VIOLENT CRIME PROFILE

Kane County

Introduction

Problem analysis is the basic building block for creating an effective, strategic approach to crime prevention. Many criminal justice agencies collect a vast amount of data, yet few use these data in ways that can fully inform their policies and practices. Understanding your community’s crime problem will require analysis of various types of information, some of which may be already collected and some of which will require additional data collection efforts. The purpose of this document is to provide your community with a starting point for assessing, understanding, and discussing its violent crime problems, particularly those stemming from firearm-related violence. The packet contains analyses of data that are accessible to researchers working at the state-level and include data submitted to the Illinois State Police Uniform Crime Reporting and Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) programs.

At the end of this pack is a glossary of terms to aid interpretation and understanding of the data points presented. The packet also provides suggestions for what other types of data should be collected and examined. Research staff at the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority are available to talk more with you about the data presented here as well as what additional data that might exist and next steps for data collection and analysis.

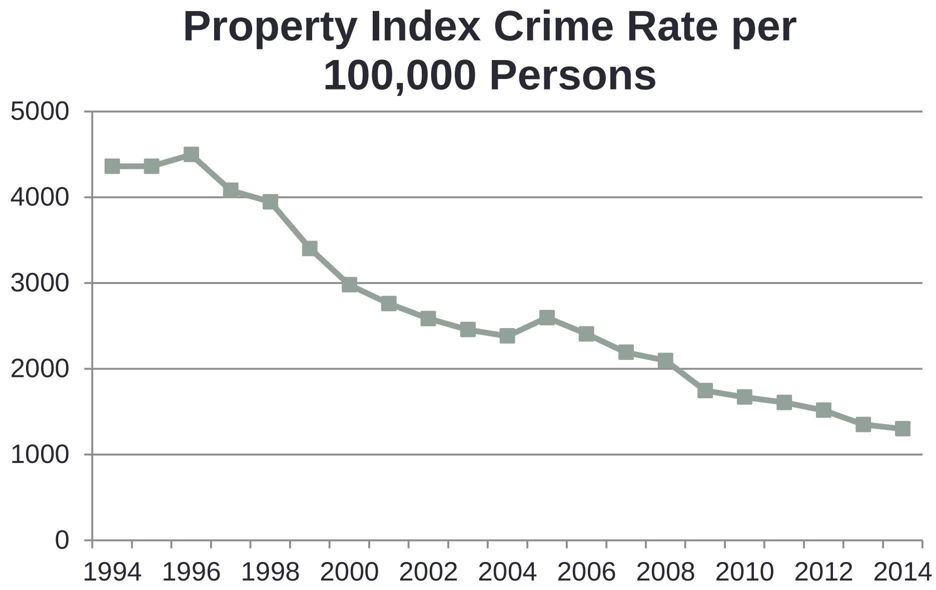
- John Maki, Executive Director

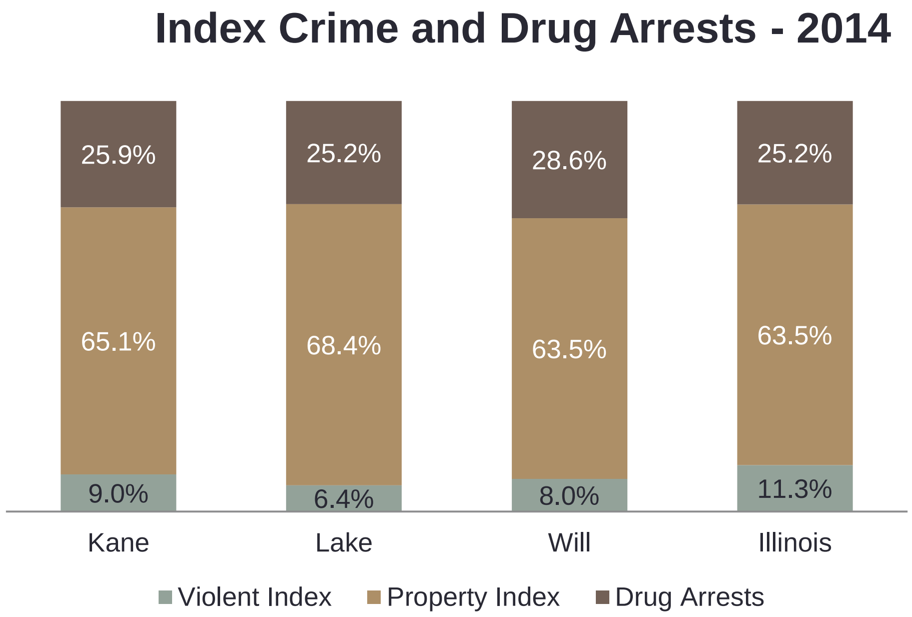
Index Crime and Drug Arrests

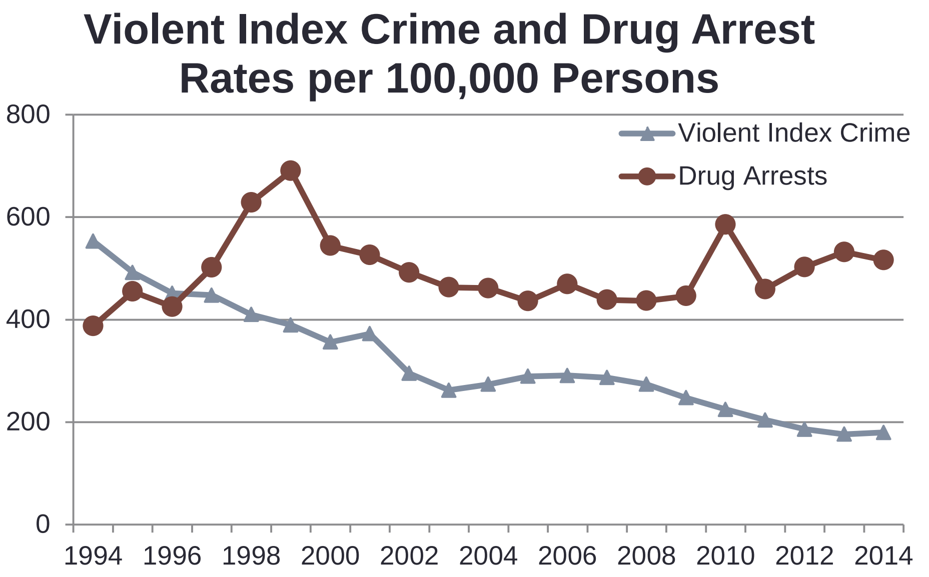
- Overall, the property index and violent index crime rates have decreased in Kane County since the 1990s, although at slightly different magnitudes, with property index crimes decreasing at a greater rate than violent index crimes.

- Trend pattern differences were noted, particularly during the mid to late 2000s, when the violent index crime rate flat lined while the property index crime rate continued to decline.

- Consistent with other areas of the state, the property index crimes accounted for the largest percentage of crimes reported to the police (65.1%).





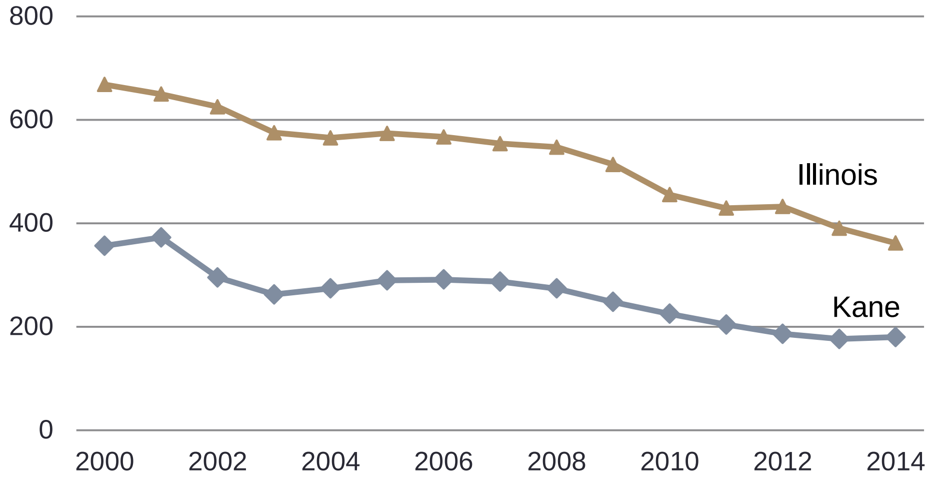


Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

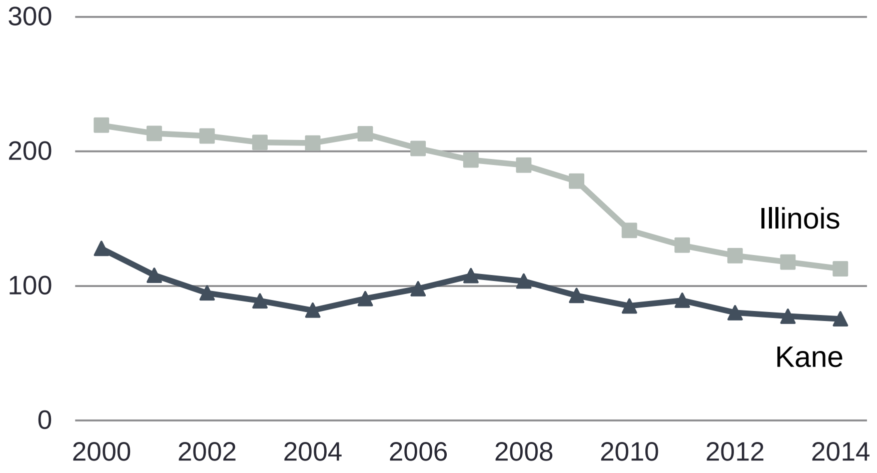
Violent Index Crime

- Not surprisingly, the violent index crime and arrest rates followed similar patterns, both remaining relatively unchanged during the mid to late 2000s.
- Aggravated assaults (and batteries) accounted for the largest percentage of both violent index crimes and violent index arrests from 2010 and 2014, followed by robberies. Murder accounted for the smallest percent of crimes reported to police and arrests made from 2010 to 2014.

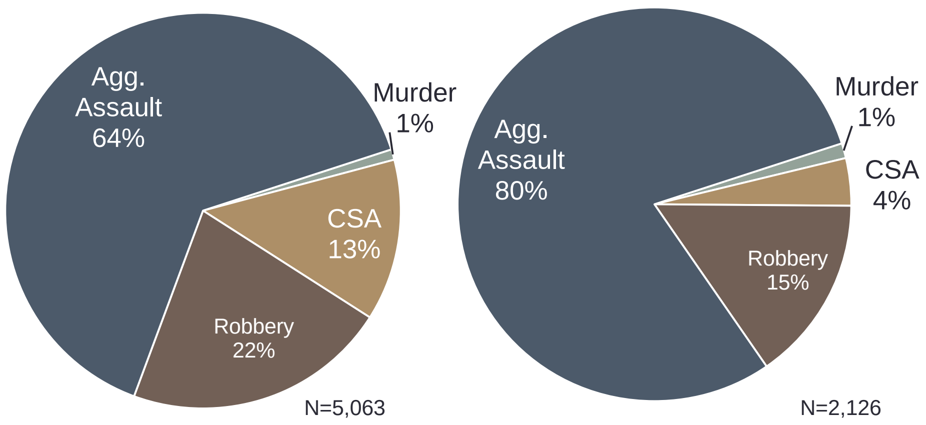
Violent Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons



Violent Index Arrest Rate per 100,000 Persons



Kane County: 2010 - 2014


Violent Index Crimes

Violent Index Arrests

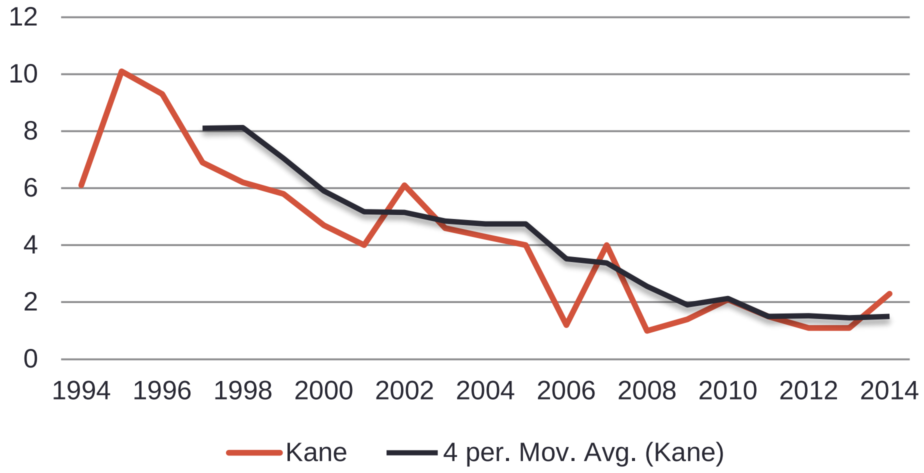
Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

Murder & Aggravated Assault

- Consistent with the overall decrease in the number of violent index crime rate, both the murder and the aggravated assault (and battery) rates declined.

- The same pattern noted for the overall violent index crime rate was also found for the aggravated assault (and battery) rate, indicating that the lack of change in the violent index crime rate during the mid to late 2000s was primarily due to the lack of change in aggravated assaults (and batteries).

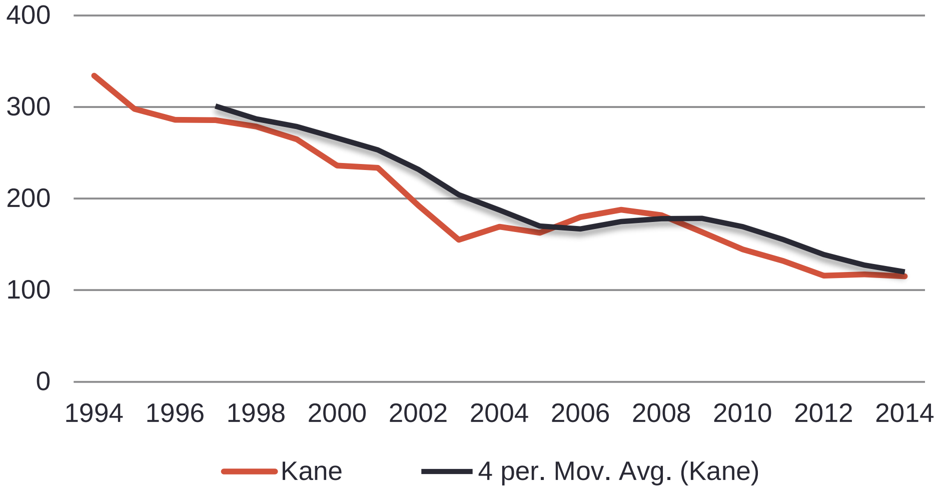
Murder Rate per 100,000 Persons, 1994 - 2014



Number of Murders and Aggravated Assaults, 2005-2014

Offense Type	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Murders	19	6	20	5	7	11	8	6	6	12
Aggravated Assaults	774	873	931	917	836	746	685	604	615	607

Aggravated Assault Rate per 100,000 Persons, 1994 - 2014



Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

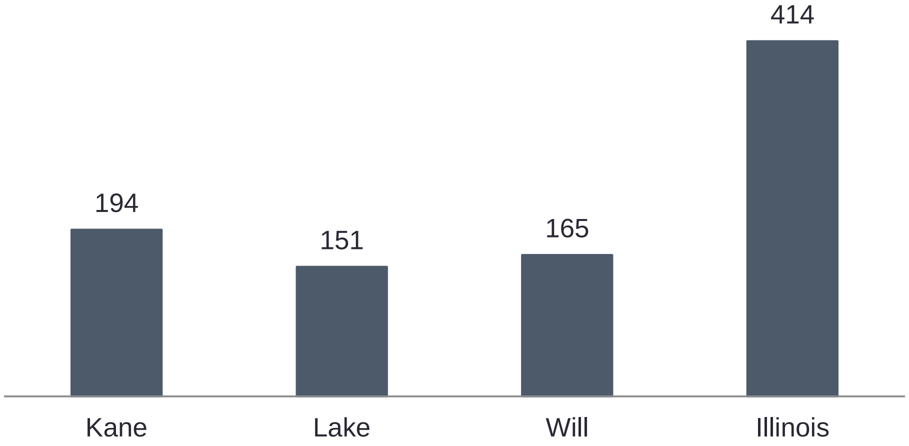
Avg. Violent Crime Rates – 2010 to 2014

- The Kane County average violent index crime, murder, and aggravated assault rates were below the statewide averages.

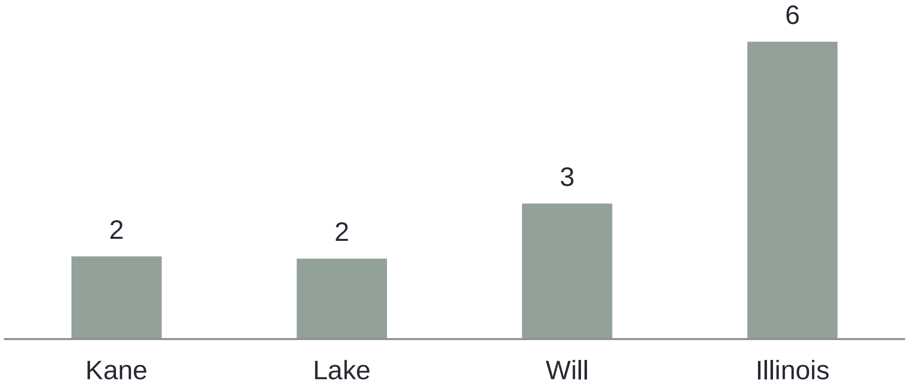
- The Kane County average violent index crime rate was slightly higher than the rates of counties with comparable population sizes, likely due to a higher aggravated assault (and battery) rate.

- Direct comparisons between counties of comparable population sizes is somewhat challenging and caution should be taken when drawing conclusions. Community-level factors, such as the rate of poverty, unemployment, and residential mobility, are associated with crime prevalence and may explain the differences noted.

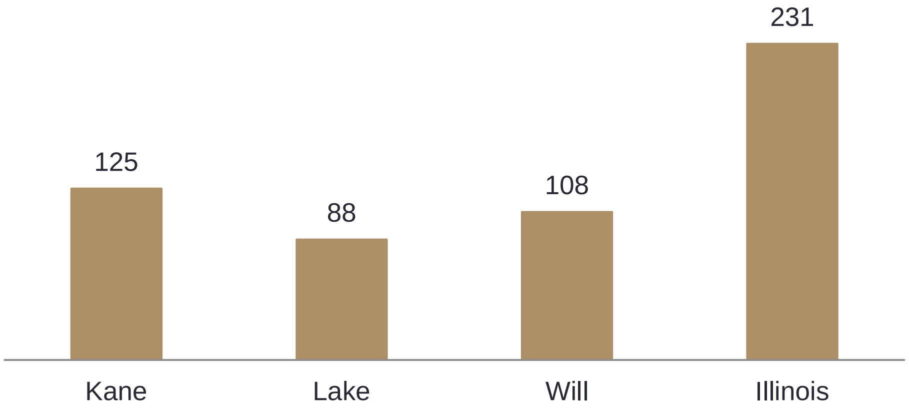
Average Violent Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons



Average Murder Rate per 100,000 Persons



Average Aggravated Assault Rate per 100,000 Persons

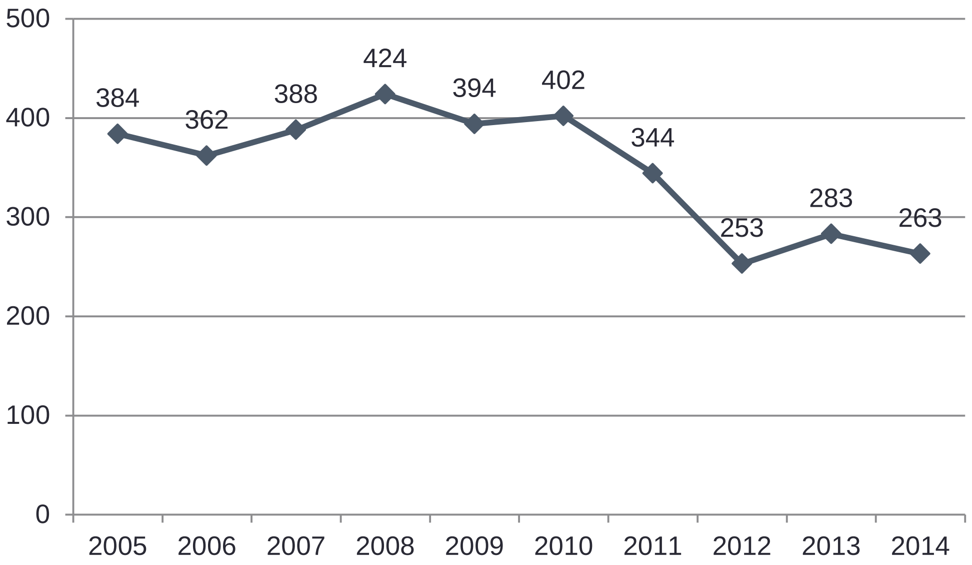


Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

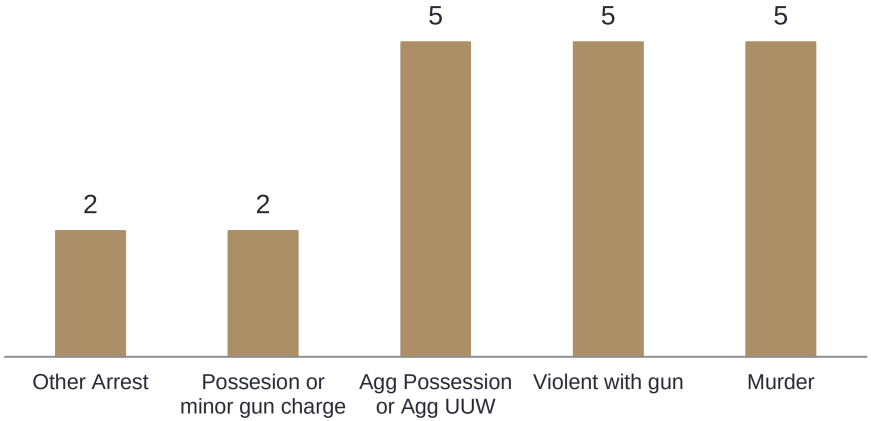
Murders & Firearm Involved Arrests – 2014

- The number of murder and firearm-involved arrests remained relatively stable during the late 2000s, followed by a decline.
- Those arrested for murder or firearm-involved offenses in 2014 tended to be male and white (58%).** The median age was 22 years, which was slightly younger than the typical median age noted for other counties (24 years).
- Those arrested for more serious, violent offenses tended to have more significant criminal histories, both in terms of the number of prior arrests, but also the type of prior arrests.
- The conviction rates varied, with higher conviction rates for the more serious arrest types.

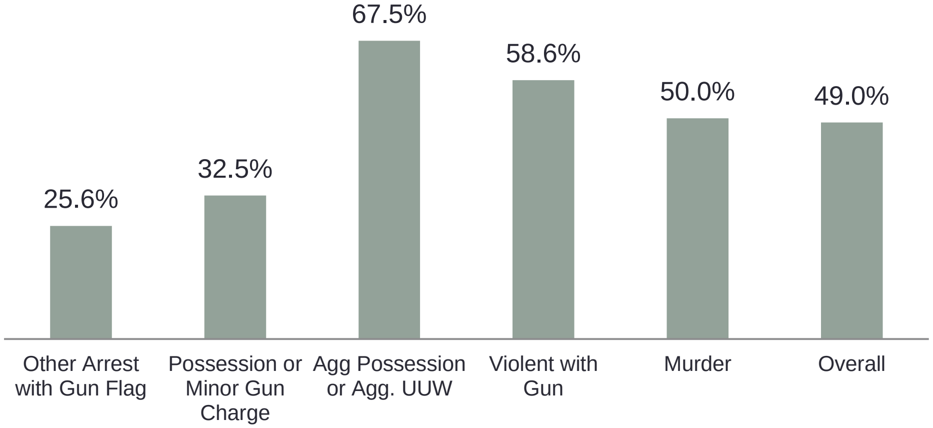
Total Number of Firearm-involved Arrests



Median Number of Prior Arrests by Current Arrest Charge*



Percent of Arrests in 2010 Resulting in a Conviction by 2014



*Includes all arrests from 2005 to 2014. **The ISP CHRI did not systematically collect data on ethnicity until late 2015.

Source: Illinois Criminal History Record Information system.

Suggested Additional Data Analysis

Communities interested in implementing the programs identified during this conference are encouraged to consider analyzing and potentially collecting additional data. Regardless as to whether communities are considering focused deterrence or the swift, certain, and fair approach, we strongly urge that you collect information that helps facilitate a discussion about the relationship between the residents of your community and criminal justice agencies.

- **Police data (Focused Deterrence):**
  - Calls for service by crime type, date/time, neighborhood
  - Crime data by victim and suspect characteristics (NIBRS data)
  - Shootings by date/time, suspect(s) and victim(s) involved, group(s) involved, neighborhood, motive, weapon(s) used
  - Individual and group-specific data for targeted intervention

- **Probation data (Swift, Certain, Fair):**
  - Probation trends in use and compliance
  - Profile of probationers who violate terms of probation, including demographics, violation types and reasons for violations, offense history, previous history on probation
  - Assessment of existing probation processes and sanctioning practices

- **Neighborhood perceptions and legitimacy:**
  - Neighborhood conditions, crime, fear of crime
  - Police and the criminal justice system response
  - Police-community relationship (legitimacy, support)

- **Police and other CJS personnel perceptions**:
  - Police-community relationship
  - Collaborative relationship between criminal justice stakeholders (police, prosecutors, probation, parole, community service providers)
  - Barriers to effective crime prevention and intervention

Glossary of Terms

Violent Index crimes:	Includes all incidents of murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault/battery reported to the police.
Property Index crimes:	Includes all incidents of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson reported to the police.
Drug arrest violations:	Includes all arrests made for violations of the Illinois Cannabis Control Act, Controlled Substances Act, Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act, Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, and the Methamphetamine Control Act.
Moving average:	A moving average is simply the average of a specific number of data points across the time period examined. In the data provided to you we calculated a 4-year moving average. The first moving average would represent years 1994 to 1997, the second moving average would be for years 1995 to 1998 and so forth. A moving average allows one to “smooth” out trend lines, which can aid in interpretation of overall trends.
Firearm-involve arrests:	Includes any crime in which the fingerprint arrest card indicated a firearm flag or the offense for which the individual was charged involved a firearm.
Median:	The middle point of a range of sorted values. The median is sometimes preferred over an average score when the range includes extreme numbers because those extreme numbers pull the average score higher or lower.