SPAC
Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council

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Joe D.O. (Drug Felon)

26 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison had controlled substance sentences in SFY 2009.

Who is the average inmate coming out of state prison? What crime did he or she commit? How long did he or she spend in the system? What was his or her experience? To begin answering these questions, SPAC analyzed state prison releases from July 2008 to June 2009 (SFY 2009) to create an average "profile" using the most often occurring characteristics, as well as average and median (50th percentile) lengths of stay. The composite result, the hypothetical Joe, follows one average offender's experience to promote discussion of the regular DOC inmate released from state prison.

D.O. is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 31. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Department of Corrections (DOC) that he completed high school.
-   For every 100 drug felons released in SFY 2009, 10 were women.
-   75 were black, 17 white, 8 Hispanic.
-   84 were born in Illinois, 96 born in the United States.
    o   After Illinois, the next largest birthplaces were Mississippi (3) and Mexico (3).
-   25 of these 100 drug felons were younger than 25, but the average was in his 30s.
-   76 were single like D.O.; 15 reported being married, 6 divorced.
-   D.O. might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (20 of the 100 reported completing high school, another 15 GEDs, and 9 some college, graduate, or technical schooling).

After being arrested for possession of a controlled substance in early 2008 in Cook County, D.O. spent **92 days (3 months) in local jail** prior to sentencing.
-   A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards to 132 days (4 months).

Before this incident, D.O. had been **arrested 18 times before** (at least 6 of which were for drug offenses, 5 were property offenses, and 3 were person (i.e., violent) offenses).
-   From those 18 arrests, D.O. has been convicted of 2 felony drug offenses, 1 felony property, and 1 felony person offenses. D.O. has at least 2 other convictions (for misdemeanors).

D.O. was charged with felony drug possession and received a **1-year-and-3-month sentence for a Possession of a Controlled Substance** violation, **a Class 4 felony**.
-   58 of 100 drug offenders released in SFY 2009 received a sentence for Possession while 41 received a sentence for Manufacture or Delivery.
-   23 of 100 drug offenders had returned to prison on technical violations of their mandatory supervised release (MSR) terms prior to their release in SFY 2009.
-   D.O. was one of the 52 of the 100 felons whose highest holding offense-class was a Class 4 felony.
    o   23 were held on Class 1 felonies;
    o   17 were held on Class 2 felonies;
    o   6 were held on Class X felonies.

D.O. was not limited in good-time credits under Truth-In-Sentencing laws.
-   1 of every 100 drug offenders faced TIS terms in SFY 2009 (same as admissions in SFY 2012).

D.O. spent **6 months in state prison**. DOC credited D.O. 3 months for his 92 days in local jail.
-   A few of the 100 released drug offenders with long sentences brought the average up to 12 months of actual time served.

D.O. was **released from Stateville CC** on Friday, August 8, 2008.
-   10 of the 100 drug offenders released were from Stateville (a maximum security facility). 10 were from Pinckneyville (medium) and 7 from Vienna (minimum) CCs. Sheridan (medium) released 4 in SFY 2009.
-   6 were released from adult transition centers (ATC) and 1 from electronic monitoring by DOC.

D.O. was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**, as required by statute, for 1 year. By June 2012 (3 years from release), D.O. was **rearrested 3 times**.
-   Most likely arrested for drug, property, or other (category) offenses.
-   Of all the arrests, likely to be convicted for 1 drug offense.
-   12 of drug offenders released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release where they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.