

Highlights of Illinois Crime and Risk Factor Trends, 2003-2012

Illinois demographics

- The state's population increased to 12,800,000, a 3 percent increase since 2000. The age groups of those between 15-34 and persons ages 60 and older had the biggest gains.
- Illinois racial breakdowns in 2010 were: 71 percent white, 14 percent black or African American, and 16 percent Hispanic origin (of any race).
- In 2010, there were 3,000,000 youth under age 18 residing in Illinois. This age group is projected to increase 4 percent by the year 2020.
- In 2010, there were 2,300,000 Illinois residents ages 60 and older. This age group is projected to increase 120 percent by the year 2020.

Risk factors for increases in crime

Poverty

- Approximately 13 percent of Illinois citizens lived below the poverty level in 2011.

Grandparents-headed households

- Over 200,000 children in Illinois were living in grandparent-headed households in 2010. Thirty-eight percent of grandparents were responsible for their grandchildren in 2011, with that responsibility having lasted 5 years or more for 14 percent of those grandparents.
- The median income for grandparent-headed households with no parent in the home was \$27,000.

Child abuse and neglect

- Verified (indicated) child abuse and neglect cases have declined 7 percent since 2008.
- Verified (indicated) child sexual abuse cases have declined 27 percent since 2001.

Unemployment

- The February 2013 unemployment rate was 10.5 percent, compared to 8.5 percent nationally.
- The unemployment rate for those ages 16-19 increased 14 percent over the last decade, up to 26 percent unemployed.
- The unemployment rate in 2011 for Post 9/11 veterans was 9.5 percent and 12 percent for Gulf War-era veterans.

Elder abuse

- Elder abuse cases, which include physical abuse, neglect and financial exploitation, have increased 61 percent since 2002. The majority of cases are perpetrated by family members and other caregivers. The number of Illinois citizens who will reach age 60 or older is expected to increase

Substance abuse

Adults

- In SFY12, almost 55,000 clients were treated for substance abuse by state-funded treatment providers. Forty-one percent were referred from the criminal justice system.
- Of the clients treated for substance abuse, 65 percent were male, 58 percent were white, and 84 percent were unemployed/not in the labor force.
- The predominant substance abuse problem of those treated by state-funded treatment providers in SFY2012 was alcohol (33%), followed by marijuana (23%) and heroin (21%).

Juveniles

- Among public school students surveyed in 2012, alcohol was the drug of choice compared to all other substances, with two-thirds of 12th graders reporting use in the past year. Misuse of prescription drugs and use of other illicit substances, other than marijuana was limited (8 percent of 12th graders indicating use in the past year). Girls were more likely to report use of alcohol, marijuana and cigarettes in the past year than boys. The predominant use of the three “gateway” substances (alcohol, marijuana and cigarettes) among school-aged youth has remained unchanged since the 1990’s.
- In SFY12, 5,000 clients (7 percent) of state-funded substance abuse treatment providers were under age 18.

Mental health issues

Adults

- In SFY 2011, over 141,000 clients were provided mental health services by state-funded community-based services providers. Another 9,500 clients received mental health services in state hospitals. It is estimated by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) that approximately 3 percent of Illinois residents live with serious mental illness.
- Of the clients receiving mental health services in 2011, 52 percent were women, 66 percent were white, and 81 percent were unemployed/not in the labor force.
- According to the Illinois Division of Mental health, veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are at increased risk of mental health symptoms, due to traumatic brain injury and combat related stressors. Many will begin alcohol-related problems to cope with post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety.

Juveniles

- In SFY11, close to 35,000 youth (ages 17 and younger) received community-based mental health services. This group accounted for almost one-quarter of all clients served that year. The number of youth receiving these mental health services decreased by 6 percent from SFY2009.

Illinois crime trends

- The violent crime rate (which includes murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated battery) in Illinois has been higher than the national rate over the past decade. Both rates have declined since 2000, with Illinois experiencing a 37 percent drop, and the nation experiencing a 24 percent reduction during the same time period. Illinois' violent crime rate remains 10 percent higher than the U.S. as a whole.
- The property crime rate (which includes burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson) in Illinois has been lower than the national rate over the past decade. Both rates have declined since 2000, with Illinois experiencing a 26 percent decline, and the nation experiencing a 20 percent reduction during the same time period. Illinois' property crime rate was 8 percent lower than the U.S. as a whole in 2011.

Adult arrest trends

- Over 427,000 adults (ages 17 and older) were arrested in Illinois in 2012, which is about the same number as in 2000. The number of adult arrests peaked in 2007, at 538,000, approximately 20 percent more than in 2012.
- In 2012, 78 percent of those arrested were men, compared to 80 percent in 2000. The number of men arrested decline 6 percent from 2000 to 2012. On the other hand, the number of women arrested increased 11 percent during that same time period.
- The number of adult African Americans arrested each year continue to be highly disproportionate to their percentage representation in the general population – in 2012, 44 percent of all adults arrested were African American, compared to their 15 percent representation in the general population. However, that disproportionate representation has declined slightly (by 3 percent) since 2000.
- The most common arrest charges for adults in 2012 were: driving with revoked/suspended license (61,216 charges; 9 percent of all charges); DUI (60,249; 8 percent); local ordinances (44,385; 6 percent); cannabis (43,883; 6 percent); and domestic violence (36,830; 5 percent).
- Arrests for violent crimes declined 11 percent over the past decade, while arrests for property crimes declined 16 percent.

- Drug arrests declined 16 percent overall from 2000 to 2012, although the decrease was not consistent by drug type. Arrests for cannabis increased 21 percent over that time period, while arrests for controlled substances declined by 42 percent.

Juvenile arrest trends

- Over 30,000 juveniles (ages 10-16) were arrested in Illinois in 2012, a decline of 18 percent from 2000. The number of juveniles arrested peaked in 2006, at 49,800, approximately 37 percent more than in 2012.
- Following the same pattern as for adult arrests, 78 percent of juveniles arrested in 2012 were male, compared to 80 percent in 2000. The number of boys arrested declined 20 percent between 2000 and 2012. The number of girls arrested also declined over those years, but at a lower rate - 10 percent fewer girls were arrested in 2010 compared to 2000.
- In 2012, 61 percent of juveniles arrested were African American, while 38 percent were white, approximately the same percentages as in 2000.
- The most common charges for juvenile arrests in 2012 were: battery/aggravated battery (4,548 charges, or 11 percent of all charges); local ordinance (3,038, or 8 percent); cannabis (2,961, or 7 percent); retail theft (2,690, or 6 percent); and burglary (2,368, or 6 percent).
- Juveniles were arrested for using a firearm in an armed robbery at about the same rate as adults (in approximately 50 percent of all armed robberies). The percent of juveniles arrested for vehicular hijacking using a firearm was actually higher for juveniles than adults in 2012 (57 percent vs. 46 percent, respectively).

Criminal justice system capacity and caseload trends

Law enforcement personnel trends

- The number of sworn law enforcement officers declined 13 percent since a peak in 2007, down to 46,000 full time officers in 2011.

County jail capacity

- Nineteen of the 99 county jails were operating over rated capacity in 2012, and another 39 were operating near or at capacity.

Juvenile detention facilities trends

- In 2012, the 15 juvenile detention facilities were operating under capacity, due to a 21 percent decline in admissions since 2000, and a statewide average daily population decline of 32 percent since 2003.

Criminal court case filing trends

- In 2011, approximately 80,000 felony cases, 262,000 misdemeanor cases, 49,000 DUI cases, and 2,000,000 traffic cases were filed statewide.
- The number of felony cases filed decreased 13 percent from 2000 to 2011, while the number of misdemeanor cases filed declined 30 percent, the number of DUI cases filed decreased 16 percent and the number of traffic cases filed decreased 23 percent.

Adult probation sentences imposed trends

- In 2011, close to 26,000 felony probation sentences were imposed statewide, which is within 3 percent of the number imposed in 2003. However, more felony probation sentences than prison sentences were imposed in 2011, reversing the pattern from 2003.
- Felony probation caseloads have declined 8 percent statewide from 2003 to 2011. There were 49,000 individuals on active felony probation in 2011.

Adult prison sentences imposed trends

- In 2011, 23,000 prison sentences were imposed statewide. This is a 34 percent decline since 2003.

Juvenile delinquency petition trends

- In 2011, there were 24,000 delinquency petitions filed statewide, a 15 percent increase from 2003.

Juvenile delinquency adjudication trends

- Approximately 5,000 juvenile delinquency adjudications were recorded statewide in 2011, which is a 25 percent decline since 2003.

Juvenile informal probation/supervision caseload trends

- In 2011, there were approximately 1,800 youth on informal juvenile probation, a decline of 9 percent since 2003. At the same time, there were close to 2,900 youth continued on supervision, a 20 percent increase since 2003.

Juvenile formal probation caseload trends

- In 2011, there were 8,300 youth on formal probation statewide, which is a 25 percent decline since 2003.

Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) admissions trends

- In SFY2012, there were 30,700 admissions to IDOC, which is a 22 percent decrease since a peak of 39,500 admissions in 2006. Of these admissions in SFY2012, 22,000

were for new prison sentences (direct from court), and 8,600 were for technical violations of mandatory supervised release (parole). The number of new court admissions decreased 23 percent since a peak in SFY2007, and the number of technical violation admissions decreased 21 percent since a peak in SFY2010.

- In SFY2012, 7,500 inmates were admitted for drug offenses, 6,800 for crimes against persons, 5,900 for property crimes, and 1,200 for sex offenses. The number of inmates admitted for drug offenses decreased 33 percent since SFY2003, those admitted for person crimes decreased 17 percent, those admitted for property crimes increased 5 percent, and those admitted for sex offenses decreased 7 percent.

IDOC year-end population trends

- At the end of SFY12, there were 48,300 inmates being held in IDOC prison facilities, a slight decrease from a peak of 48,900 at the end of SFY2011. This is a 6 percent increase from the 45,500 inmates being held at the end of SFY2001, the previous peak year-end population figure.

IDOC exit trends

- In SFY2012, there were 31,400 inmates released from IDOC, which is a 9 percent decrease in releases since SFY2003. This total was comprised of 22,300 exits from serving a sentence (direct from court admission), and 9,100 exits of technical violators. This was an 18 percent decrease in the number of exits from new court admissions since SFY2003, and a 27 percent increase in the number of technical violator releases compared to SFY2003.
- Of the technical violators released in SFY2012, 6,000 (60 percent) were discharged from the institution without re-entering onto parole. This was a 46 percent increase in this type of exit from IDOC since SFY2003.

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) admissions trends

- In SFY2012, 1,900 youth were admitted to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ), which is a 36 percent decrease since SFY2003.
- In SFY2012, 366 youth were admitted to IDJJ for court evaluations, which is a 36 percent decrease from SFY2003. The number of youth admitted as delinquents decreased 32 percent during that same time period.

IDJJ year-end population trends

- At the end of SFY2012, there were 980 youth being held in IDJJ facilities. This is a 37 percent reduction since SFY2003.

IDJJ exit trends

- In SFY2012, almost 2,100 youth exited from IDJJ, which is a 30 percent decrease since SFY2003.

- In SFY2012 almost 800 youth exited from IDJJ from a previous technical violation, while 1,100 exited from a new sentence. This is a 12 percent decrease in technical violator exits since SFY2003, and a 40 percent decrease in new sentence exits since SFY2003.