



JUVENILE JUSTICE IN ILLINOIS 2015



JUVENILE JUSTICE IN ILLINOIS, 2015

Prepared for

The Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Prepared by

Lily Gleicher, Research Analyst, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Suggested citation: Gleicher, L. (2017). *Juvenile justice in Illinois, 2015*. Chicago, IL: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

This project was supported in part by Award No. 15-0405-0-1-754, awarded to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice by the Illinois Department of Human Services for the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission.

This project was also supported in part by Award No. 13-DJ-BX-0012, awarded to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Points of view or opinions contained within this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, or the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

300 West Adams, Suite 200

Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: 312-793-8550

Fax: 312-793-8422

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I want to acknowledge the assistance of those who provided data and guidance for this report, as it benefited from the input of many individuals:

Lisa Jacobs, Center for Criminal Justice Research, Policy, and Practice, Loyola University Chicago

Wendy Nussbaum, Executive Director, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Hon. Judge George Timberlake, Chair, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

Susan Witkin, Senior Research Program Coordinator, Center for Prevention Research and Development, School of Social Work, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The author would like to acknowledge the following Authority staff for their assistance:

Megan Alderden

Christine Devitt-Westley

Cristin Evans

Tracy Hahn

Jaclyn Houston-Kolnik

John Maki

Jessica Reichert

Erin Sheridan

JUVENILE JUSTICE IN ILLINOIS 2015

Rates for arrest, station adjustment and probation caseloads, detention admissions, and new sentence admissions to the Department of Juvenile Justice have generally **declined** over the past five years in each region of Illinois. The **Central** and **Southern** regions of Illinois are exceptions, where detention rates have slightly **increased**.

Although **black youth** comprised only 18% of the youth population aged 10 to 17 years old in 2015, they accounted for **59% of juvenile arrests, 59% of juvenile detention admissions, and 65% of corrections admissions** for new sentences.

While **male youth** comprised 51% of the youth population aged 10 to 17 years old in 2015, they accounted for **more than 75% of juvenile arrests, detention admissions, and corrections admissions** for new sentences.

The **majority** of youth arrested, admitted to detention, and admitted to corrections were **16- or 17-years old**.

There was a greater proportion of youth **arrested** for a **property** crime or **other** crime. For detention admissions, there was a greater proportion of youth **detained** for a **warrant**. For a **new sentence admission to corrections**, a greater proportion of youth were admitted for a **property crime** or a **crime to a person**.



21,244 juveniles accounted for **32,022** total juvenile arrests.



There were **7,746** active station adjustment and probation juvenile cases.



There were **11,122** admissions to local secure detention facilities.



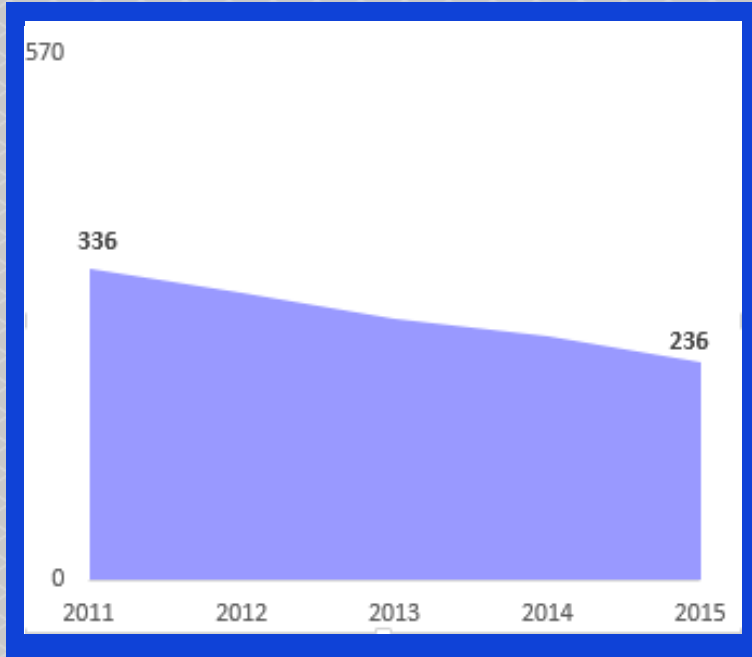
807 youth accounted for **828** new sentence admissions to Department of Juvenile Justice correctional facilities.

Appendix A provides data terms and sources used throughout this report.

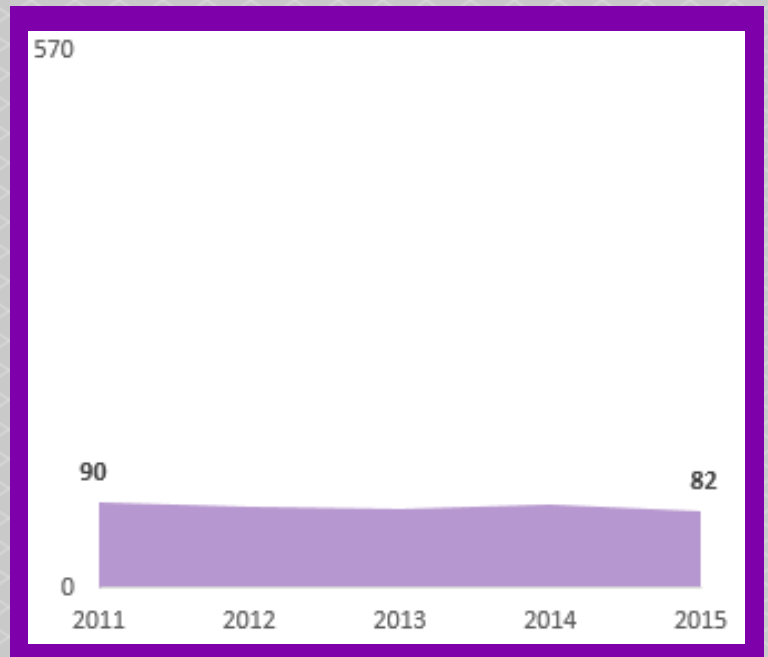
Statewide Rates

Rates for *arrest, active probation caseloads, and corrections admissions for new sentences* have generally **declined** the past five years. Statewide *detention admission rates* have remained **fairly stable**.

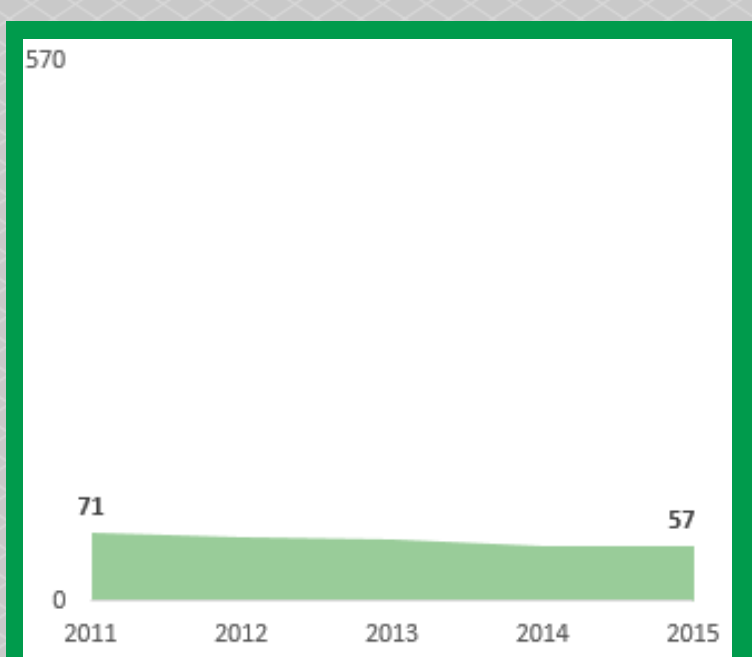
Arrest Rate



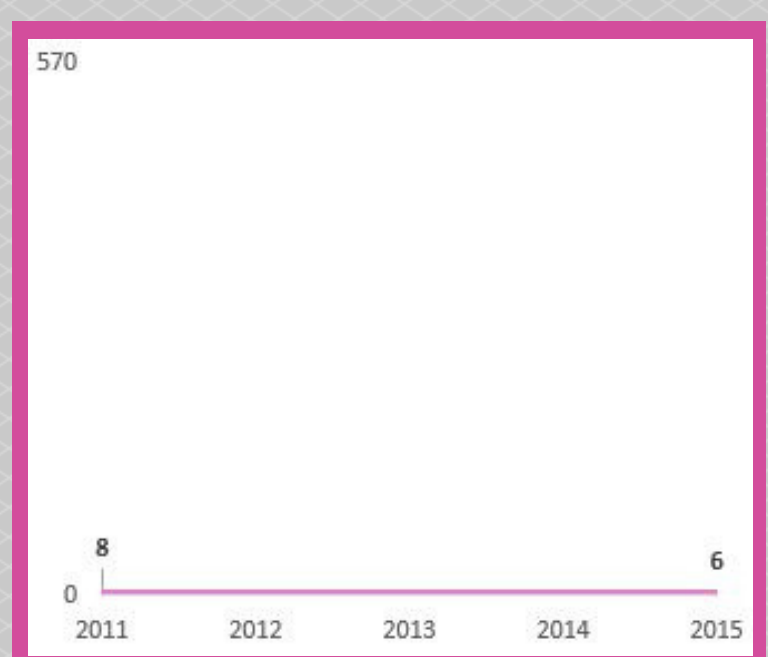
Detention Admission Rate



Active Station Adjustment and Probation Caseload Rate



Corrections Admission for New Sentences Rate

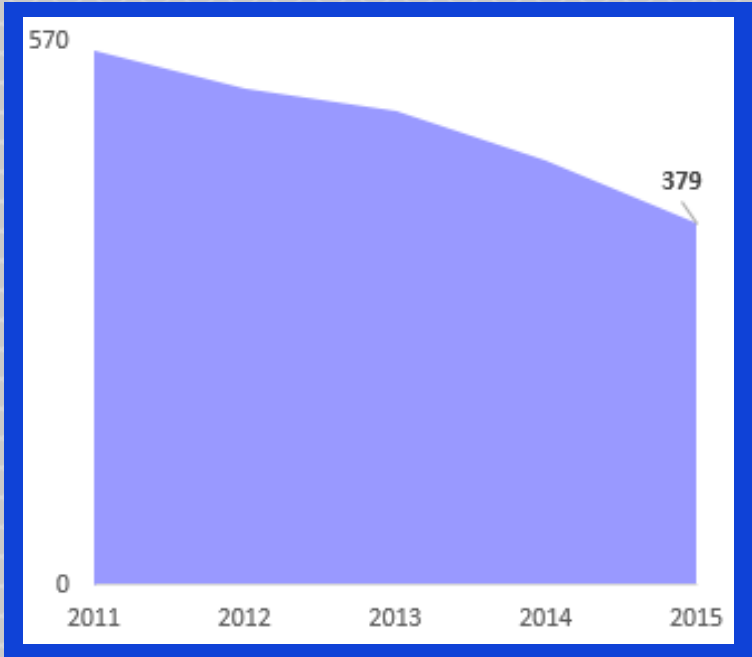


Data source: ICJIA analysis of CHRI data and IDJJ data; CPRD analysis of JMIS data; AOIC data.
Note: Rates are per 10,000 Illinois youth ages 10- to 17-years old; corrections' rates are per 10,000 Illinois youth ages 13- to 21-years old.

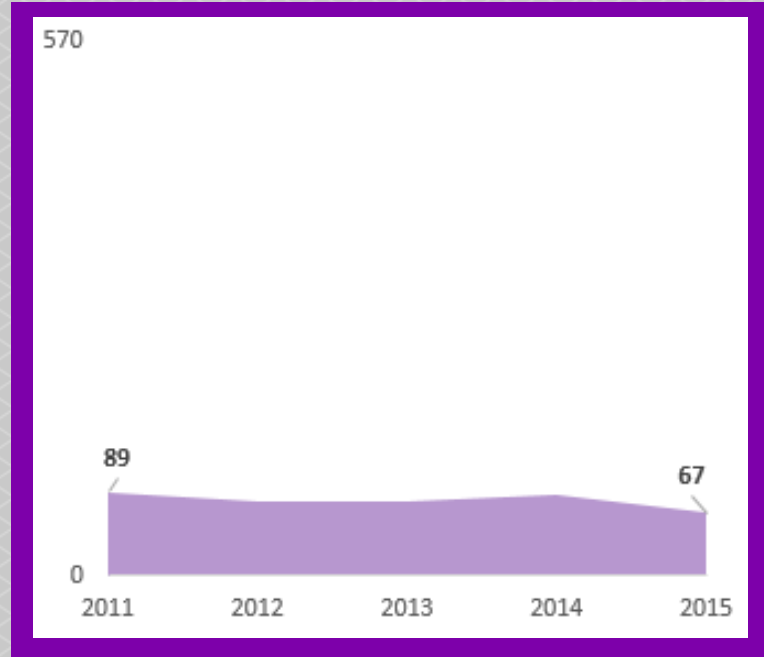
Cook County Rates

Rates for *arrest, active probation caseloads, detention admissions* and *corrections admissions* for new sentences have generally **declined** over time.

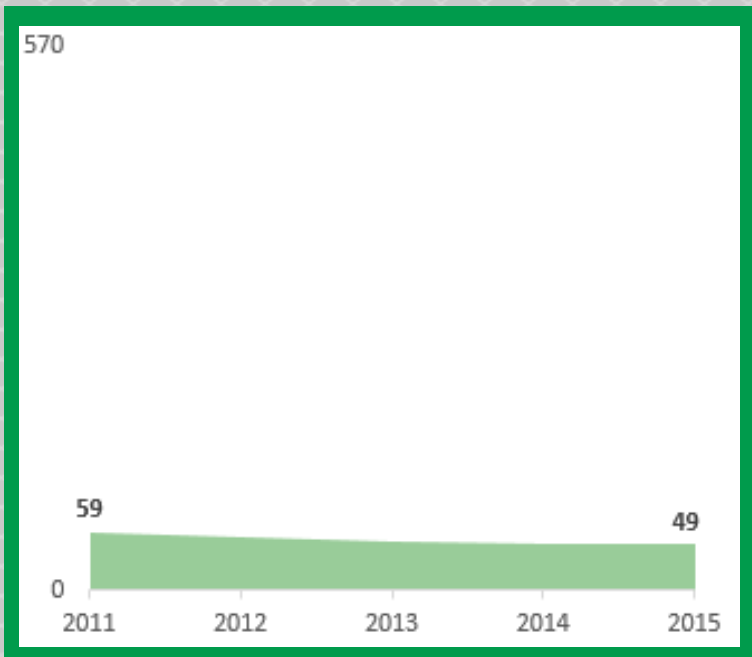
Arrest Rate



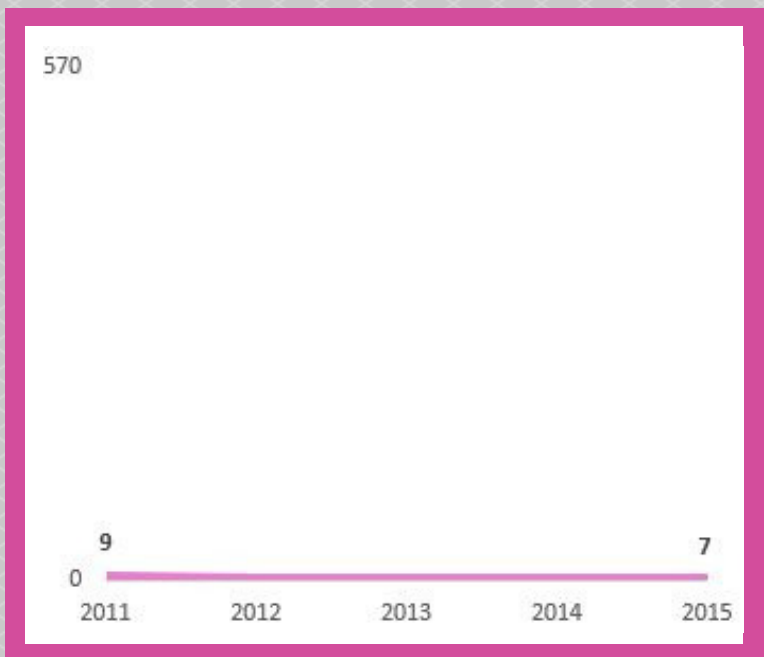
Detention Admission Rate



Active Station Adjustment and Probation Caseload Rate



Corrections Admission for New Sentence Rate



Data source: ICJIA analysis of CHRI data and IDJJ data; CPRD analysis of JMIS data; AOIC data.

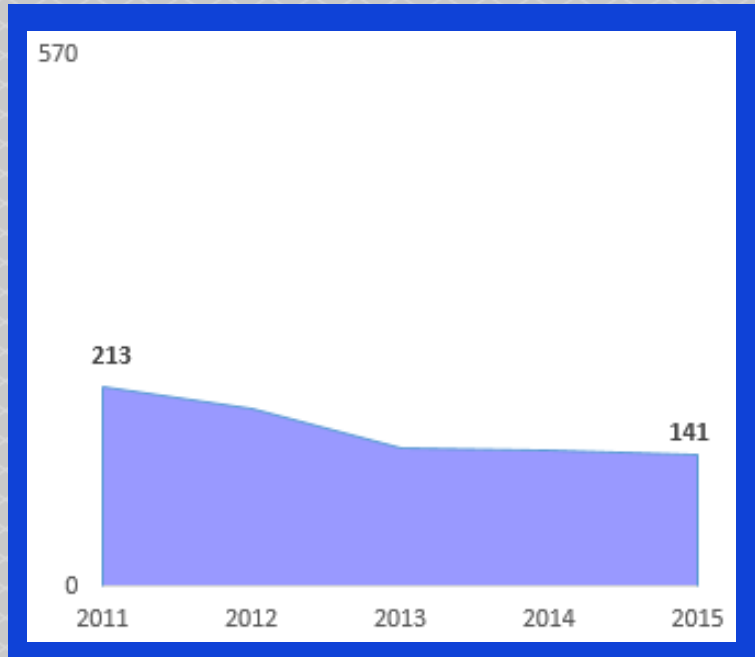
Note: Rates are per 10,000 Illinois youth ages 10- to 17-years old; corrections' rates are per 10,000 Illinois youth ages 13- to 21-years

Northern Region Rates

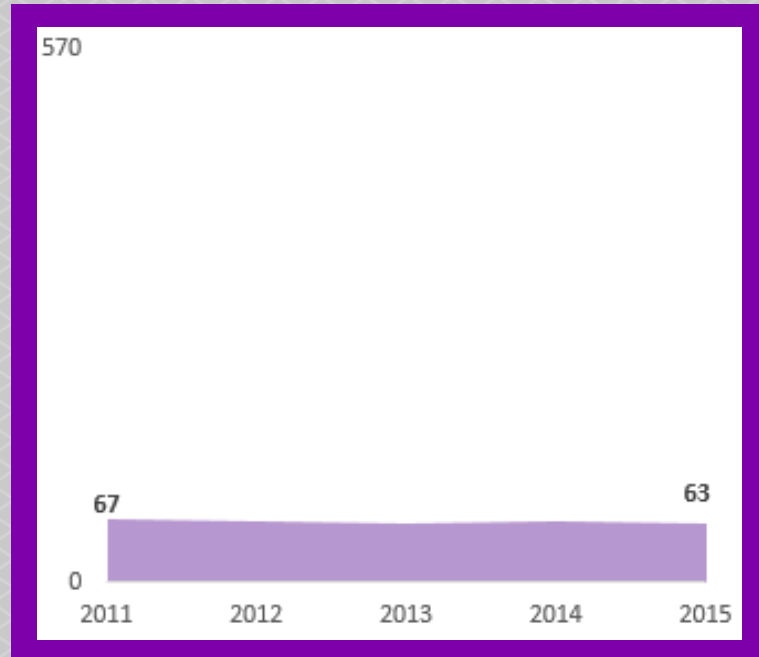
(Minus Cook County)

Rates for *arrest, active probation caseloads, and corrections admissions for new sentences* have generally **declined** over time; *detention rates* have remained **fairly stable**.

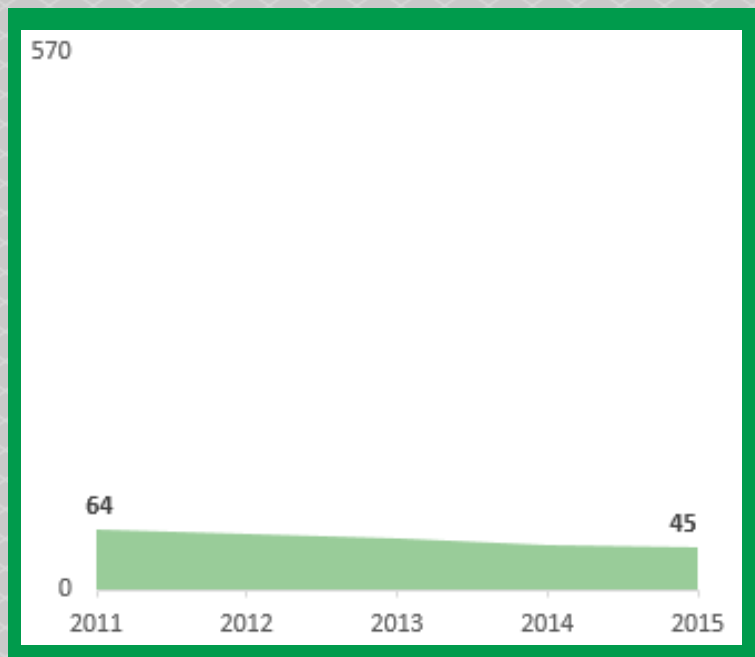
Arrest Rate



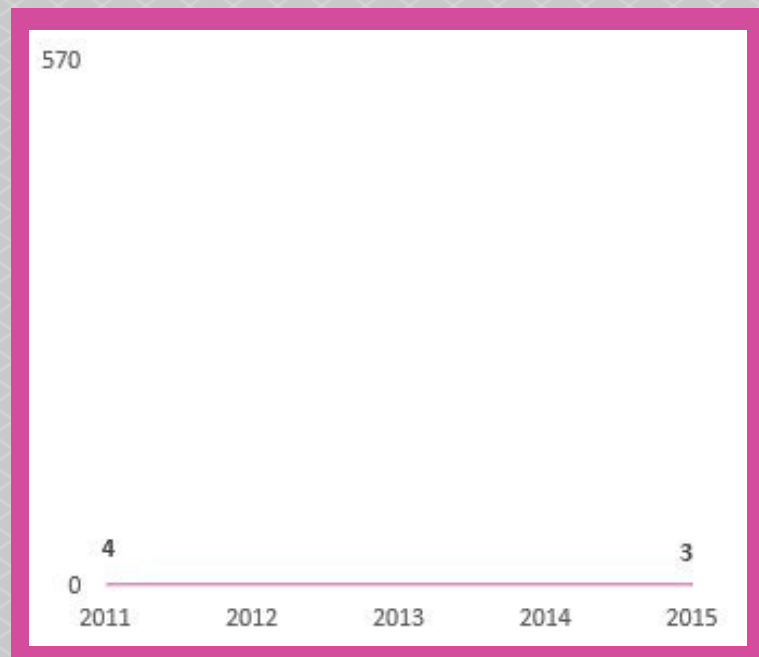
Detention Admission Rate



Active Station Adjustment and Probation Caseload Rate



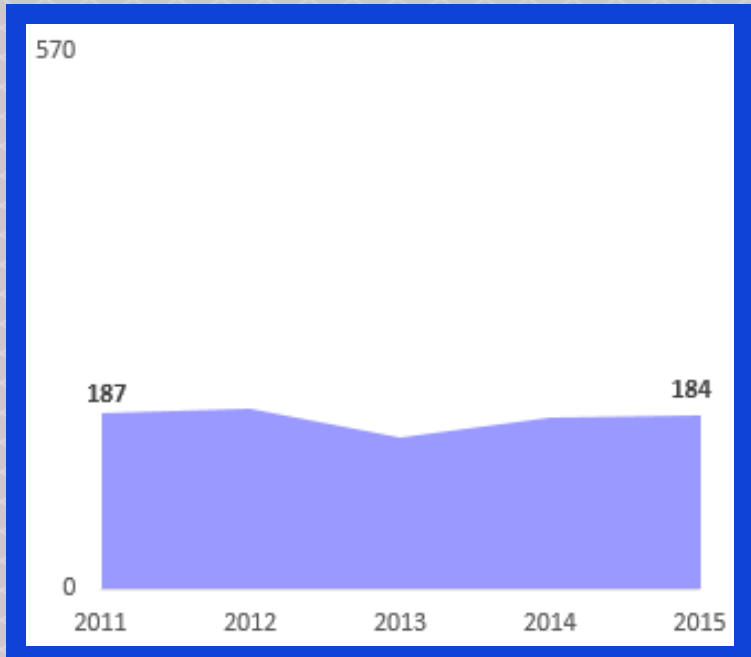
Corrections Admission for New Sentence Rate



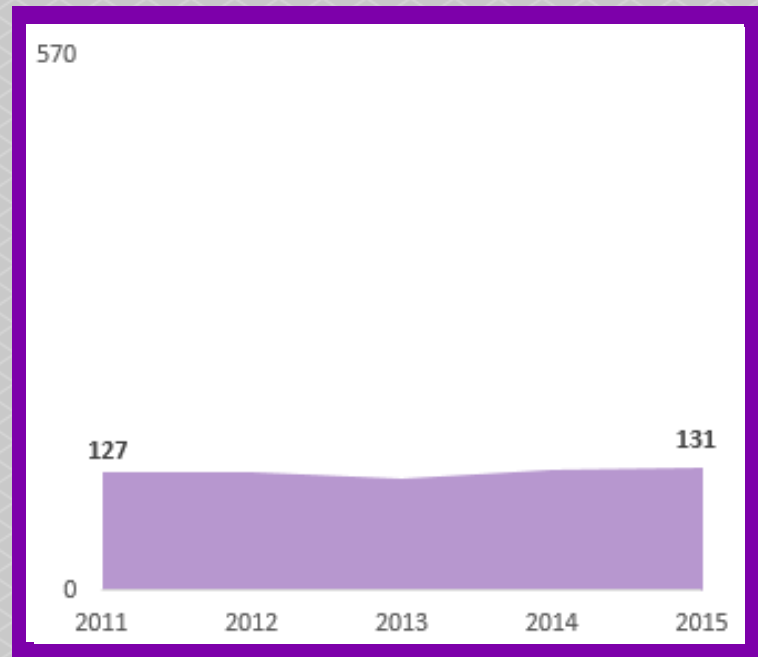
Central Region Rates

Rates for *arrest, active probation caseloads, and corrections admissions for new sentences* have slightly **declined** over time; however, the *detention admission rate* has **increased**.

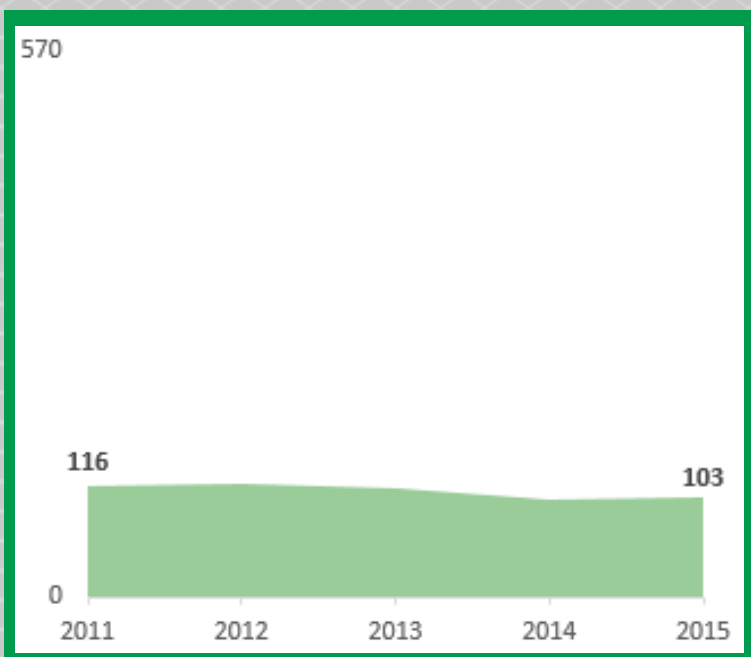
Arrest Rate



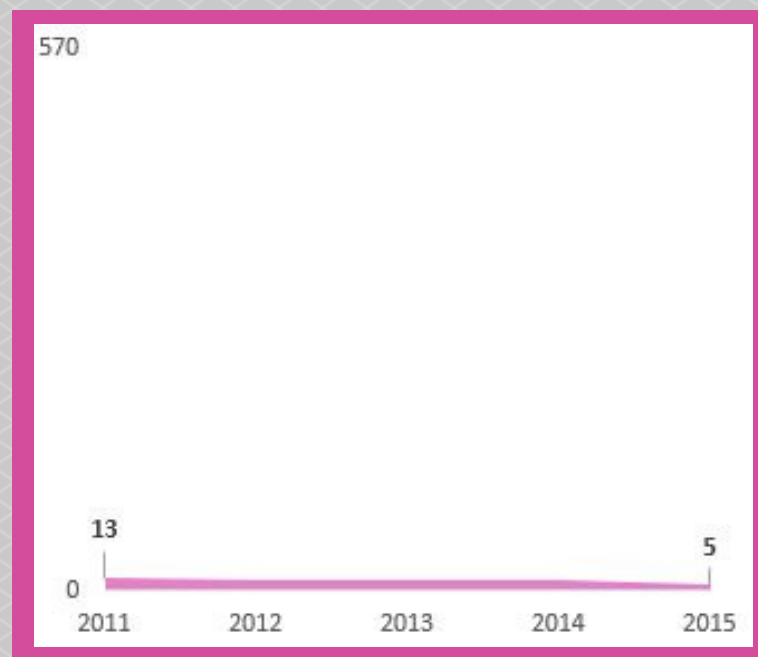
Detention Admission Rate



Active Station Adjustment and Probation Caseload Rate



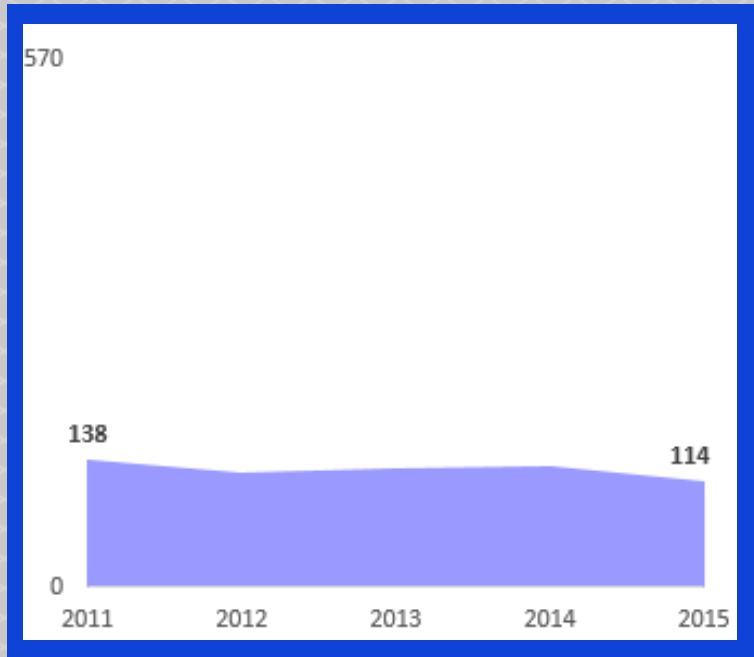
Corrections Admission for New Sentence Rate



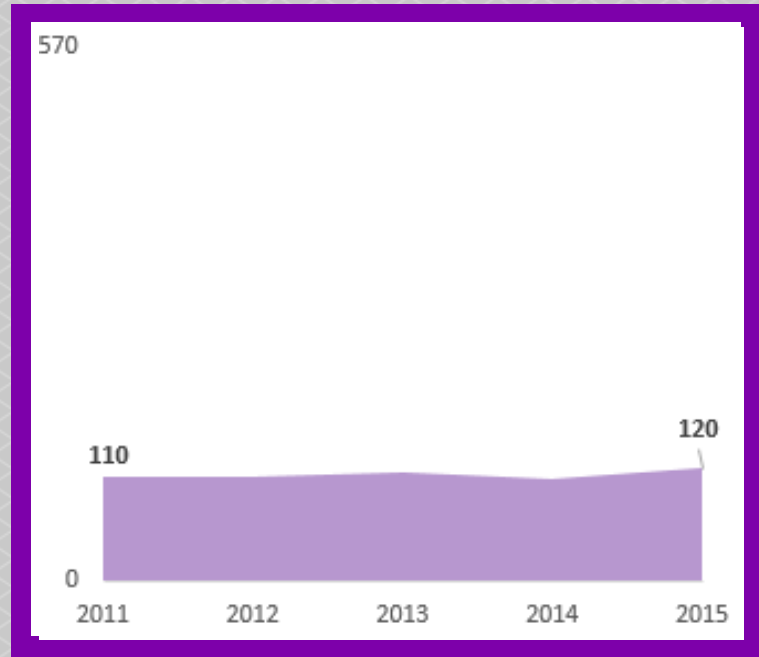
Southern Region Rates

Rates for *arrest*, *active probation caseloads*, and *corrections admissions* for new sentences have generally **declined** over time; however, the *detention admission* rate has **increased**.

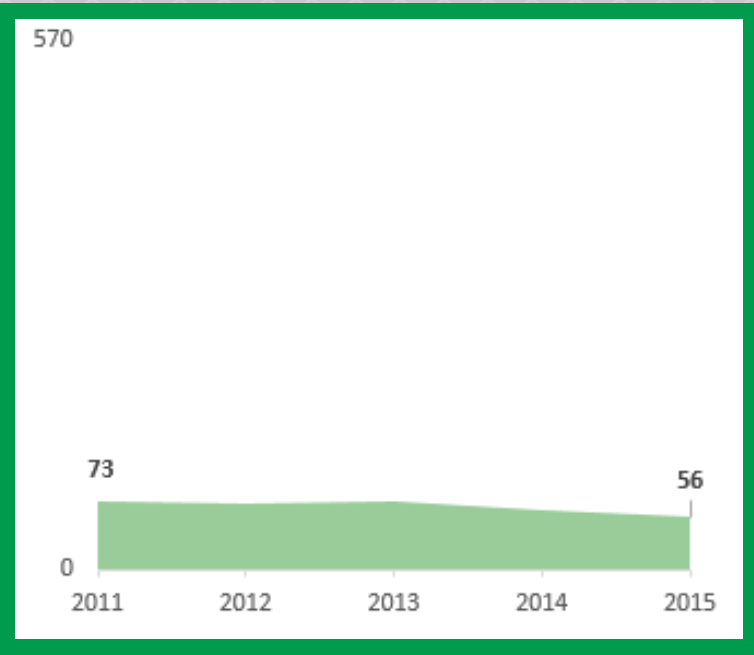
Arrest Rate



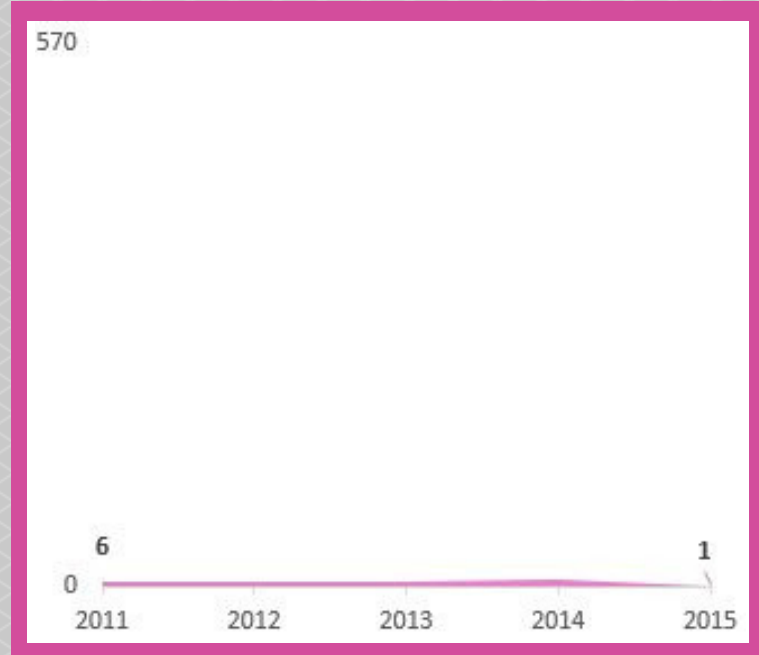
Detention Admission Rate



Active Station Adjustment and Probation Caseload Rate



Corrections Admission for New Sentence Rate



Data source: ICJIA analysis of CHRI data and IDJJ data; CPRD analysis of JMIS data; AOIC data.

Note: Rates are per 10,000 Illinois youth ages 10- to 17-years old; corrections' rates are per 10,000 Illinois youth ages 13- to 21-years old.

Juvenile Population 2015

Cook County: Total Youth Population= 515,077

Cook County accounted for **38% of the total youth population**, ages 10 to 17, in Illinois in 2015. In 2015, Cook County youth accounted for **61% of juvenile arrests**, **31% of detention admissions**, and **44% of new sentence admissions to corrections**.

Northern Region (minus Cook): Total Youth Population= 491,849

The Northern region (minus Cook) accounted for **36% of the total youth population**, ages 10 to 17, in Illinois in 2015. In 2015, Northern region (minus Cook) youth accounted for **22% of juvenile arrests**, **28% of detention admissions**, and **17% of new sentence admissions to corrections**.

Central Region: Total Youth Population= 222,544

The Central region accounted for **16% of the total youth population**, ages 10 to 17, in Illinois in 2015. In 2015, Central region youth accounted for **13% of juvenile arrests**, **26% of detention admissions**, and **31% of new sentence admissions to corrections**.

Southern Region: Total Youth Population= 127,997

The Southern region accounted for **9% of the total youth population**, ages 10 to 17, in Illinois in 2015. In 2015, Southern region youth accounted for **5% of juvenile arrests**, **14% of detention admissions**, and **7% of new sentence admissions to corrections**.

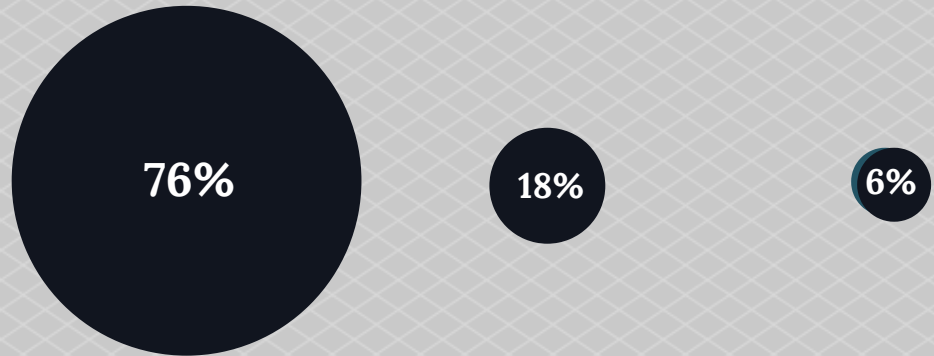
Juvenile Justice & Race: 2015

White

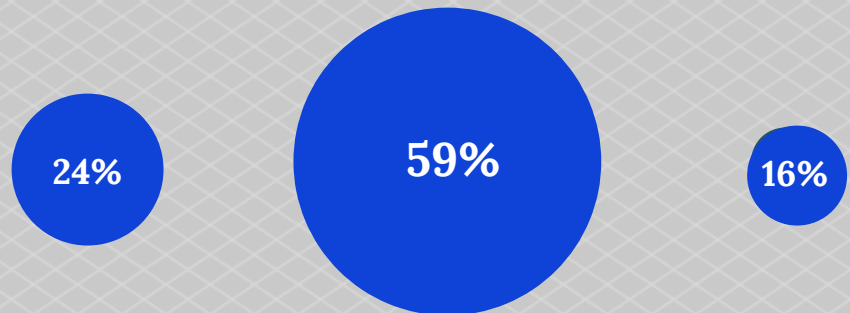
Black

Other

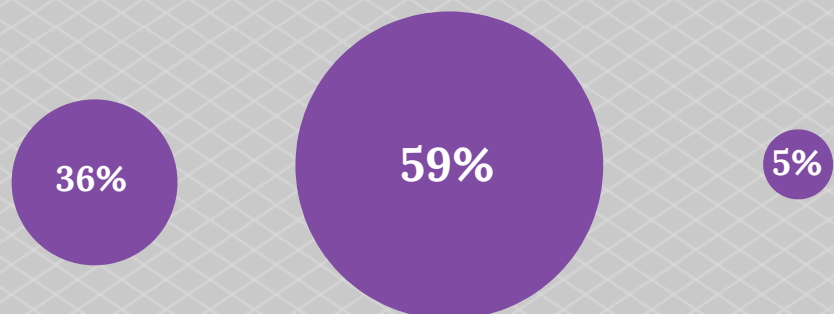
Total Illinois youth
population ages 10-17
(N=1,357,467)



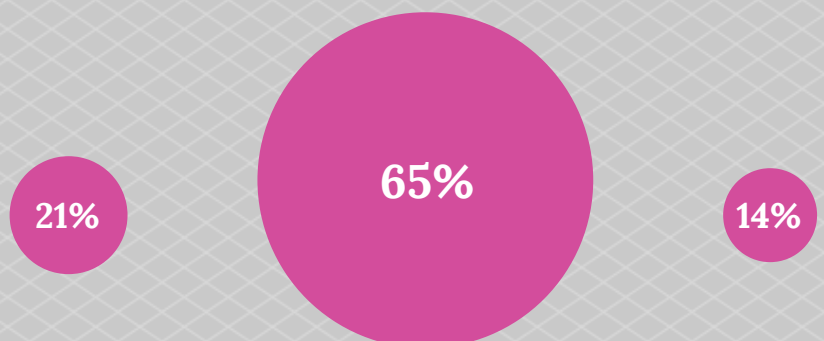
Juvenile arrests
(N=32,022)



Juvenile detention
admissions
(N=11,122)



Juvenile corrections
admissions for new
sentences
(N=508)



Juvenile Justice & Gender: 2015

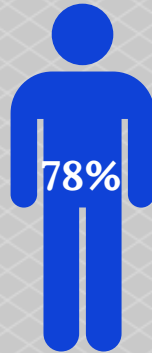
Male

Female

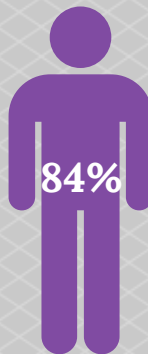
Total Illinois youth
population ages 10-17
(N=1,357,467)



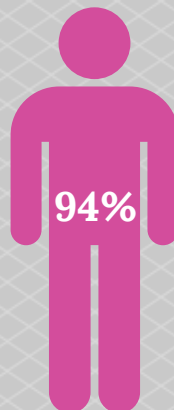
Juvenile arrests
(N=32,022)



Juvenile detention
admissions
(N=11,122)



Juvenile corrections
admissions for new
sentences
(N=508)



Juvenile Justice & Age: 2015

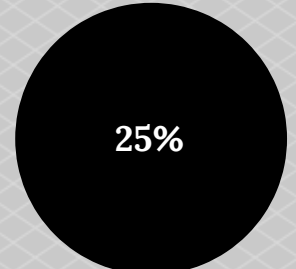
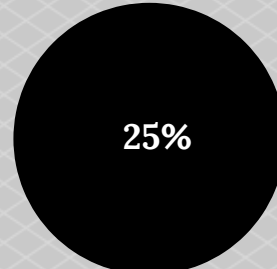
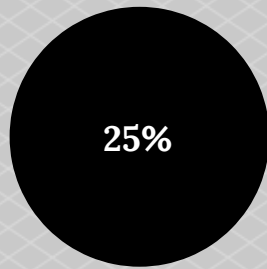
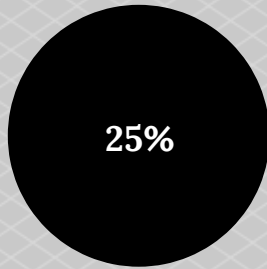
Ages 10-11

Ages 12-13

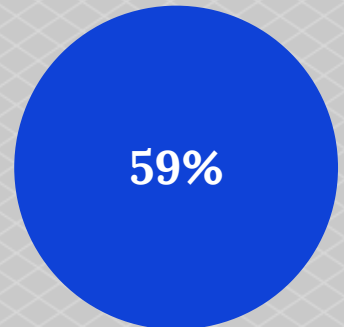
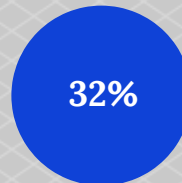
Ages 14-15

Ages 16-17

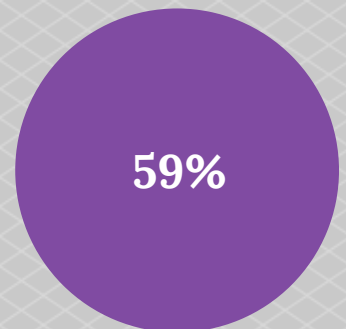
Total Illinois youth population ages 10-17 (N=1,357,467)



Juvenile arrests (N=32,022)

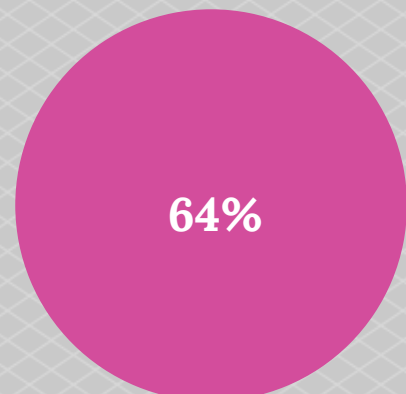


Juvenile detention admissions (N=11,122)



Note: 5% were aged 18, 19, and 20 years old

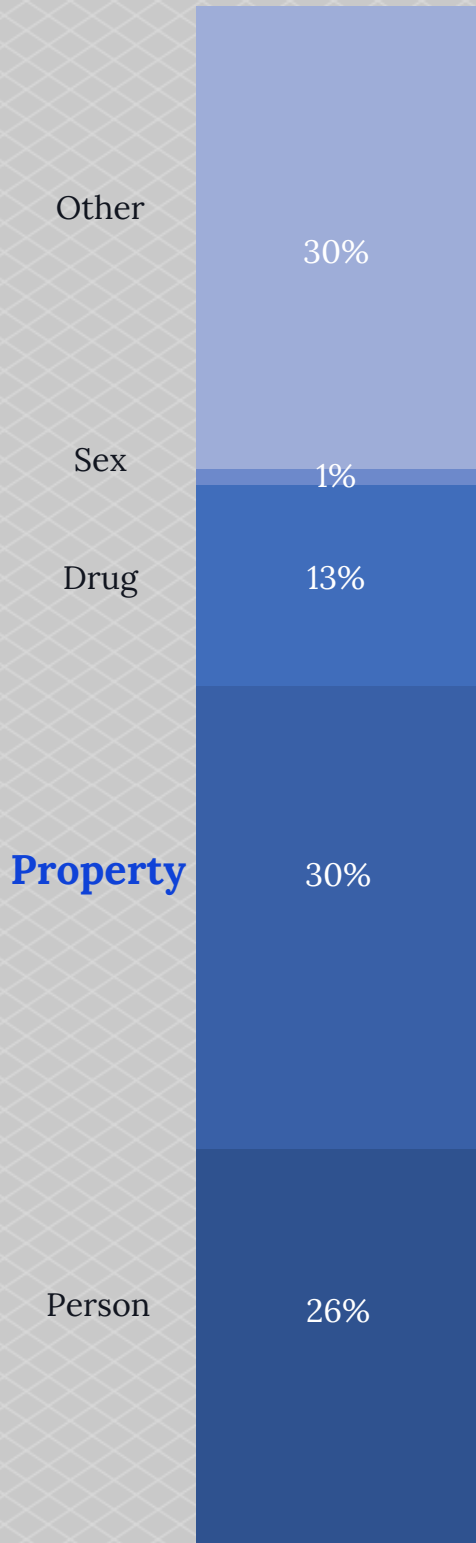
Juvenile corrections admissions for new sentences (N=508)



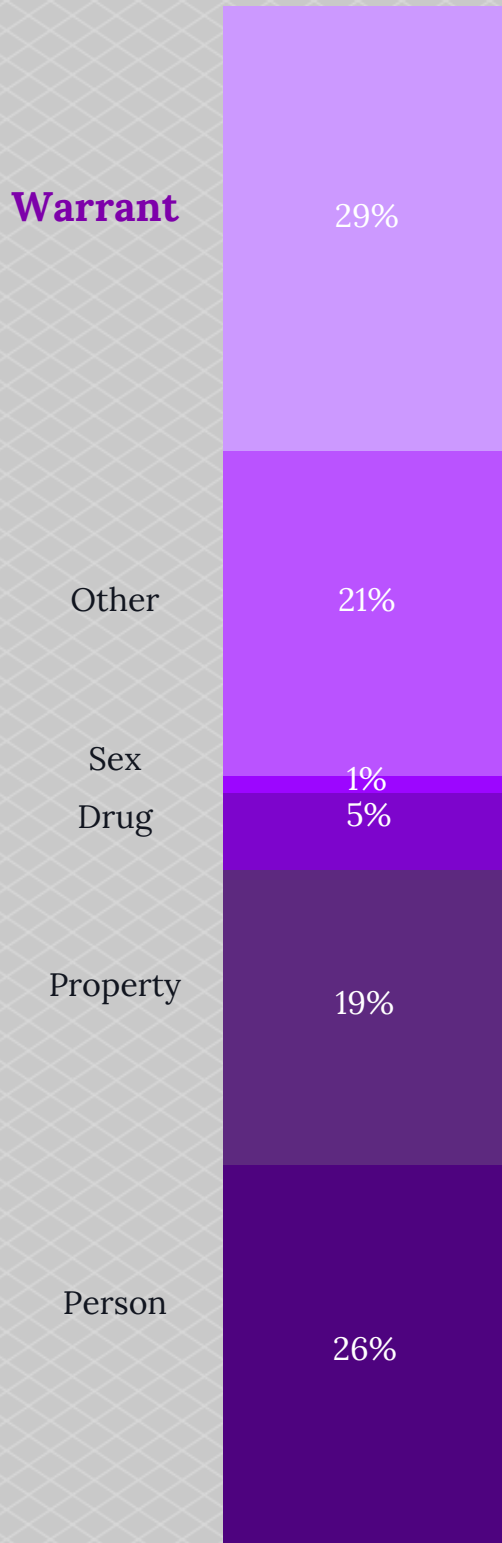
Note: 14% were aged 18 to 20 years old; youth under the age of 13 cannot be admitted to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Juvenile Justice & Offense Type: 2015

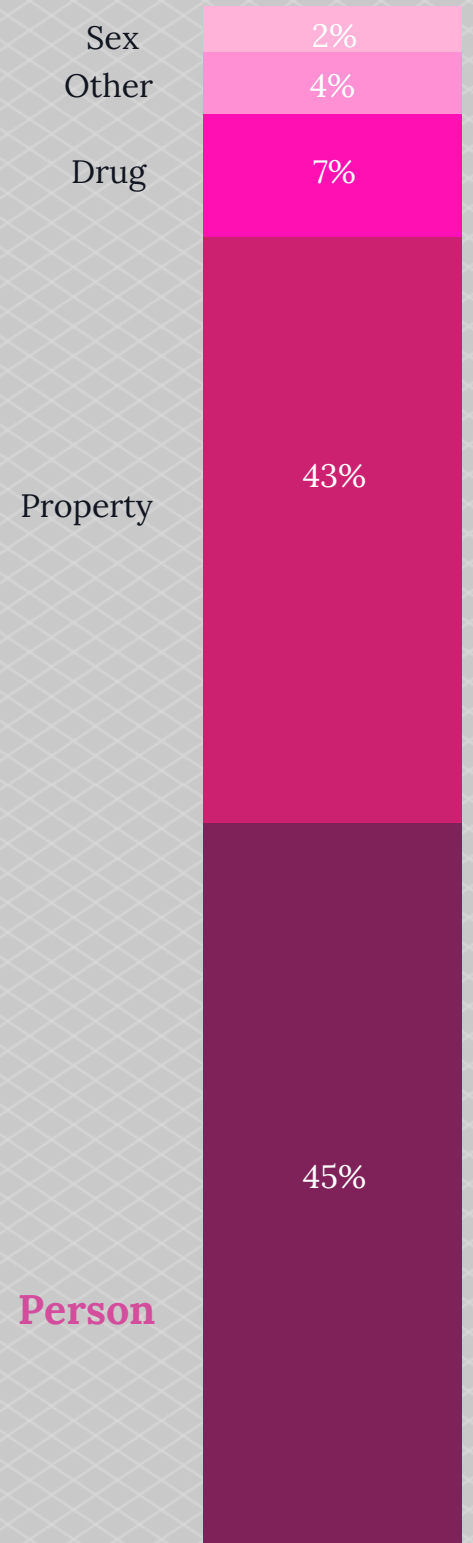
Juvenile arrests
(N=32,022)



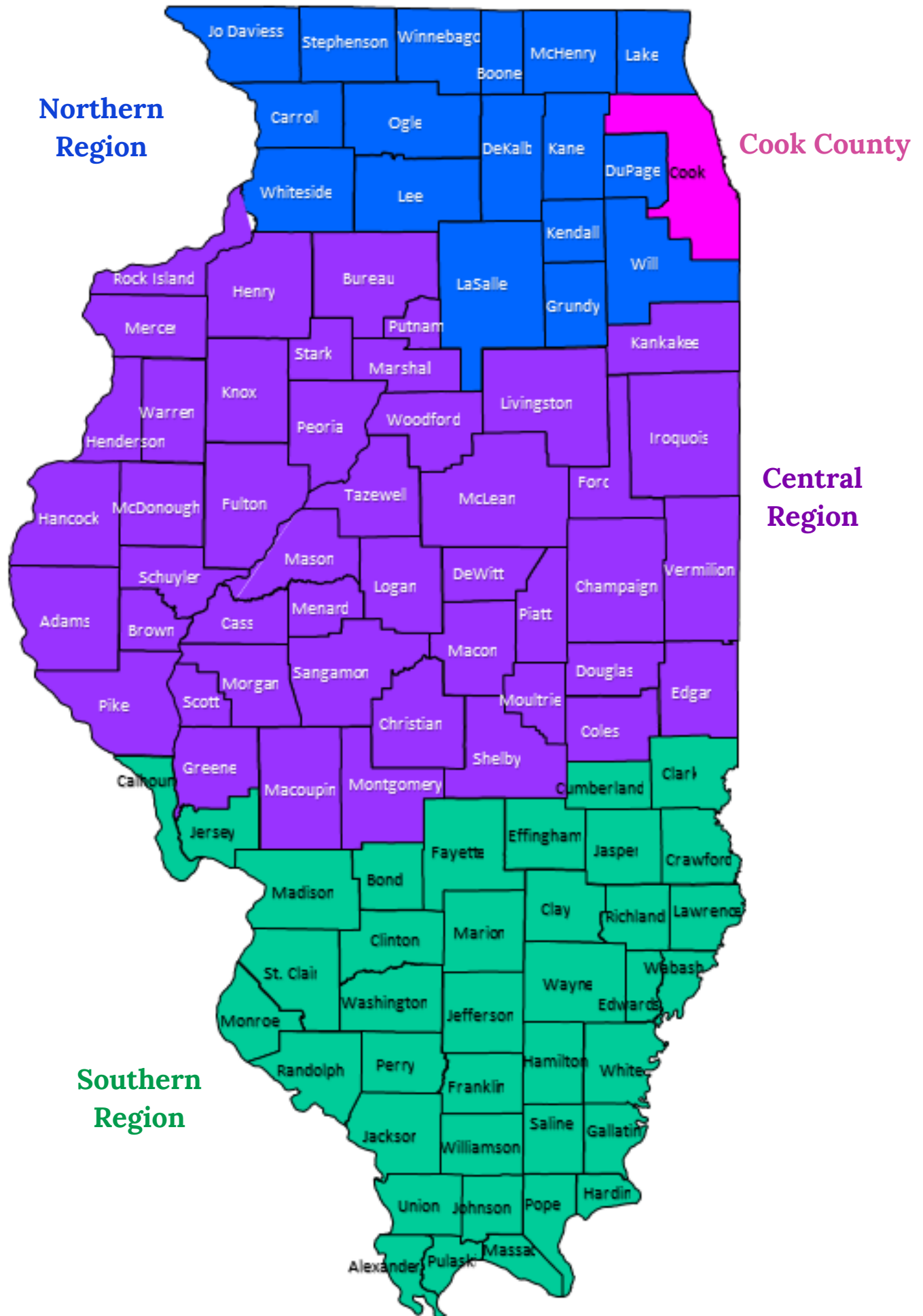
Juvenile detention admissions
(N=11,122)



Juvenile corrections admissions for new sentences
(N=508)



Illinois Regional Map



Appendix A.

Data Definitions and Terms

An **arrest** is the taking of a youth into police custody upon observation of a violation of a criminal law or municipal ordinance. A youth may also be taken into police custody when authorized by a warrant issued by a judge alleging the violation of a criminal law or escape from any commitment (705 ILCS 405/5-401).

This report relies on counts of **arrest records** submitted to the Illinois State Police's Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) system for the purpose of creating a cumulative record of a person's criminal justice system involvement. Police agencies are required to submit any arrest for an offense which would be a felony if committed by an adult and may submit Class A and B misdemeanors for youth aged 10 to 17. State law [20 ILCS 2630/5] does not require arresting agencies to submit misdemeanor juvenile arrest records to the CHRI system.

Detention may occur after a youth is arrested and processed by police, using a screening assessment to determine whether the youth should be held in a facility until his/her court date. Detention can also be used post-adjudication and post-disposition through judicial order, limited to 30 days (705 ILCS 405/5-720).

A **detention admission** is counted for any entry into any Illinois youth detention center during 2015 calendar year. A youth may have more than one admissions in a given year, counted as separate admissions.

Informal supervision (station adjustment) is a lower level of court supervision in which a youth is supervised in the community between 6 and 12 months in lieu of a state's attorney's filing. If a youth does not commit additional law violations and complies with supervisory conditions, he/she is released without further action (720 ILCS 405/5-305).

Probation is one sentence a judge can impose upon a youth if the judge finds that allegations against the youth are supported by the evidence and the youth is adjudicated delinquent (found guilty) and is the most common disposition. This requires formal supervision in the community, typically 1 to 2 years depending on charge, but can go up to 5 years or until the youth reaches the age of 21 (whichever comes first). and formalized conditions of juvenile probation, explicitly laid out in 705 ILCS 405/5-715(2).

County probation departments are required to report the highest level of supervision for a youth that is actively supervised in the community at the end of each month. **Probation** is the highest level of supervision for a juvenile; **informal supervision (station adjustment)** cases are those which have some legal involvement but does not rise to the level of formal legal processing.

Appendix A.

Data Definitions and Terms

A **new sentence admission to corrections** occurs during a sentencing hearing after a youth has been adjudicated delinquent (found guilty) in court. Based on the best interests of the youth and the public, the court determines whether the youth should be made a ward of the court, giving the court authority to make decisions on behalf of the youth--one of which may be a commitment to an Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice facility (IDJJ) [705 ILCS 405/5-705(1)].

A **new sentence admission to corrections** is counted as entry into any Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) facility during the 2015 calendar year for a new adjudication in which the youth is sentenced to an IDJJ correctional facility. A youth may have more than one entry in a given year, counted as a separate admission if he/she commits a new offense after release, and is sentenced to serve time in an IDJJ facility within the same year. Youth adjudicated in criminal court, but held in an IDJJ facility are not counted in this report.

Data Notes

Rate: For arrests, detention admissions, and probation caseloads, rates are calculated per 10,000 Illinois youth aged 10 to 17. For corrections admissions, the rate is calculated per 10,000 Illinois youth aged 13 to 21.

For all area graphs in the report (statewide and regional snapshots), the Y-axis (horizontal axis) are set at a rate of 570. This allows for standardization of rates within and across regions for more accurate comparison.

Detention admission data is generated by CPRD in their annual report, which is used to inform the detention admission data for this report. Offense coding groups for detention data are categorized by the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Codes. For more information about coding categories and other detention data,, see: <http://ijjc.illinois.gov/publications/2015-juvenile-detention-data-report>.

ICJIA researchers categorized arrest into crime categories based on Illinois statutes. The coding categories used in this report include: Person/Violent, Property, Drug, Sex, and Other. Flate files received from the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice have variables that categorize offense types.

For a list of the Illinois statutes and offense descriptions included in arrest and DJJ offense categories for new sentence admission to corrections, see the links provided on the ICJIA website for this report.

Appendix A.

Data Definitions and Terms

Data Sources

CHRI: Criminal history record information (CHRI) are records of arrest and subsequent criminal justice disposition submitted to the state central repository (CHRI System), which is managed by the State Police. ICJIA has access to these records for research purposes, in partnership with ISP. CHRI data includes basic description of the person arrested, arrest charges, and final dispositions. For more information on arrest reporting see <http://www.isp.state.il.us/docs/jjguide.pdf>.

The Juvenile Court Act of 1987 (705 ILCS 405) defined juveniles involved in the juvenile justice system as youth 16-years old and younger. In 2010, Illinois law changed this definition to include 17-year-old misdemeanants to the juvenile system (Public Act 095-1031), and in 2014, expanded that definition to include all 17-year old youth, regardless of offense class (Public Act 096-1199).

JMIS: All data were pulled from the Illinois Juvenile Management Information System (JMIS) by the Center for Prevention Research and Development (CPRD) at the University of Illinois. JMIS is a web-based management system that allows Illinois juvenile detention centers to submit case-level data. Data used to run analyses for this report are taken from the Illinois Juvenile Detention Data Report 2015, as ICJIA does not have access to these case-level data files. For more information on the JMIS data system, see <http://ijjc.illinois.gov/publications/2015-juvenile-detention-data-report>.

Informal and Formal Probation: Statewide juvenile court activity data is collected by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). These data include information on delinquency petitions filed, cases adjudicated delinquent, and active probation caseloads. Supervision caseload information is collected at the end of each month. Investigations, programs ordered, juvenile placements, and juvenile petitions continued under supervision are summed for the entire year. Youth demographics are not collected. Aggregate court caseload numbers for each county within the 18 circuit courts are published in the AOIC's annual Statistical Summary report, available at <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/SupremeCourt/AnnReport.asp>.

IDJJ: Data regarding youth admitted, serving a sentence, and released from the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) is maintained on Youth 360, a statewide network that connects the state's nine juvenile correctional facilities to a centralized Springfield database. ICJIA receives case-level files for each state fiscal year from IDJJ for research purposes. These flat files contain youth demographics, holding charge information, and admission and release dates.



Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

300 W. Adams Street, Suite 200

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Phone: 312.793.8550

Fax: 312.793.8422

TDD: 312.793.4170

www.icjia.state.il.us