 (78)
Circuit Total	139 (73.63)	141 (75.32)	162 (86.82)	170 (91.06)	166 (88.97)	162 (87.22)	292 (158.03)	436 (237.61)	496 (271.81)	580 (318.43)	317 (332)
Statewide	46,220 (387.99)	50,787 (422.93)	51,131 (422.50)	52,472 (430.60)	43,484 (354.34)	52,224 (422.56)	54,565 (438.67)	51,758 (413.50)	47,151 (374.62)	46,786 (369.75)	1 (-5)
5th 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

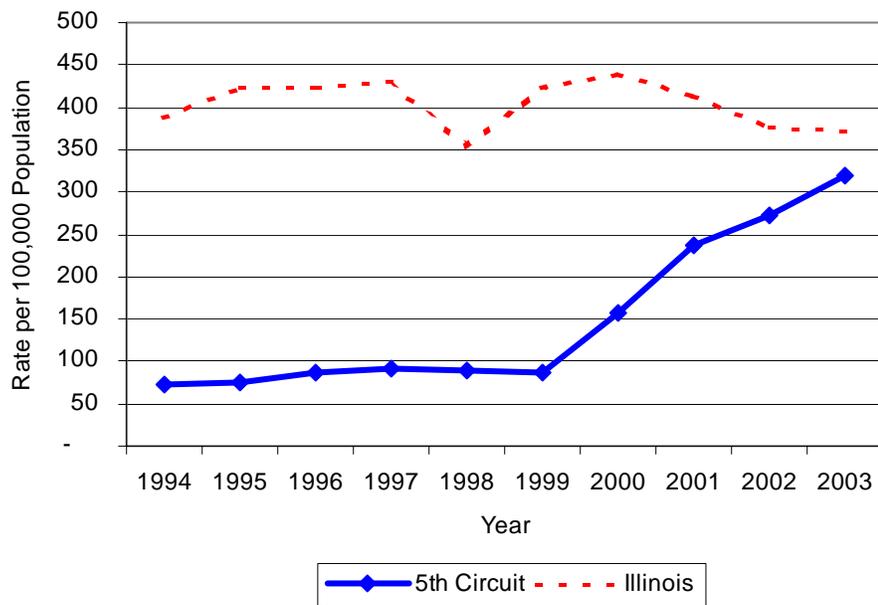
*Rates in parentheses

**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) in the Fifth Judicial Circuit also more than quadrupled between 1994 to 2003, from 74 arrests to 318 arrests per 100,000 population in 2003. In 1994, all five counties in the Fifth Judicial Circuit had Controlled Substances Act arrest rates lower than the statewide rate. However, by 2003, two of those counties had rates higher than the statewide rate. Thus, in 2003, the Controlled Substances Act arrest rate of 318 arrests per 100,000 population in the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 16 percent lower than the statewide rate of 370 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 2).

Figure 2

**Controlled Substances Act Arrest Rates,
Fifth 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 Illinois' 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.

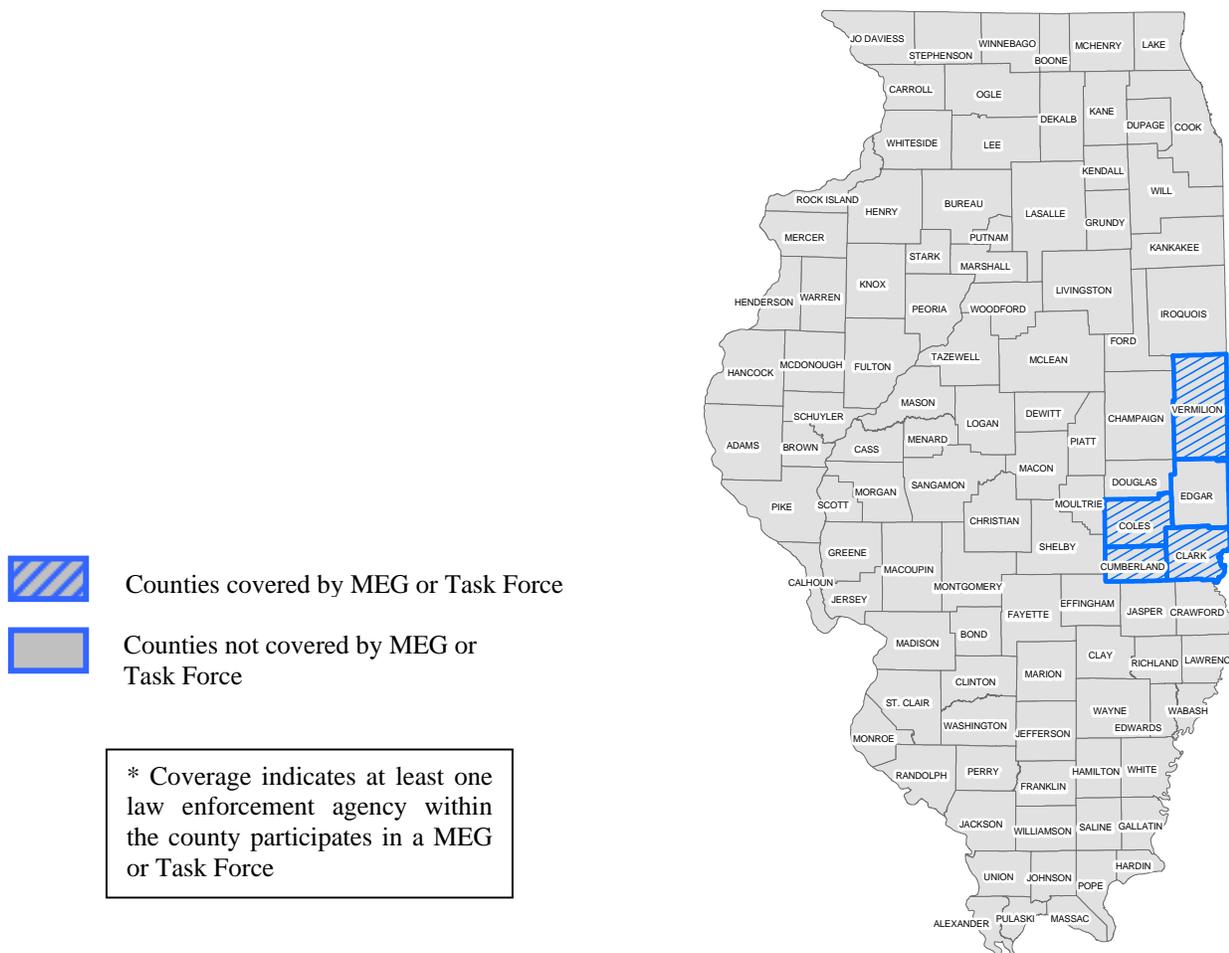
As a proxy to present the extent and nature of arrests for methamphetamine in Illinois, the numbers of methamphetamine arrests made by Illinois' multijurisdictional task forces were examined. Based on analyses of these data, Illinois' multijurisdictional units did not begin to make arrests involving 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, those 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, those 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.

Among the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit, only Edgar County is not 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. Cumberland and Clark counties are covered by the Southeastern Illinois Drug Task Force (SEIDTF), a mostly rural unit, which also serves the counties of Clay and Crawford, while Coles County is served by the East Central Illinois Task Force (ECITF), also a mostly rural unit, which also serves the counties of Douglas, Moultrie, and Shelby. The Vermilion County Metropolitan Enforcement Group (VEMEG), a mostly urban unit, serves Vermilion County (see Map 1 on page 8).

Map 1

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



Between 1997 and 2003, total drug arrests by SEIDTF, ECITF, and VEMEG (made by the units across all counties within their respective jurisdictions), combined, increased 66 percent, from 239 arrests to 396 arrests. The majority of that increase was accounted for by ECITF when total drug arrests increased more than seven-fold between 1997 and 2003, from 26 to 212 arrests, and the number of total drug arrests made by VEMEG increased 56 percent, from 64 to 100. Conversely, the number of total drug arrests made by SEIDTF decreased 44 percent during the same period, from 149 to 84 arrests. As a result, the proportion of all MEG and task force drug arrests accounted for by SEIDTF, ECITF, and VEMEG increased from zero percent in 1997 to 23 percent in 2003.

However, when methamphetamine arrests were examined for these three units, differences were noted. Between 1997 and 2003, the number of combined SEIDTF, ECITF, and VEMEG methamphetamine arrests increased dramatically, from zero to 261. During the period analyzed, the number of ECITF arrests for methamphetamine increased from zero to 170, while SEIDTF arrests for methamphetamine increased from zero to 70, and VEMEG methamphetamine arrests increased from zero to 21. Thus, in 2003, methamphetamine arrests accounted for the majority of all Controlled Substances Act arrests

made by ECITF (80 percent) and SEIDTF (83 percent), while methamphetamine accounted for 31 percent of all Controlled Substances Act arrests made by VEMEG.

More interestingly is the fact that methamphetamine arrests accounted for 31 percent of total Controlled Substances Act arrests made by all MEGs and task forces in 2003. In 2003, ECITF, SEIDTF and VEMEG, combined, accounted for 11 percent of total Controlled Substances Act arrests made by all MEGs and task forces, but accounted for 23 percent of all methamphetamine arrests made by Illinois' MEGs and task forces.

*In order to provide more comprehensive information on drug enforcement activities of Illinois' MEGs and task forces, including ECITF, SEIDTF and VEMEG, 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit

The quantity of drugs seized and the number of drug submissions (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 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 as well as the number of drug cases submitted to the Illinois State Police from law enforcement agencies in the Fifth Judicial Circuit.

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 Fifth Judicial Circuit decreased 84 percent, from 227,840 grams to 36,769 grams. Between 1994 and 2003, total drug seizures by law enforcement agencies within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for a slightly increased proportion of statewide total drug seizures, from 9 percent to 11 percent (Table 3).

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

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Clark	604.8 (3,670.13)	359.9 (2,177.25)	925.3 (5,550.36)	1,003.5 (5,984.61)	187.4 (1,105.74)	1,492.8 (8,775.50)	312.3 (1,837.92)	868.3 (5,117.28)	984.9 (5,796.94)	2,021.6 (11,893.16)	234% (224%)
Coles	798.2 (1,494.17)	2,847.8 (5,386.11)	1,712.8 (3,223.67)	5,754.4 (10,781.89)	926.0 (1,732.30)	5,844.4 (10,934.94)	7,257.4 (13,682.36)	7,643.2 (14,626.73)	10,705.2 (20,650.46)	1,223.9 (2,359.10)	53 (58)
Cumberland	1,536.4 (13,921.71)	393.5 (3,546.32)	32.0 (285.77)	108.3 (968.17)	2,240.3 (21,846.91)	2,677.6 (23,937.06)	1,631.5 (14,486.77)	482.0 (4,311.68)	199.2 (1,796.86)	342.1 (3,092.29)	- 78 (- 78)
Edgar	4,029.0 (20,235.05)	39.6 (196.70)	88.2 (434.42)	248.9 (1,238.92)	877.4 (4,382.62)	528.0 (2,663.84)	118.2 (601.31)	445.6 (2,278.82)	936.4 (4,828.80)	90.4 (466.08)	- 98 (-98)
Vermilion	220,871.3 (251,212.78)	63,844.9 (73,749.45)	33,563.1 (39,348.05)	119,616.4 (140,273.00)	34,536.7 (40,633.32)	23,683.9 (28,102.78)	114,334.3 (136,406.18)	50,262.1 (60,166.03)	23,482.1 (28,232.16)	33,090.8 (39,962.80)	- 85 (-84)
Circuit Total	227,839.7 (120,697.63)	67,485.7 (36,049.86)	36,321.4 (19,464.64)	126,731.5 (67,883.75)	38,967.8 (20,884.30)	34,226.7 (18,427.11)	123,653.7 (66,922.32)	59,701.2 (32,535.60)	36,307.8 (19,896.54)	36,768.8 (20,187.00)	- 84 (- 83)
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)	34 (26)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	9%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	11%	

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 by police and submitted to the 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, but decreasing, 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit also

increased, from 17 grams in 1994 to 1,295 grams in 2003, while reaching a period high of 2,030 grams seized in 2002 (Table 4).

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

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Clark	0.4 (2.43)	2.8 (16.94)	2.6 (15.60)	4.0 (23.85)	8.9 (52.51)	12.4 (72.89)	74.9 (440.80)	156.7 (923.50)	239.1 (1,407.30)	505.8 (2,975.64)	126,350% (122,489%)
Coles	15.9 (29.76)	28.0 (52.96)	31.0 (58.35)	535.2 (1,002.79)	0.7 (1.31)	66.1 (123.67)	690.8 (1,302.36)	1,195.3 (2,287.44)	920.8 (1,776.23)	271.2 (522.74)	1,606 (1,656)
Cumberland	1.0 (9.06)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	5.2 (46.49)	1.4 (12.53)	2.1 (18.77)	63.5 (563.84)	231.8 (2,073.53)	78.9 (711.71)	37.6 (339.87)	36,600 (36,510)
Edgar	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1.4 (6.90)	137.3 (683.42)	15.8 (78.92)	11.0 (55.50)	110.6 (562.65)	36.9 (188.71)	547.4 (2,822.81)	88.8 (457.83)	---** (---)**
Vermilion	0.1 (0.11)	0.9 (1.04)	0.2 (0.23)	13.8 (16.18)	5.5 (6.47)	25.8 (30.61)	5.0 (5.97)	99.3 (118.87)	243.5 (292.76)	391.2 (472.44)	391,100 (415,280)
Circuit Total	17.4 (9.22)	31.7 (16.93)	35.2 (18.86)	695.5 (372.54)	32.3 (17.31)	117.4 (63.21)	944.8 (511.33)	1,720.0 (937.36)	2,029.7 (1,112.27)	1,294.6 (710.77)	7,340 (7,611)
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 (630)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	1%	<1%	1%	28%	<1%	1%	8%	9%	7%	5%	

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

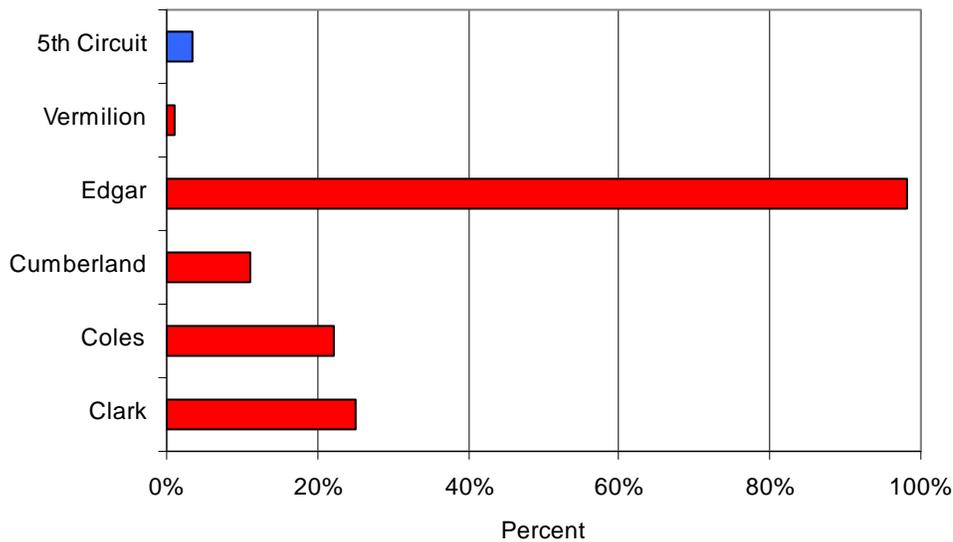
*Rates in parentheses

**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

As a result, methamphetamine seizures within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increasing proportion of statewide methamphetamine seizures, from 1 percent in 1994 to 5 percent in 2003.

However, when individual counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were examined, differences were noted. In 2003, methamphetamine seizures accounted for more than one-half of total drug seizures in two of the 12 counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. For example, in 2003, methamphetamine accounted for 72 percent of all drugs seized in Wabash County, followed by Wayne County (57 percent) (Figure 3).

Figure 3
Proportion of Total Drug Seizures in Illinois' Fifth Judicial Circuit Accounted for by Methamphetamine, 2003

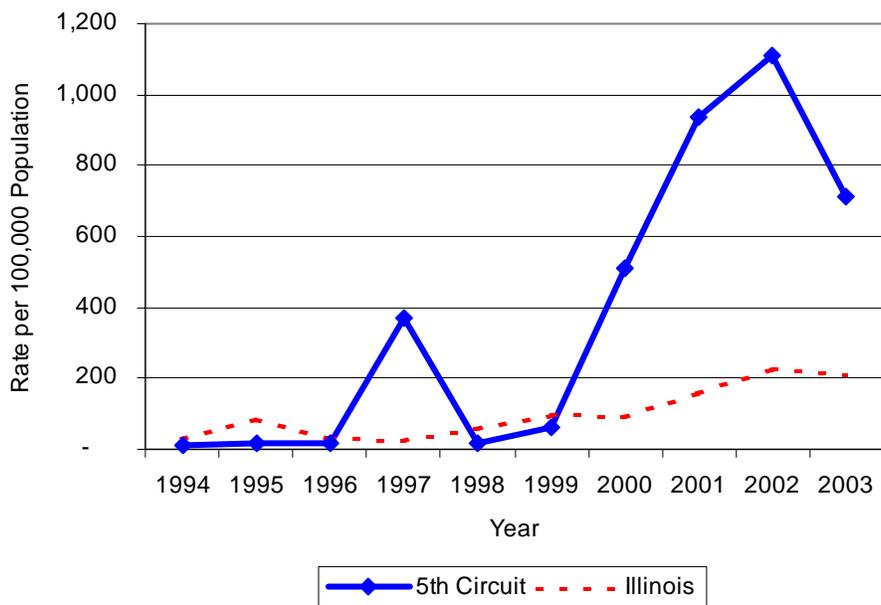


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between 1994 and 2003, the statewide methamphetamine seizure rate increased more than six-fold, from 29 grams to 210 grams per 100,000 population. In 2003, the methamphetamine seizure rate in the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased dramatically, from nine grams to 711 grams per 100,000 population (Figure 4).

Figure 4

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

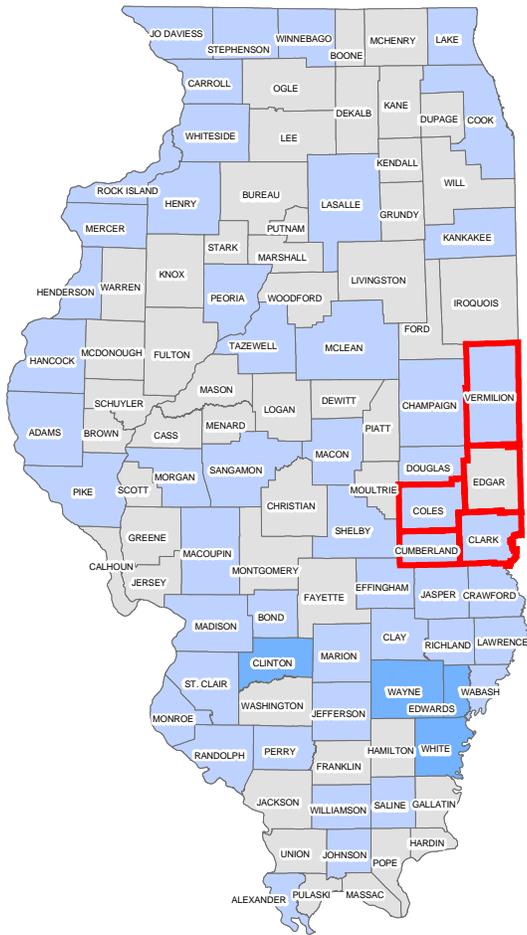


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Thus, in 2003, the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine seizure rate more than three times higher than the statewide seizure rate. Also, the counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 10 percent of all methamphetamine seized in rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine seizure rate for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 20 percent higher than the rate of 591 grams seized 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 one county. Rural counties accounted for nearly three-quarters of those counties where methamphetamine was seized. Map 2 on page 14 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine seizures across Illinois between 1994 and 2003, while depicting the seizure rates for Illinois counties. As can be seen, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit are among those counties with the highest methamphetamine seizure rates.

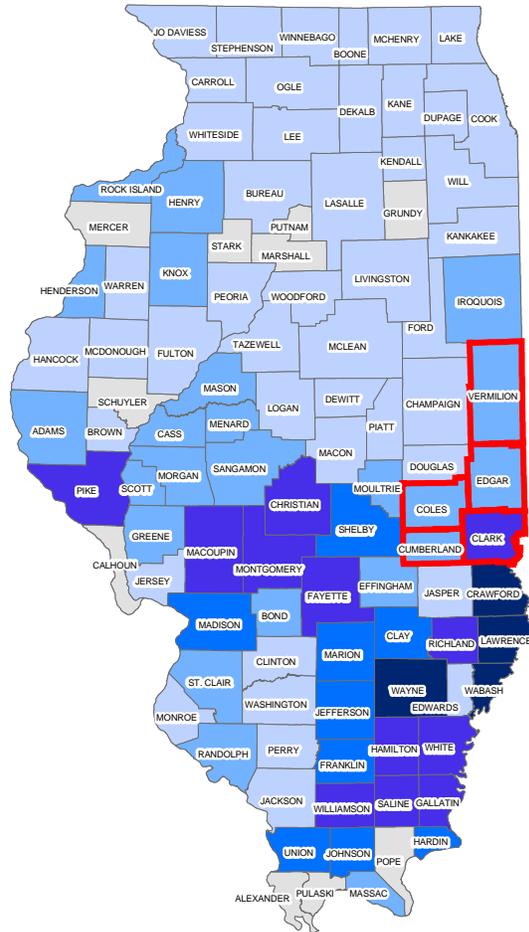
1994



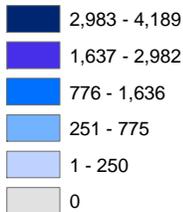
Map 2

Trends in Methamphetamine Seizure Rates, 1994 -2003

2003



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



Counties within Fifth
Judicial Circuit

Drug Submission Data

Statewide, the number of total drug submissions 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit increased 64 percent, from 663 to 1,089. Between 1998 and 2003, total drug submissions from the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for a stable, but low proportion of statewide total drug submissions (less than 1 percent) (Table 5).

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

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1998 - 2003
Clark	39 (230.12)	56 (329.20)	48 (282.49)	60 (353.61)	118 (694.53)	207 (1,217.79)	431% (429%)
Coles	128 (239.45)	188 (351.75)	404 (761.66)	377 (721.46)	454 (875.77)	271 (522.36)	112 (118)
Cumberland	52 (465.53)	44 (393.35)	57 (506.13)	55 (491.99)	55 (496.12)	61 (551.39)	17 (18)
Edgar	21 (104.90)	18 (90.81)	27 (137.36)	23 (117.62)	44 (226.90)	8 (41.25)	- 62 (- 61)
Vermilion	423 (497.67)	350 (415.30)	475 (566.70)	486 (581.76)	448 (538.62)	542 (654.56)	28 (32)
Circuit Total	663 (355.33)	656 (353.18)	1,011 (547.16)	1,001 (545.52)	1,119 (613.21)	1,089 (597.89)	64 (68)
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)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	<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

However, when methamphetamine submissions were examined, significant differences were noted. 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 five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased nearly ten-fold, from 29 submissions in 1998 to 309 submissions in 2003 (Table 6).

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

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1998 - 2003
Clark	8 (47.20)	5 (29.39)	19 (111.82)	31 (182.70)	65 (382.58)	93 (547.12)	1,063% (1,059%)
Coles	7 (13.10)	54 (101.03)	168 (316.73)	185 (354.03)	177 (341.44)	113 (217.81)	1,514 (1,563)
Cumberland	5 (44.76)	6 (53.64)	20 (177.59)	24 (214.69)	35 (315.71)	26 (235.02)	420 (425)
Edgar	2 (9.99)	5 (25.23)	18 (91.57)	11 (56.25)	30 (154.70)	7 (36.09)	250 (261)
Vermilion	7 (8.24)	3 (3.56)	7 (8.35)	16 (19.15)	53 (63.72)	67 (80.91)	857 (882)
Circuit Total	29 (15.54)	73 (39.30)	232 (125.56)	267 (145.51)	360 (197.28)	306 (168.00)	955 (981)
Statewide	628 (5.12)	855 (6.92)	1268 (10.19)	2148 (17.16)	2717 (21.59)	3250 (25.68)	418 (402)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	5%	9%	18%	12%	13%	9%	

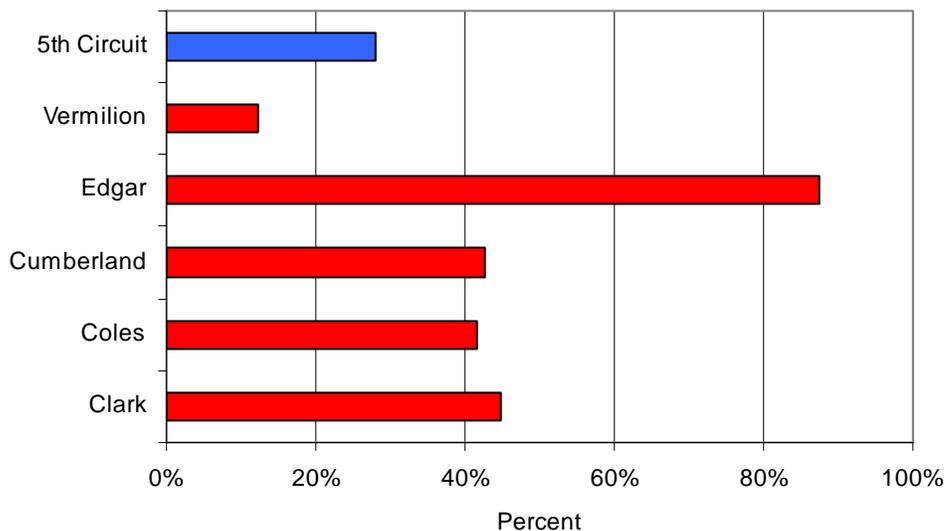
Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data
 *Rates in parentheses
 **Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

As a result, methamphetamine submissions by counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine submissions, climbing from 5 percent in 1998 to 9 percent in 2003.

However, when individual counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were examined, the differences were more remarkable. In 2003, methamphetamine submissions accounted for a large proportion of total drug submissions in four of the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. For example, methamphetamine accounted for 88 percent of all drug submissions in Edgar County, followed by Clark County (45 percent), Cumberland County (43 percent), and Coles County (42 percent) (Figure 5).

Figure 5

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

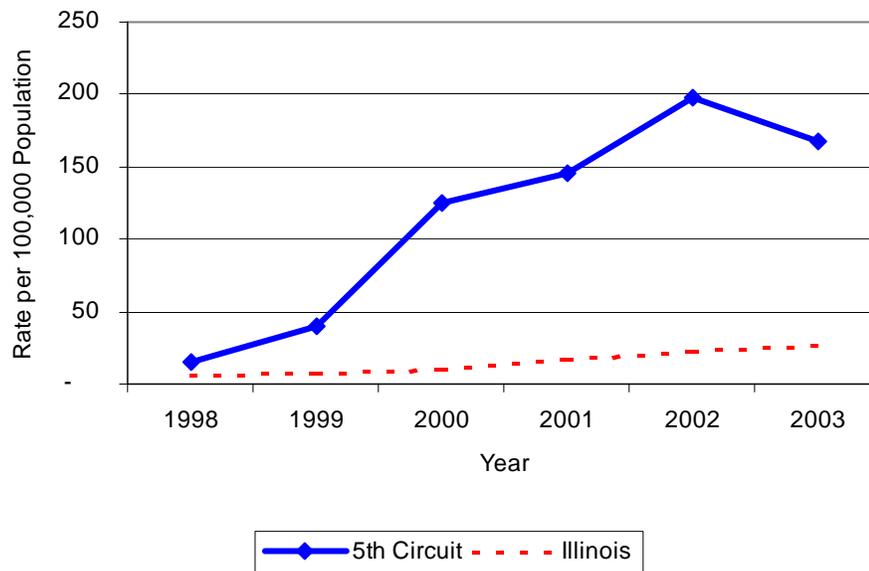


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

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 Fifth Judicial Circuit increased more dramatically during the period, from 16 to 168 submissions per 100,000 population (Figure 6).

Figure 6

**Methamphetamine Submission Rates,
Fifth Judicial Circuit, 1998 - 2003**



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

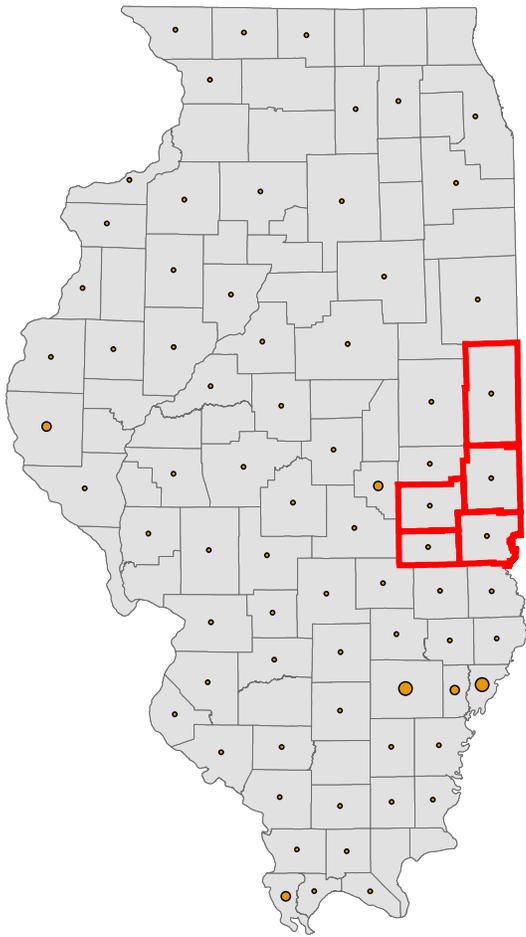
Thus, in 2003, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine submission rate more than six times greater than the rate for the entire state. Also, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 13 percent of all methamphetamine submissions by rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine submission rate for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit was 65 percent higher than the rate of 102 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, 73 of Illinois' 102 counties submitted methamphetamine to ISP crime labs. However, by 2003, methamphetamine had been submitted to labs by all but one county. Rural counties accounted for nearly three-quarters of those counties where methamphetamine was seized and submitted to the Illinois State Police. Map 3 on page 19 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine submissions across Illinois between 1998 and 2003, while depicting the submission rates for Illinois counties. As can be seen, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit are among those counties that have experienced some of the highest methamphetamine submission rates.

1998

Map 3

Trends in Methamphetamine Submission Rates, 1998 -2003



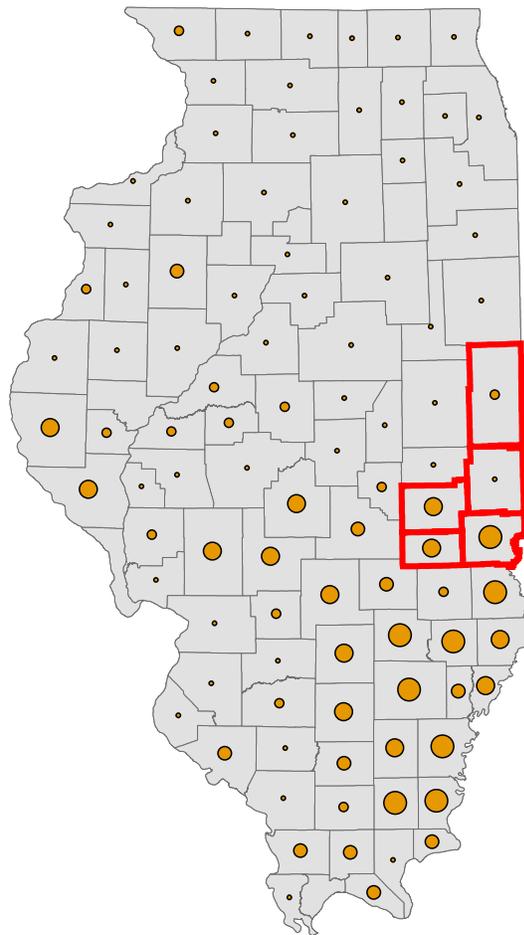
**Methamphetamine Submission Rates
(Submissions per 100,000 Population)**

- 363 - 1,060
- 204 - 362
- 114 - 203
- 56 - 113
- 1 - 55



Counties within Fifth
Judicial Circuit

2003



Clandestine Laboratory Seizure Data

In Illinois, 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 entire period examined, there were 21 labs seized in Cook County and the collar county region, combined. 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, accounting for 96 percent in 1997, compared to 67 percent in 2003, thus indicating the spread of the manufacture of methamphetamine into more diverse regions of the state.

When individual counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were examined, similar trends were noted. The number of labs seized in the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased from zero in 1997 to 127 in 2003 (Table 7).

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

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1997 - 2003
Clark	0 (0.00)	3 (17.70)	2 (11.76)	3 (17.66)	15 (88.40)	10 (58.86)	8 (47.06)	---** (---)**
Coles	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	33 (61.74)	94 (177.22)	97 (185.63)	50 (96.45)	72 (138.78)	---** (---)**
Cumberland	0 (0.00)	2 (17.91)	1 (8.94)	13 (115.43)	8 (71.56)	4 (36.08)	2 (18.08)	---** (---)**
Edgar	0 (0.00)	2 (9.99)	1 (5.05)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (5.16)	0 (0.00)	---** (---)**
Vermilion	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (1.19)	2 (2.39)	19 (22.84)	45 (54.35)	---** (---)**
Circuit Total	0 (0.00)	7 (3.75)	37 (19.92)	111 (60.07)	122 (66.49)	84 (46.03)	127 (69.73)	---** (---)**
Statewide	24 (0.20)	87 (0.71)	247 (2.00)	406 (3.26)	666 (5.32)	681 (5.41)	971 (7.67)	3,946 (3,796)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	0%	<1%	15%	27%	18%	12%	13%	

Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census

Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

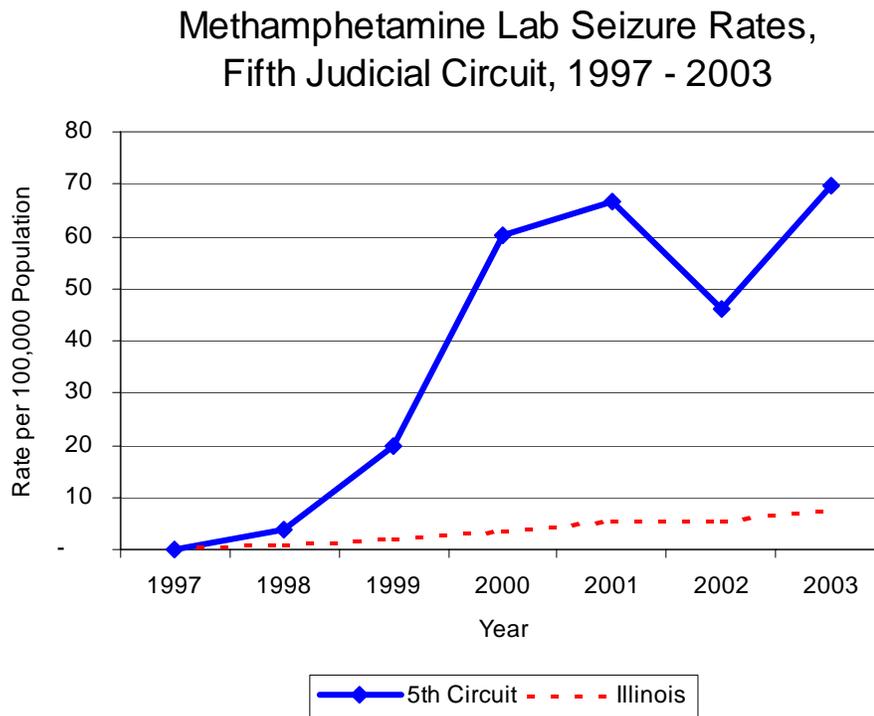
*Rates in parentheses

**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 27-fold, 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.

However, when individual counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were examined, differences were noted. Between 1997 and 2003, clandestine methamphetamine labs have been seized in all five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. As a result, the methamphetamine lab seizure rate for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased from zero to 70 labs seized per 100,000 population. Thus, in 2003, the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine lab seizure rate nearly nine times higher than the statewide rate (Figure 7).

Figure 7

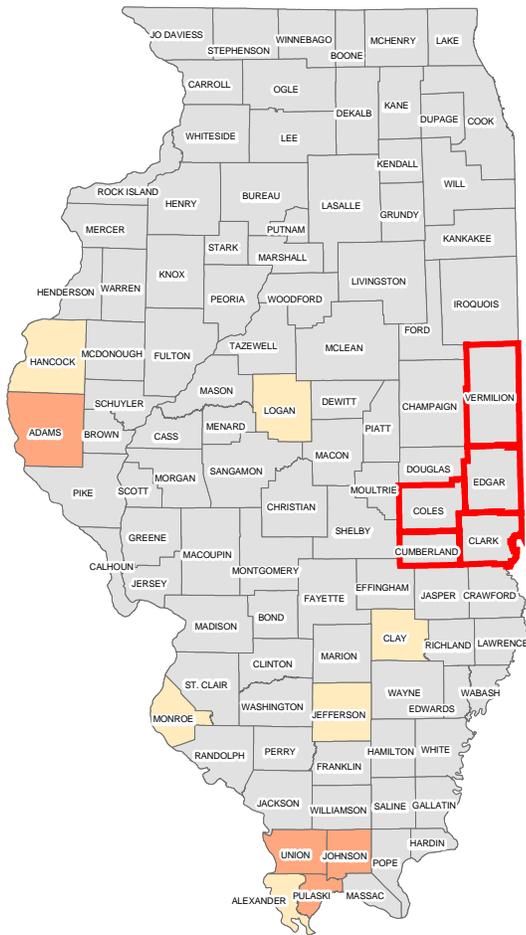


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between 1997 and 2003, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increasing proportion of labs seized statewide. In 2003, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 13 percent of all labs seized in Illinois, compared to zero percent in 1997. During the entire period analyzed, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 21 percent of all methamphetamine labs seized by rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine seizure rate for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit was twice the rate of 35 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 ten of Illinois' 102 counties, nine of which were rural counties; however, by 2003, labs were seized in 92 counties. Map 4 on page 23 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine lab seizures across Illinois between 1997 and 2003, while depicting the lab seizure rates for Illinois counties. As can be seen, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit have experienced some of the highest methamphetamine lab seizure rates.

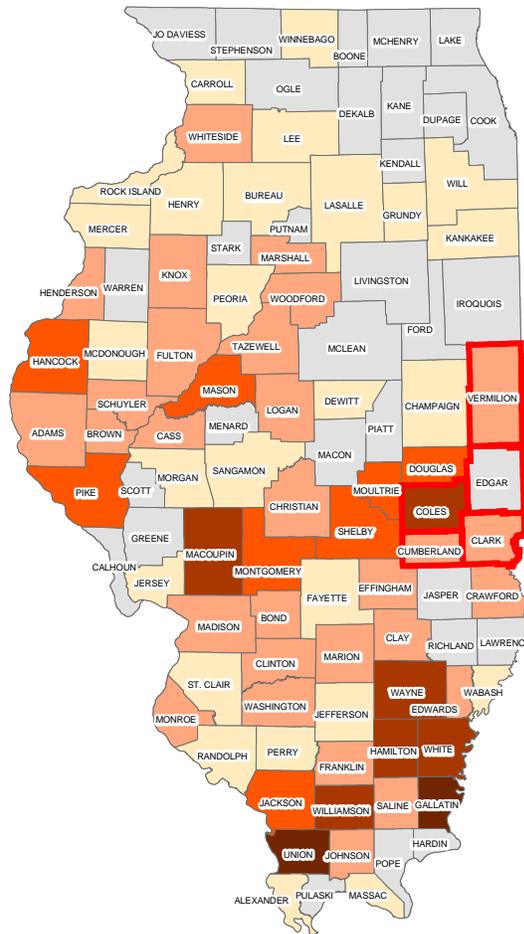
1997



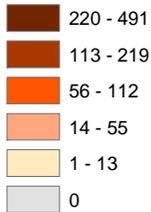
Map 4

Trends in Methamphetamine Lab Seizure Rates, 1997 -2003

2003



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



Counties within Fifth
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). (It should be noted that IDOC data are reported by State Fiscal Year ((SFY) - 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 all five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit, the number varied across the individual counties. Between SFYs 1996 and 2003, the number of commitments for drug offenses in the Fifth Judicial Circuit more than doubled, from 238 to 489. During that period, the number of prison commitments for drug offenses from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for a stable, but low proportion of statewide total drug commitments (3 percent) (Table 8).

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1996 - 2003
Clark	10 (59.98)	11 (65.60)	5 (29.50)	21 (123.45)	18 (105.93)	25 (147.34)	36 (211.89)	47 (276.50)	370% (361%)
Coles	76 (143.04)	65 (121.79)	86 (160.88)	90 (168.39)	60 (113.12)	111 (212.42)	137 (264.27)	188 (362.37)	147 (153)
Cumberland	7 (62.51)	4 (35.76)	4 (35.81)	3 (26.82)	3 (26.64)	8 (71.56)	13 (117.27)	11 (99.43)	57 (59)
Edgar	29 (142.84)	15 (74.66)	22 (109.89)	20 (100.90)	37 (188.23)	34 (173.88)	70 (360.97)	76 (391.83)	162 (174)
Vermilion	116 (135.99)	132 (154.80)	108 (127.06)	139 (164.93)	156 (186.12)	159 (190.33)	198 (238.05)	167 (201.68)	44 (48)
Circuit Total	238 (127.54)	227 (121.59)	225 (120.59)	273 (146.98)	274 (148.29)	337 (183.66)	454 (248.79)	489 (268.47)	105 (110)
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)	42 (36)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	

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 Fifth Judicial Circuit increased from zero commitments in SFY 1996 to 58 commitments in SFY 2003 (Table 9). (* Note: 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' Fifth Judicial Circuit

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1996 - 2003
Clark	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (5.89)	2 (11.79)	4 (23.54)	9 (52.95)	---** (---)**
Coles	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (1.87)	1 (1.87)	2 (3.77)	13 (24.88)	26 (50.15)	42 (80.96)	---** (---)**
Cumberland	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (18.08)	---** (---)**
Edgar	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (5.05)	0 (0.00)	1 (5.11)	1 (5.16)	3 (15.47)	---** (---)**
Vermilion	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (2.42)	---** (---)**
Circuit Total	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	1 (0.54)	2 (1.08)	3 (1.62)	16 (8.72)	31 (16.99)	58 (31.84)	---** (---)**
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)	5,650 (5,399)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	0%	0%	20%	33%	8%	23%	13%	17%	

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

*Rates in parentheses

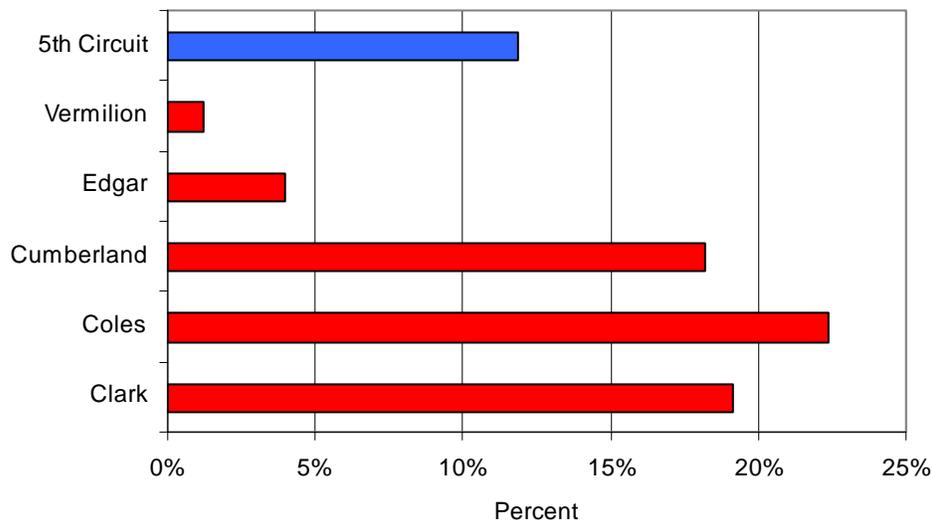
**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

As a result, the number of new court commitments to IDOC for methamphetamine offenses from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide commitments for methamphetamine offenses, from zero percent in SFY 1996 to 17 percent in SFY 2003.

However, when individual counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were examined, significant differences were noted. In SFY 2003, commitments for methamphetamine offenses accounted for more than 15 percent of new court commitments for drug offenses in three of the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. For example, in SFY 2003, methamphetamine offenses accounted for 22 percent of all commitments for drug offenses in Coles County, followed by Clark County (19 percent) and Cumberland County (18 percent) (Figure 8).

Figure 8

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

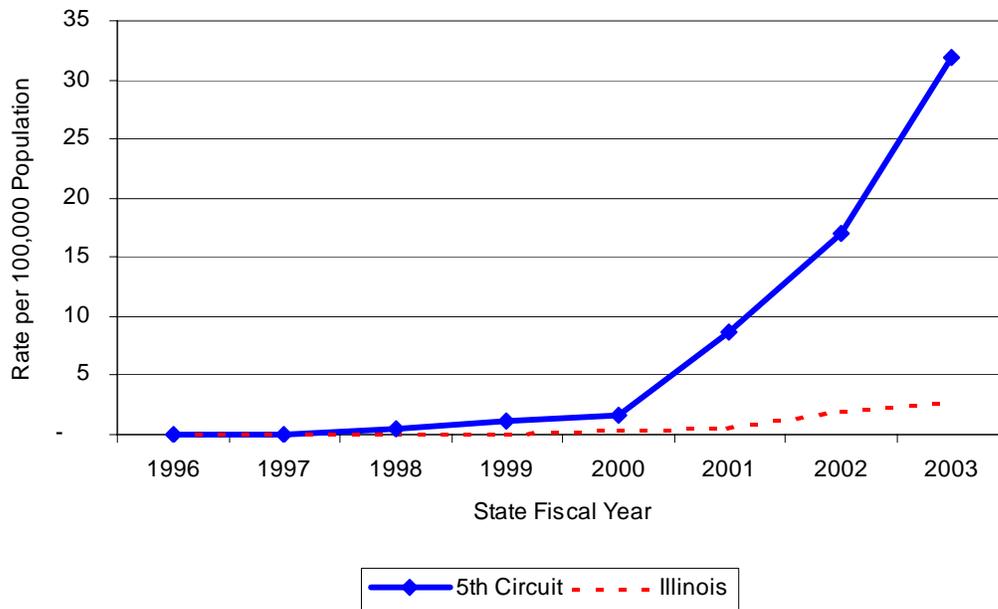


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Corrections, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Between SFYs 1996 and 2003, the statewide commitment rate for methamphetamine offenses increased from 0.05 commitments to slightly less than three commitments per 100,000 population. Between SFYs 1996 and 2003, the methamphetamine commitment rate in the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased from zero to 32 commitments per 100,000 population (Figure 9).

Figure 9

IDOC Commitment Rates for Methamphetamine Offenses, Fifth 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 Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine offense commitment rate nearly 12 times higher than the statewide commitment rate. Also, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 23 percent of all commitments for methamphetamine offenses by rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine offense commitment rate for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit was more than double the rate of 14 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 52 (79 percent) of those counties where commitments for methamphetamine offenses were reported. Map 5 on page 28 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. As can be seen, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit are among those counties that have experienced the highest commitment rates for methamphetamine offenses.

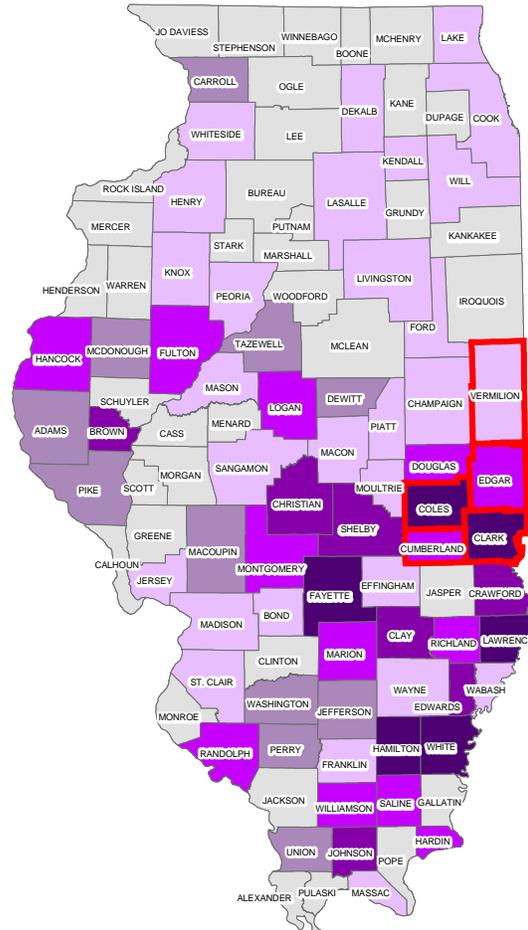
1996



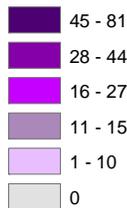
Map 5

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

2003



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



Counties within Fifth Judicial Circuit

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

Drug Treatment Admission Data

In order 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). (It should be noted that OASA data are reported by State Fiscal Year ((SFY) - July 1 through June 30). 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 illicit drug treatment admissions from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit increased nearly quadrupled, from 466 in SFY 1994 to 1,752 in SFY 2003. Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, illicit drug treatment admissions within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for a stable, but low proportion of statewide total illicit drug treatment admissions (1 percent) (Table 10).

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

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Clark	7 (42.48)	32 (193.59)	43 (257.93)	53 (316.08)	49 (289.12)	46 (270.41)	87 (512.01)	100 (589.34)	91 (535.61)	118 (694.20)	1,586% (1,534%)
Coles	186 (348.18)	305 (576.85)	250 (470.53)	242 (453.43)	166 (310.54)	247 (462.14)	373 (703.22)	482 (922.40)	533 (1,028.16)	582 (1,121.82)	213 (222)
Cumberland	9 (81.55)	33 (297.40)	18 (160.74)	20 (178.79)	8 (71.62)	23 (205.61)	27 (239.74)	43 (384.65)	49 (442.00)	78 (705.05)	767 (765)
Edgar	24 (120.54)	33 (163.92)	55 (270.90)	69 (343.45)	50 (249.75)	55 (277.48)	68 (345.93)	147 (751.76)	150 (773.51)	208 (1,072.39)	767 (790)
Vermilion	240 (272.97)	184 (212.54)	412 (483.01)	562 (659.05)	591 (695.33)	656 (778.39)	870 (1,037.95)	788 (943.27)	773 (929.37)	766 (925.08)	219 (239)
Circuit Total	466 (246.86)	587 (313.57)	778 (416.93)	946 (506.73)	864 (463.05)	1,027 (552.92)	1,425 (771.22)	1,560 (850.16)	1,596 (874.60)	1,752 (961.89)	276 (290)
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)	165 (149)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	

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. All Illinois’ geographic regions reported decreases in methamphetamine treatment admissions between SFYs 1994 and 2003, with the exception of the rural counties. In 2003, rural counties accounted for 74 percent of all treatment admissions for methamphetamine abuse, compared to 45 percent in 1994. The number of methamphetamine treatment

admissions from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit also increased dramatically, increasing from seven in SFY 1994 to 462 admissions in SFY 2003 (Table 11).

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

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 1994 - 2003
Clark	0 (0.00)	1 (6.05)	0 (0.00)	3 (17.89)	3 (17.70)	5 (29.39)	8 (47.08)	24 (141.44)	37 (217.78)	50 (294.15)	---** (---)**
Coles	5 (9.36)	7 (13.24)	1 (1.88)	13 (24.36)	3 (5.61)	13 (24.32)	46 (86.72)	119 (227.73)	174 (335.65)	218 (420.20)	4,260% (4,390)
Cumberland	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	2 (17.76)	9 (80.51)	21 (189.43)	48 (433.88)	---** (---)**
Edgar	0 (0.00)	6 (29.80)	9 (44.33)	8 (39.82)	6 (29.97)	0 (0.00)	6 (30.52)	44 (225.02)	73 (376.44)	110 (567.13)	---** (---)**
Vermilion	2 (2.27)	2 (2.31)	6 (7.03)	3 (3.52)	6 (7.06)	4 (4.75)	3 (3.58)	2 (2.39)	5 (6.01)	36 (43.48)	1,700 (1,811)
Circuit Total	7 (3.71)	16 (8.55)	16 (8.57)	27 (14.46)	18 (9.65)	22 (11.84)	65 (35.18)	198 (107.90)	310 (169.88)	462 (253.65)	6,500 (6,740)
Statewide	97 (0.81)	184 (1.53)	369 (3.05)	376 (3.09)	381 (3.10)	464 (3.75)	740 (5.95)	1,528 (12.21)	2,149 (17.07)	3,582 (28.31)	3,593 (3,377)
5th Circuit Percent of State Total	7%	9%	4%	7%	5%	5%	9%	13%	14%	13%	

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

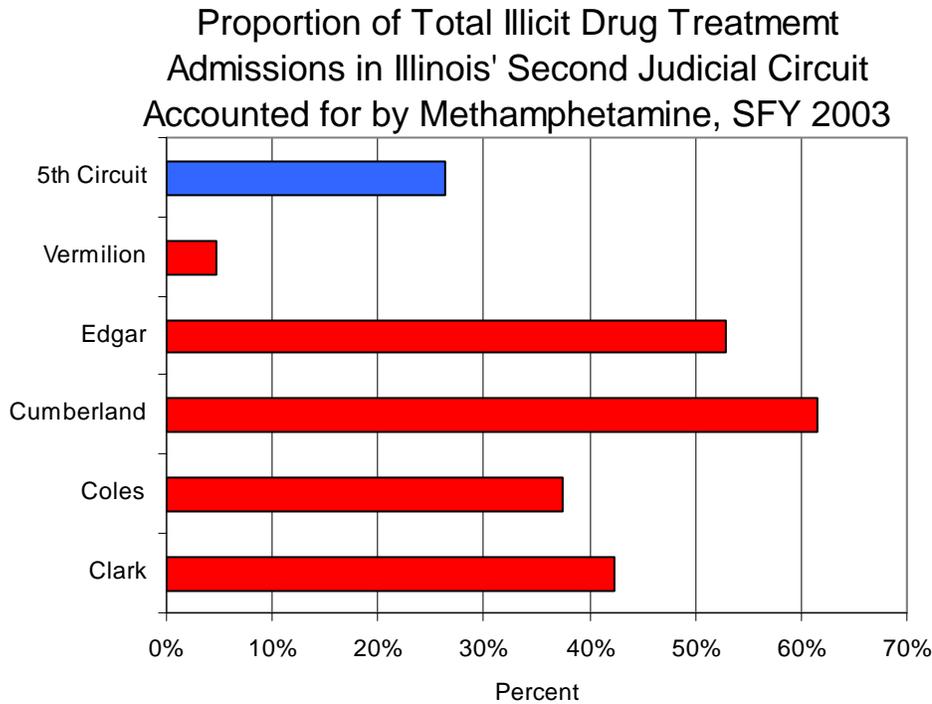
*Rates in parentheses

**Percent change cannot be calculated when dividing by zero

As a result, admissions to treatment for methamphetamine abuse from counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for an increased proportion of statewide methamphetamine treatment admissions, jumping from 7 percent in SFY 1994 to 13 percent in SFY 2003.

However, when individual counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit were examined, differences were noted. In SFY 2003, methamphetamine treatment admissions accounted for one-third or more of total illicit drug treatment admissions in four of the five counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. For example, in 2003, methamphetamine accounted for 62 percent of all illicit drug treatment admissions from Cumberland County, followed by Edgar County (53 percent), Clark County (42 percent), and Coles County (37 percent) (Figure 10).

Figure 10

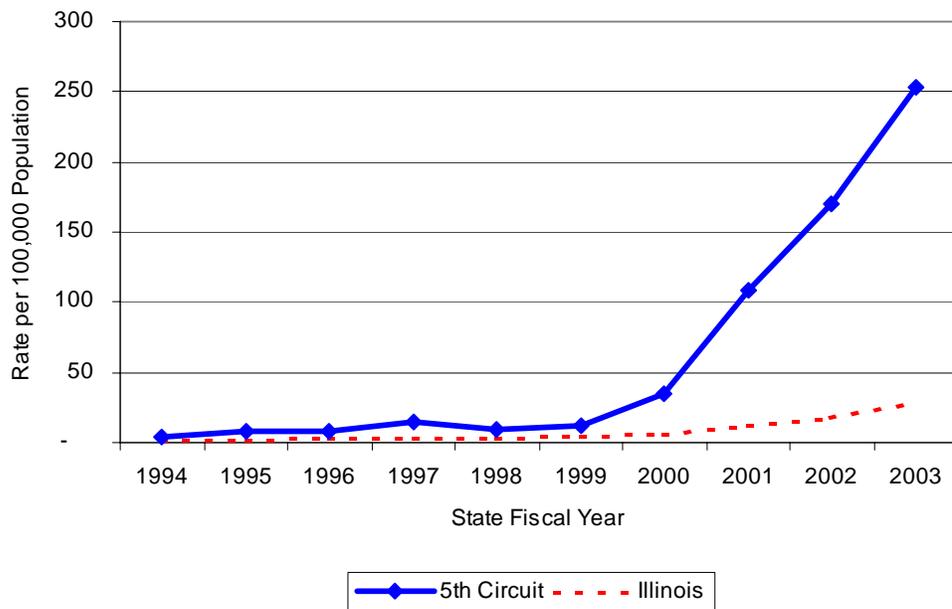


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

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 Fifth Judicial Circuit increased dramatically, from four to 254 admissions per 100,000 population (Figure 11).

Figure 11

**Methamphetamine Treatment Admission Rates,
Fifth Judicial Circuit, 1994 - 2003**

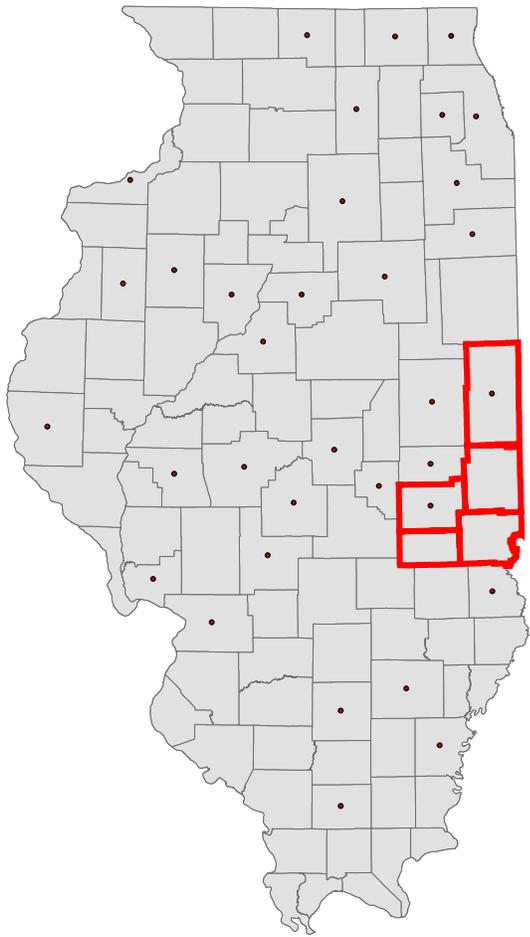


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, U.S. Census Bureau, and Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts data

Thus, in SFY 2003, the Fifth Judicial Circuit had a methamphetamine treatment admission rate more than nine times higher than the statewide methamphetamine treatment admission rate. Also, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit accounted for 17 percent of all methamphetamine treatment admissions from rural counties. As a result, the methamphetamine treatment admission rate for counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit was more than double the rate of 108 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 three counties. Rural counties accounted for nearly three-quarters of those counties where methamphetamine treatment admissions were reported. Map 6 on page 33 demonstrates the spread of methamphetamine treatment admissions across Illinois between SFYs 1994 and 2003, while depicting the methamphetamine treatment admission rates for Illinois counties. As can be seen, counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit are among those that have experienced the highest rates of methamphetamine treatment admissions.

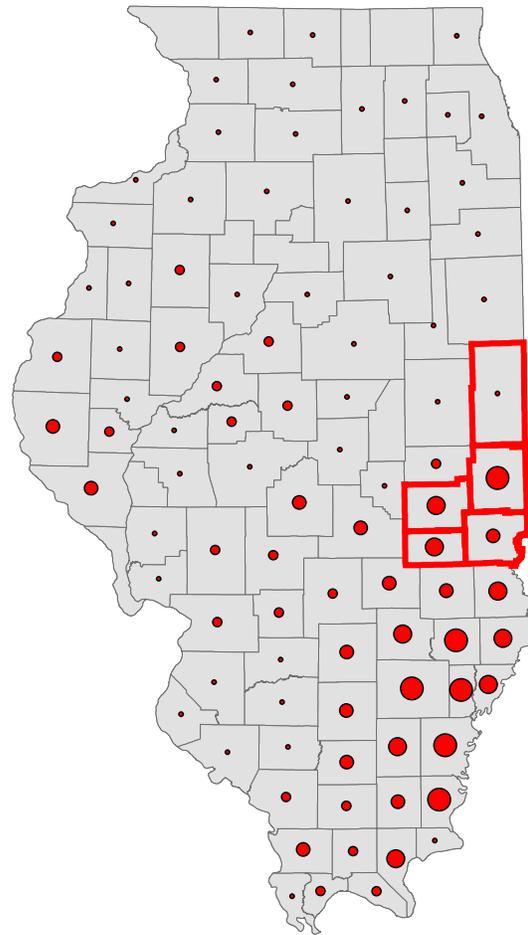
1994



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
- 51 - 143
- 1 - 50



Counties within Fifth
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 indicate that methamphetamine has migrated predominantly into rural counties in the south and central regions of the state but is moving rapidly into more urbanized regions of the state. 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. Historically, rural counties have had little opportunity to impact statewide trends; however, that has now changed. Rural counties, and to a greater degree, those rural counties within the Fifth 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 of the counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit that have been impacted the most by methamphetamine rank among the highest across all methamphetamine measures examined.

In order to develop a general assessment of the methamphetamine problem in each county within the Fifth Judicial 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 5th would received a score of “5.” 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 Fifth Judicial 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, Coles County ranked highest using both the rate and volume methods of analysis, followed by Clark County. It also indicates that Vermilion County appears to be the least impacted by methamphetamine when examining all the activity measures, combined, among counties within the Fifth Judicial Circuit.

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

	Drug Seizures	Drug Submissions	Meth Lab Seizures	Meth Treatment Admissions	Controlled Substances Act Arrests	Meth-related IDOC Commitments	Average Composite Score	Overall Ranking
Clark	5/1	1/2	3/3	4/3	2/4	2/2	2.8/2.5	2/2
Coles	1/3	3/1	1/1	3/1	3/2	1/1	2.0/1.5	1/1
Cumberland	4/5	2/4	4/4	2/4	5/5	5/4	3.7/4.3	3/4
Edgar	3/4	5/5	5/5	1/2	1/3	4/3	3.2/3.7	4/3
Vermilion	2/2	4/3	2/2	5/5	4/1	3/4	3.3/2.8	5/5

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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