VIOLENT CRIME PROFILE

Peoria 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.
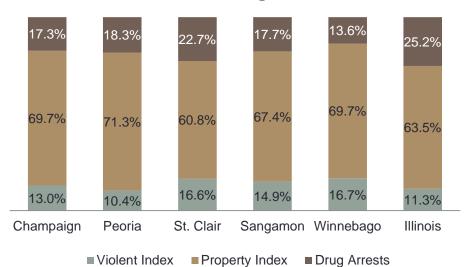
- John Maki, Executive Director

Index Crime and Drug Arrests

- From 1994 to 2014, both the property index crime and violent crime rates decreased. Although both rates decreased, the magnitude of the decrease in the property index crime rate was much greater.

- The drug arrest rate for Peoria County followed a different pattern than the property index and violent index crime rates. That rate rose and fell dramatically in the mid 2000s, but has since stabilized.

- Like most other counties with comparable residential populations, property index crimes accounted for the largest percentage of 2014 crimes reported to the State Police Uniform Crime Reporting program.
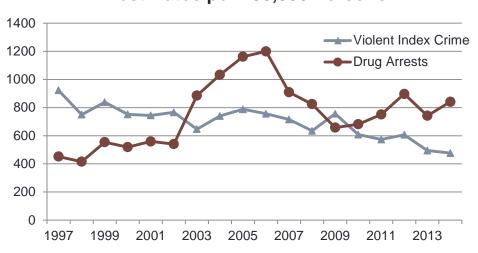
Property Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons

Index Crime and Drug Arrests - 2014

	Champaign	Peoria	St. Clair	Sangamon	Winnebago	Illinois
Drug Arrests	17.3%	18.3%	22.7%	17.7%	13.6%	25.2%
Property Index	69.7%	71.3%	60.8%	67.4%	69.7%	63.5%
Violent Index	13.0%	10.4%	16.6%	14.9%	16.7%	11.3%

■ Violent Index   ■ Property Index   ■ Drug Arrests

Violent Index Crime and Drug Arrest Rates per 100,000 Persons

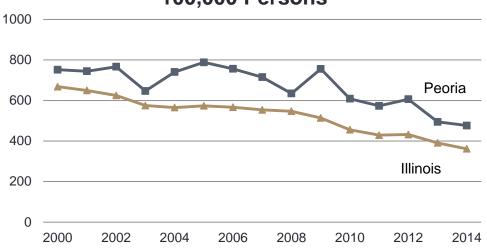Violent Index Crime
Drug Arrests

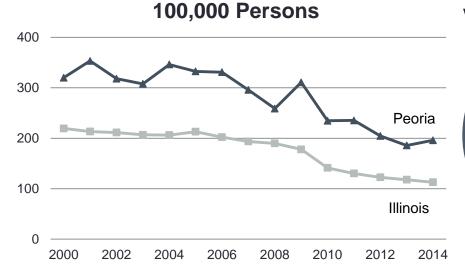Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

Violent Index Crime

- The violent index crime and arrest rates for Peoria County were higher than that noted for the state overall throughout the time period examined.

- Aggravated assaults (and batteries) accounted for the largest percentage of violent index crimes reported to police, followed by robberies.
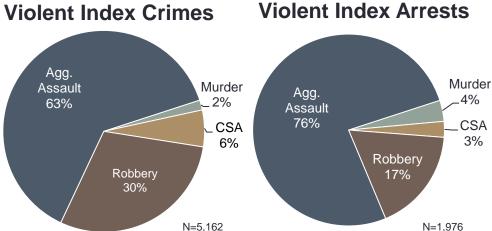
Violent Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons

Violent Index Arrest Rate per 100,000 Persons

Peoria County: 2010 - 2014

Violent Index Crimes

Agg. Assault 63%
Murder 2%
CSA 6%
Robbery 30%
N=5,162

Violent Index Arrests

Agg. Assault 76%
Murder 4%
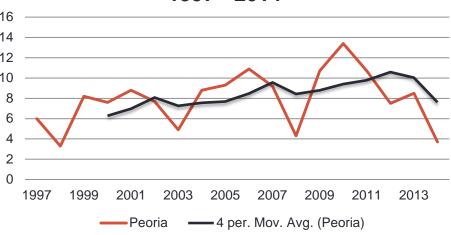CSA 3%
Robbery 17%
N=1,976

Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

Murder & Aggravated Assault

- The murder rate in Peoria County increased from 1997 to about 2010, after which there has been an decline.

- A different trend pattern was noted for the aggravated assault (and batter) rate. That rate has declined steadily since the late 1990s.
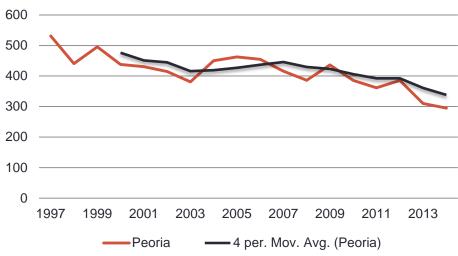
Murder Rate per 100,000 Persons, 1997 - 2014

Peoria —— 4 per. Mov. Avg. (Peoria)

Number of Murders and Aggravated Assaults, 2005-2014

Offense Type	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Murders	17	20	17	8	20	25	20	14	16	7
Aggravated Assaults	846	834	765	713	816	718	675	722	585	552

Aggravated Assault Rate per 100,000 Persons, 1997 - 2014

Peoria —— 4 per. Mov. Avg. (Peoria)

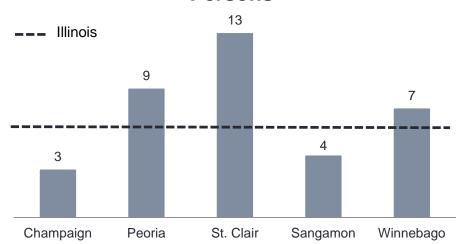Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

Avg. Violent Crime Rates – 2010 to 2014

- The average violent crime, murder and aggravated assault (and battery) rates for Peoria County were higher than the average rates for the state as a whole. Counties of comparable residential populations to Peoria County, however, also tended to have violent crime rates that were higher than the statewide rates.

- 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.
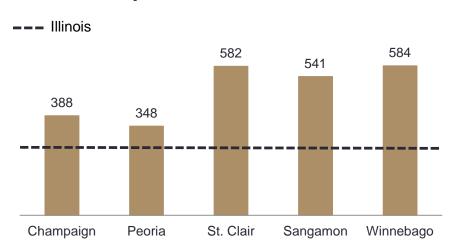
Average Violent Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Persons

- - - Illinois

	Champaign	Peoria	St. Clair	Sangamon	Winnebago
Rate	556	552	811	757	833

Average Murder Rate per 100,000 Persons

- - - Illinois

	Champaign	Peoria	St. Clair	Sangamon	Winnebago
Rate	3	9	13	4	7

Average Aggravated Assault Rate per 100,000 Persons

- - - Illinois

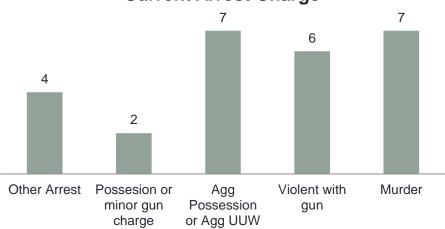|	Champaign	Peoria	St. Clair	Sangamon	Winnebago
Rate	388	348	582	541	584

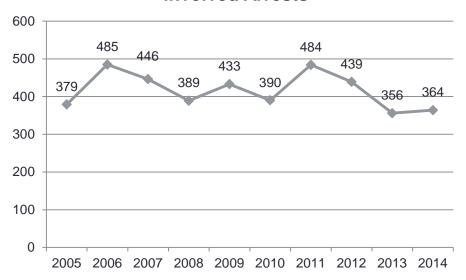Source: Illinois State Police IUCR Annual Reports.

Murders & Firearm Involved Arrests – 2014

- In 2014, there were 364 murder or firearm-involved arrests, down slightly from previous years.

- Those arrested typically were male and black (78%). The median age at time of arrest was 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.

- Conviction rates varied by type of arrest charge, but generally hovered around 40-45% for most types of arrest charges.
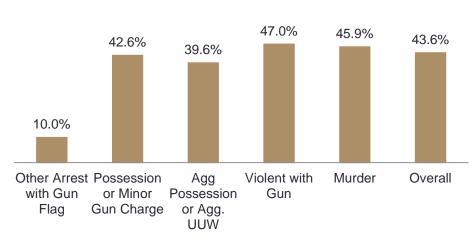
Total Number of Murder and Firearm-involved Arrests

Median Number of Prior Arrests by Current Arrest Charge*

*Includes all arrests from 2005 to 2014.

Percent of Arrests in 2010 Resulting in a Conviction by 2014

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.