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Research and Program Evaluation in Illinois: The Extent and Nature of Drug and Violent Crime in Illinois' Counties



A Profile of the Tazewell County Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

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FOREWORD

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is a state agency created in 1983 to promote community safety by providing public policymakers, criminal justice professionals and others with information, tools and technology needed to make effective decisions that improve the quality of criminal justice in Illinois. The Authority provides an objective system-wide forum for identifying critical problems in criminal justice, developing coordinated and cost-effective strategies, and implementing and evaluating solutions to those problems. The specific powers and duties of the Authority are delineated in the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act (Illinois Compiled Statutes, Ch. 20, Sec. 393/7). Two of the Authority's many responsibilities are serving as a clearinghouse of information and research on criminal justice and undertaking research studies to improve the administration of criminal justice.

Since 1989, the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit has received funds under the federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 to document the extent and nature of drug and violent crime in Illinois and the criminal justice system's response to these offenses. As a result of these efforts, the Authority has amassed a large amount of data measuring the extent and nature of drug and violent crime in Illinois and the impact these crimes have had on the criminal justice system. To put this information into the hands of Illinois' criminal justice policymakers in a useful summary format, the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit has developed profiles of the criminal justice system for each county in Illinois. In 1994, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority produced a series of reports detailing criminal justice system activity levels for each of Illinois' 102 counties. As a result of the positive response by local criminal justice officials, in 1996 the Authority updated and expanded the scope of these reports to reflect current criminal and juvenile justice activity. It is hoped that these 2004 updated reports will be as valuable, if not more, than the original versions. In addition to providing policymakers with an overview of activities across the components of the justice system in their county (law enforcement, courts and corrections), the profiles also provide perspective by including trends experienced in counties with similar population sizes.

While the data presented in this report are by no means inclusive of all indicators, they do provide a general overview of crime and the criminal justice system's response. In addition, these data are readily available and consistently defined through existing statewide data collection mechanisms.

The information presented in this profile has been provided to the Authority by a number of state agencies, specifically: the Illinois State Police, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Illinois Department of Corrections, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The support and cooperation of these agencies and their staffs have helped make this report an informative and timely source of information on the activities of the criminal justice system in Illinois.



The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's
Web-based clearinghouse of criminal justice data available at:

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

I. Introduction

Tazewell County, located in central Illinois, covers an area of 649 square miles and had a 2003 population of 128,056, according to estimates by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census. Using these figures, Tazewell County was the 29th largest county in Illinois geographically, but 15th largest in terms of population. Combining these two measures, Tazewell County had the 14th highest population density per square mile among Illinois' 102 counties.

As with the previous reports, information specific to Tazewell County is presented in comparison with similar counties. To provide more useful comparisons, counties have been separated into four types; 1) Cook County, 2) Collar counties, 3) urban counties (outside of Cook and the Collar counties), and 4) rural counties. Because of its size, Cook County is compared to the rest of the state. The Collar counties are the five that border Cook County (DuPage, Lake, Kane, McHenry, and Will). Urban and rural counties are defined by whether or not they lay within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (Appendix 1, page 24). Based on these definitions, there are 36 counties in Illinois that are part of a MSA (Cook, Collar, and urban counties) and 66 counties that are not part of a MSA (in other words, rural).

Recent changes to the standard definitions of MSAs have affected the classification of several Illinois counties. The United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas according to published standards that are applied to Census Bureau data. The general concept of a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area is that of a core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Currently defined metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas are based on the application of 2000 standards to 2000 decennial census data and were announced by OMB on June 6, 2003.

Standard definitions of metropolitan areas have changed over time. The term "metropolitan area" (MA) was adopted in 1990 and referred collectively to metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSAs), and primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSAs). More recently, the term "core based statistical area" (CBSA) became effective in 2000 and refers collectively to metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas.

The 2000 standards require that each CBSA must contain at least one urban area of 10,000 or more population. Each metropolitan statistical area must have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more inhabitants. Each micropolitan statistical area must have at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population.

Under the standards, the county (or counties) in which at least 50 percent of the population resides within urban areas of 10,000 or more population, or that contain at least 5,000 people residing within a single urban area of 10,000 or more population, is identified as a "central county" (counties). Additional "outlying counties" are included in the CBSA if they meet specified requirements regarding residents commuting to or from the central counties.

Changes in the definitions of these statistical areas since the 1950 census have consisted chiefly of: 1) the recognition of new areas as they reached the minimum required city or urbanized area population, and 2) the addition of counties to existing areas due to new decennial census data. In some instances, formerly separate areas have been merged, components of an area have been transferred from one area to another, or components have been dropped from an area. The large majority of changes have taken place on the basis of decennial census data.

Because of these historical changes in geographic definitions, users must be cautious in comparing data for these statistical areas from different dates. For more information, contact the Population Distribution Branch at (301) 763-2419 (U. S. Census Bureau).

Based on these characteristics, Tazewell County is one of Illinois' 30 urban counties. Throughout this report, the criminal justice activity trends experienced in Tazewell County will be compared to those trends experienced in the other urban counties. This comparison will be realized through the calculation of rates for the activities being analyzed, with the number per 100,000 population the format for all the rates.

II. Law Enforcement Activities in Tazewell County

One of the most commonly used indicators of the level of crime in a particular jurisdiction is the number of *Index offenses* reported to the police. There are eight separate offenses which constitute the Crime Index, including murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault (violent Index offenses), burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson (property Index offenses). Although these eight offenses do not account for all crimes reported to the police, they are considered to be the most serious, frequent, pervasive, and consistently defined by different law enforcement agencies.

An indicator of the workload that law enforcement agencies place on other components of the justice system is the number of arrests made by police, including those for violent and property Index offenses and drug offenses. Unlike offenses, which are what police must respond to, arrests represent those offenders who may eventually be processed through other components of the justice system, including the courts, county jails, and state and local correctional programs.

In addition to local law enforcement agencies, the Multi-County Narcotics Enforcement Group (MCNEG) also serves Tazewell County. Throughout most of the period analyzed, there were 21 Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEGs) and task forces operating in Illinois. A county is considered to be served by a MEG or task force if at least one law enforcement agency within that county participated in the MEG or task force either by providing personnel or financial resources.

To learn more about the drug enforcement activities of the Multi-County Narcotics Enforcement Group and Illinois ' other MEGs and task forces, profiles of each of the units were developed by the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit and are available through the Authority's Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse or can be downloaded from the Authority's Website at WWW.icjia.state.il.us.

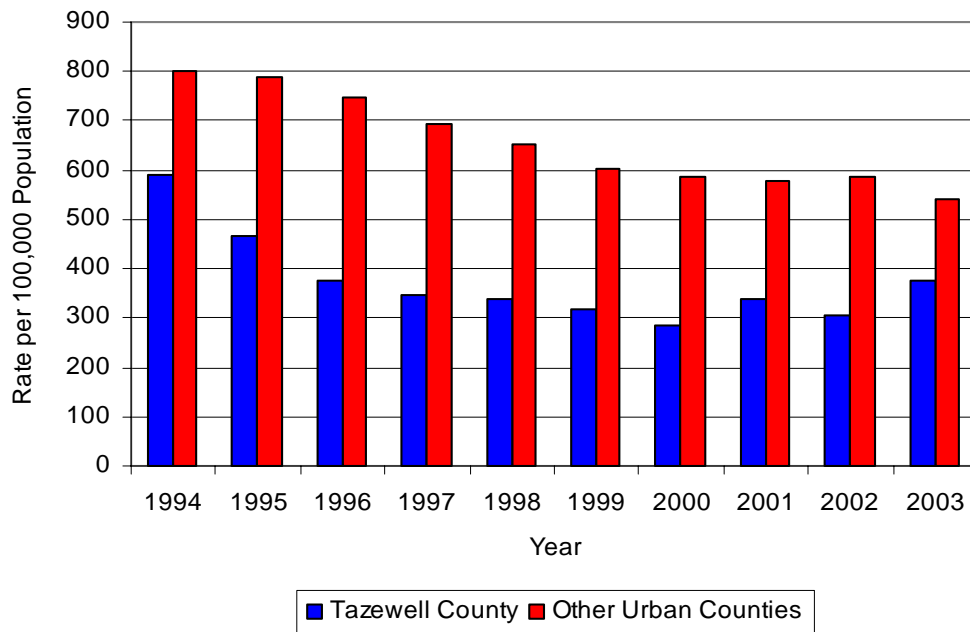
Violent Index Offenses Reported to the Police in Tazewell County

The number of violent Index offenses reported to the police in Tazewell County decreased 35 percent between 1994 and 2003, from 741 to 482. As in previous years and in most other counties, aggravated assault offenses accounted for the majority (78 percent) of violent Index offenses reported in Tazewell County in 2003.

Similarly, between 1994 and 2003, the violent Index offense rate in Tazewell County also decreased, decreasing 36 percent, from 590 to 376 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 1). During that same period, the violent Index offense rate in the other urban counties decreased 33 percent, from 803 to 541 offenses per 100,000 populations. The 2003 violent Index offense rate in Tazewell County was 30 percent lower than the rate in the other urban counties.

Figure 1

Total Violent Index Offense Rates in Tazewell and Other Urban Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

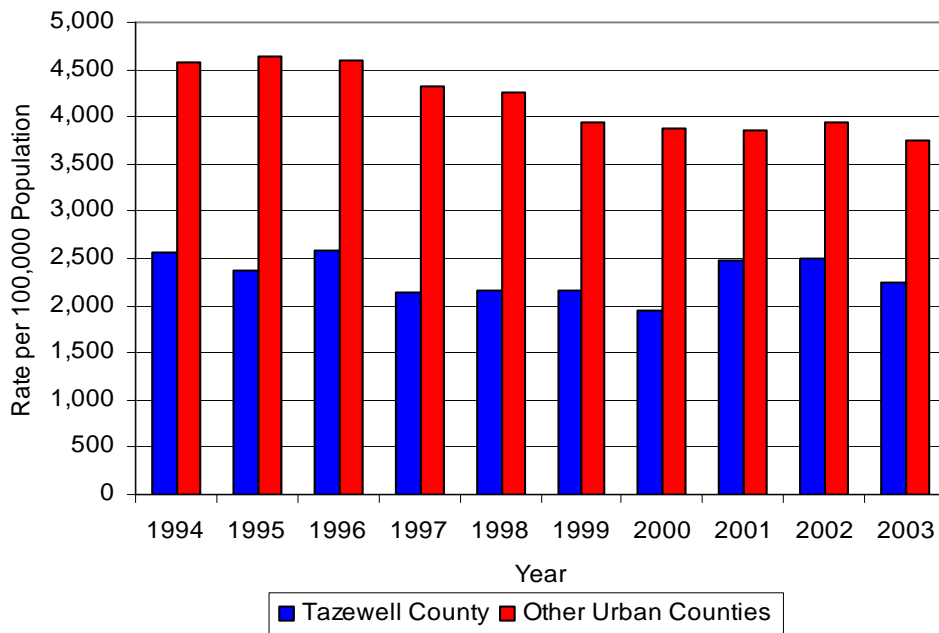
Property Index Offenses Reported to the Police in Tazewell County

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of property Index offenses reported to the police in Tazewell County decreased 11 percent, from 3,224 to 2,865. Thefts accounted for 74 percent of all property Index offenses reported in Tazewell County during 2003.

Between 1994 and 2003, the property Index offense rate in Tazewell County decreased 13 percent, from 2,567 to 2,237 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 2). In the other urban counties, the property Index offense rate decreased 18 percent, from 4,587 to 3,748 offenses per 100,000 population. The 2003 property Index offense rate in Tazewell County was 35 percent lower than the rate in the other urban counties.

Figure 2

Total Property Index Offense Rates in Tazewell and Other Urban Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

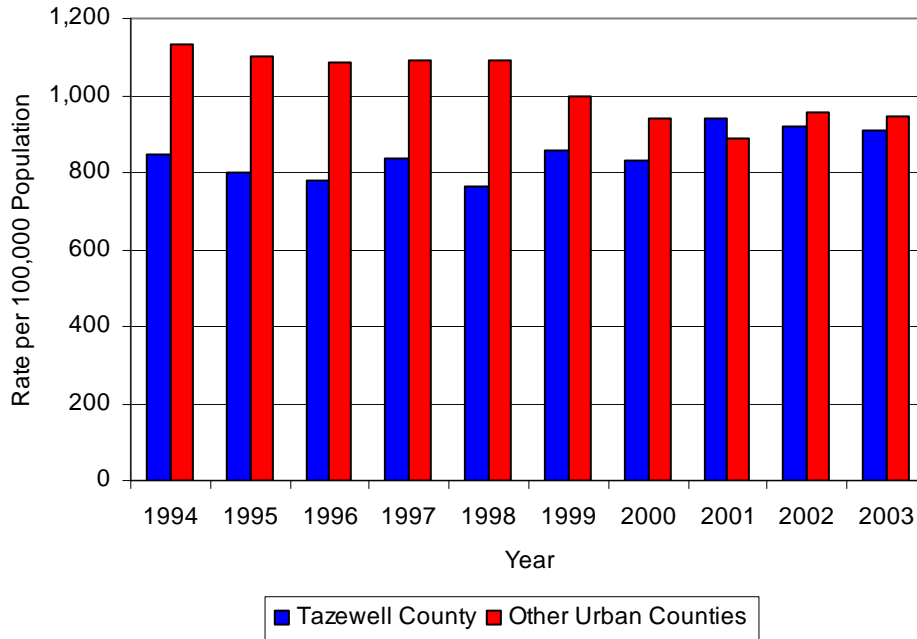
Index Arrests by Tazewell County Law Enforcement Agencies

Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for total Index offenses by law enforcement agencies in Tazewell County increased 9 percent, from 1,065 to 1,164. The majority of Index arrests were for property Index offenses. Of the 1,164 Index arrests made in Tazewell County during 2003, 28 percent were for violent Index crimes and 72 percent were for property Index crimes. Arrests for theft and aggravated assault accounted for the majority of property and violent Index arrests in Tazewell County during 2003. Of all violent Index arrests, 87 percent were arrests for aggravated assault, while thefts accounted for 75 percent of all property Index arrests.

Between 1994 and 2003, the Index arrest rate in Tazewell County increased 7 percent, from 848 to 909 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 3). During the same period, the Index arrest rate in the other urban counties decreased 17 percent, from 1,132 to 943 arrests per 100,000 population. In 2003, Tazewell County's Index arrest rate was 4 percent lower than the Index arrest rate in the other urban counties.

Figure 3

Index Arrest Rates in Tazewell and Other Urban Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

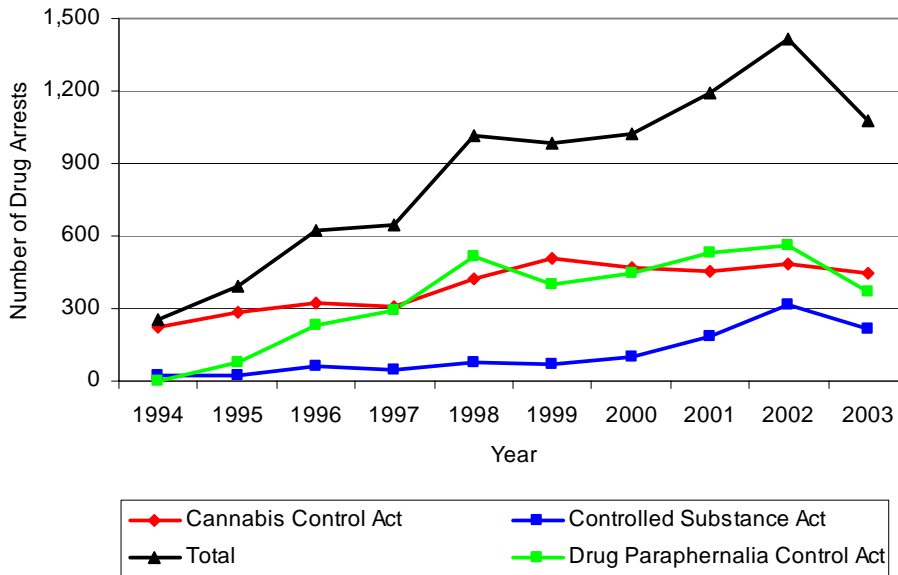
Drug Offense Arrests in Tazewell County

Between 1994 and 2003, arrests for total drug offenses (including violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act, Controlled Substances Act, Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, and the Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act) more than quadrupled, from 252 to 1,079 (Figure 4). Drug Paraphernalia Control Act violations accounted for the majority of the increase in total drug arrests between 1994 and 2003, increasing from one arrest in 1994 to 371 in 2003, or in other words, 34 percent of all drugs arrests in 2003.

Throughout the period analyzed, arrests for violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act (which prohibits the possession, sale, and cultivation of cannabis) in Tazewell County have outnumbered arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act (which prohibits the possession, sale, distribution, or manufacture of all other illegal drugs such as cocaine and opiates) (Figure 4). During this period, the number of arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act more than doubled, from 224 to 450 in 2003, while arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act increased more than seven-fold, from 25 in 1994 to 218 in 2003.

Figure 4

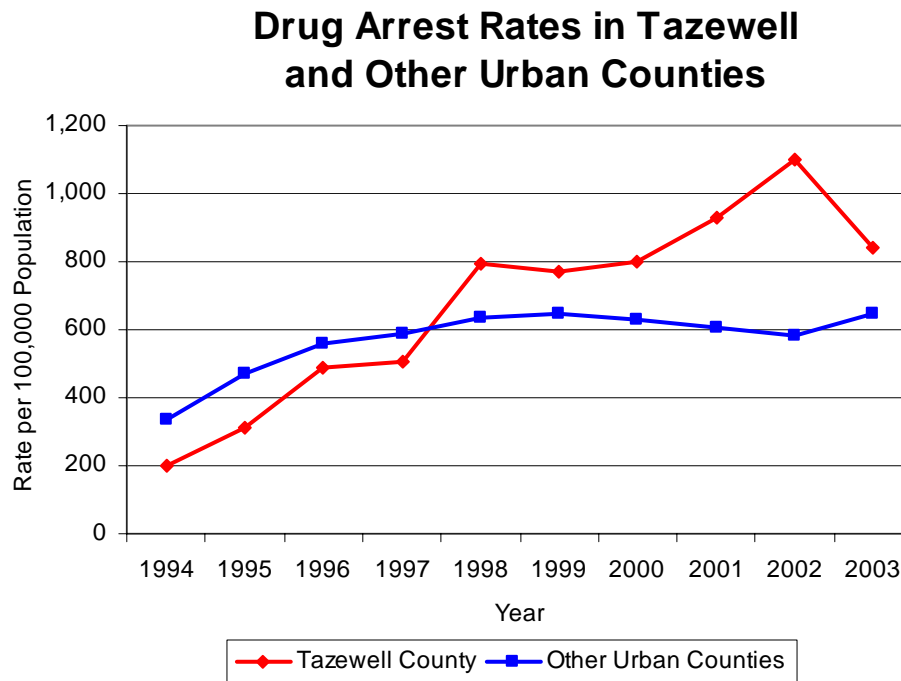
Drug Arrests in Tazewell County



Source: Illinois State Police

Between 1994 and 2003, the arrest rate for all drug law violations in Tazewell County more than quadrupled, from 201 to 843 per 100,000 population (Figure 5). The total drug arrest rate in the other urban counties increased 92 percent, from between 1994 and 2003, from 336 to 645 per 100,000 population. In 2003, the drug arrest rate in Tazewell County was 31 percent higher than the rate in the other urban counties.

Figure 5



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

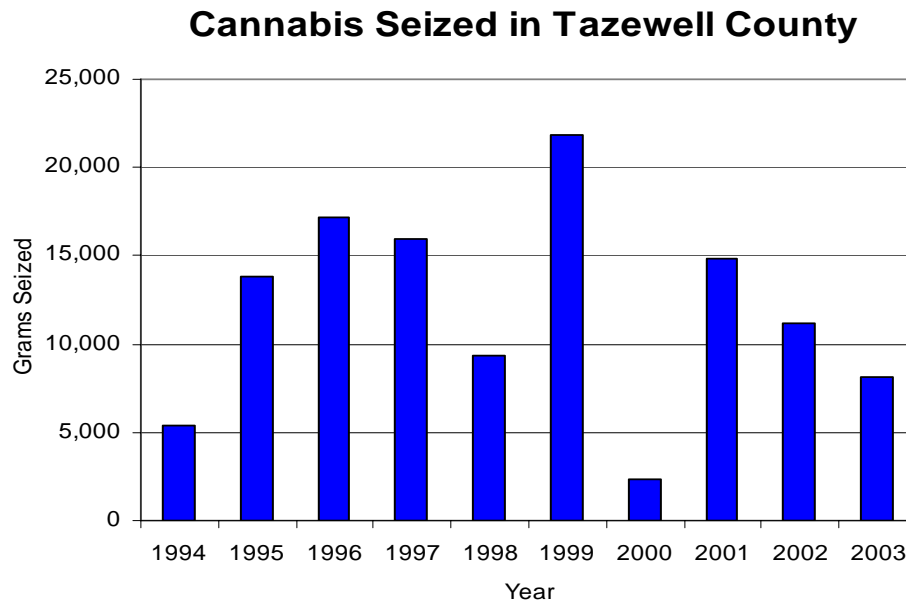
Drugs Seized in Tazewell County

Drugs seized by law enforcement agencies are another indicator of the extent and nature of the illegal drug trade in a jurisdiction. When illegal drugs are seized by law enforcement agencies in Illinois, they are submitted to a crime lab for analysis. Most agencies submit drugs to one of the Illinois State Police crime labs. These labs record the quantity of drugs submitted from each county. This section discusses the quantities of illegal drugs seized and submitted to the Illinois State Police from law enforcement agencies in Tazewell County.

Cannabis Seized in Tazewell County

Cannabis accounts for the majority of drugs seized in Tazewell County and in most Illinois jurisdictions. Between 1994 and 2003, the quantity of cannabis seized in Tazewell County increased 50 percent from 5,421 grams to 8,147 grams. Conversely, during the period analyzed, the quantity of cannabis seized in the other urban counties decreased 61 percent, from 1,306,346 grams to 506,487 grams (Figure 6).

Figure 6



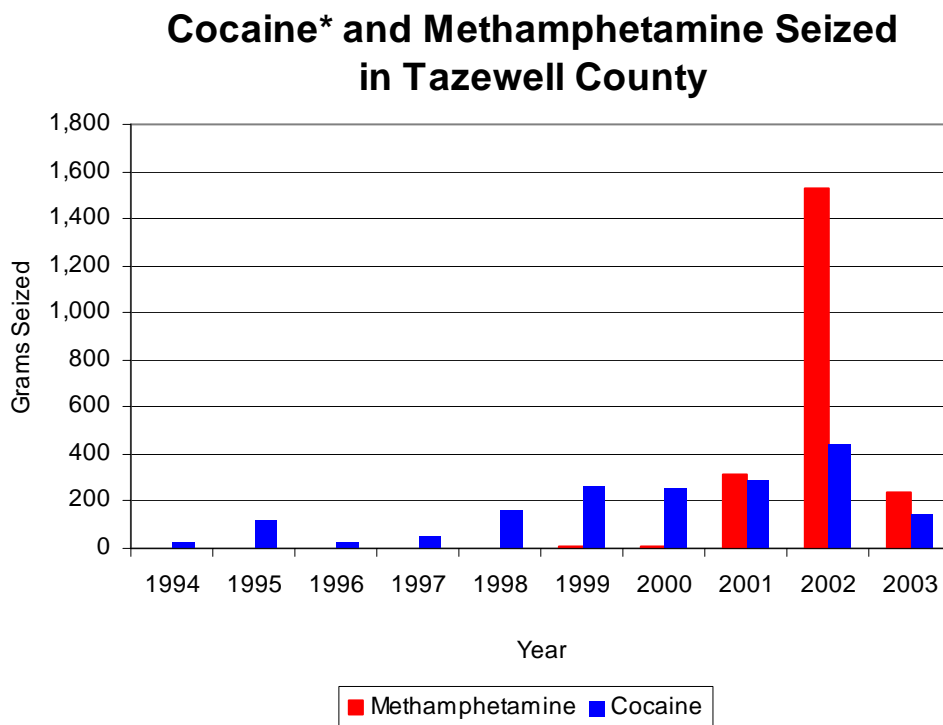
Source: Illinois State Police

Between 1994 and 2003, the cannabis seizure rate in Tazewell County increased 47 percent, from 4,317 grams per 100,000 population in 1994 to 6,362 grams in 2003. The cannabis seizure rate in the other urban counties, on the other hand, decreased 63 percent, from 53,591 grams per 100,000 population in 1994 to 19,916 grams in 2003. In 2003, Tazewell County had a cannabis seizure rate of 6,362 grams per 100,000 population, 68 percent lower than the 19,916 grams per 100,000 population in the other urban counties.

Cocaine and Methamphetamine Seized in Tazewell County

The quantity of cocaine and methamphetamine seized in Tazewell County increased between 1994 and 2003. The quantity of cocaine seized increased more than four-fold, from 25 grams in 1994 to 140 grams in 2003. The quantity of methamphetamine seized drastically increased, from three grams in 1994 to 239 grams in 2003, while reaching a period high of 1,529 grams seized in 2002. Crack cocaine accounted for a small portion of all cocaine seized between 1994 and 2003; therefore, the amount of crack cocaine seized has been combined with the total amount of cocaine seized in Tazewell County (Figure 7).

Figure 7



Source: Illinois State Police

* Cocaine includes powder and crack cocaine.

Between 1994 and 2003, the amount of cocaine seized in the other urban counties decreased 29 percent, from 59,827 grams to 42,724 grams, while the quantity of methamphetamine seized in the other urban counties increased more than 11-fold, from 617 grams to 7,847 grams. In 2003, the 1,680 grams of cocaine per 100,000 population seized in the other urban counties was more than 14 times higher than the 110 grams of cocaine per 100,000 population seized in Tazewell County, while the 309 grams of methamphetamine per 100,000 population seized in the other urban counties was 66 percent higher than the 186 grams of methamphetamine per 100,000 population seized in Tazewell County.

III. Adult and Juvenile Court Activity in Tazewell County

Although Illinois has one of the best court reporting systems in the country, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts only collects information regarding the aggregate number of court filings, dispositions, and probation caseloads. Currently, there are no statewide data available on court filings, dispositions, and convictions by offense type. However, detailed offense data are available from the Illinois Department of Corrections for those convicted felons sentenced to prison.

Trends in the number of delinquency petitions filed and adjudicated in juvenile court are also presented. Illinois statutes define delinquency offenses as those committed by someone younger than 17 years old that would be considered crimes if committed by someone 17 years of age or older.

In Illinois, county probation departments are overseen by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts' Probation Division. This section also presents data on active misdemeanor and felony adult caseloads and the number of juveniles under the supervision of the probation departments in Tazewell County and the other urban counties.

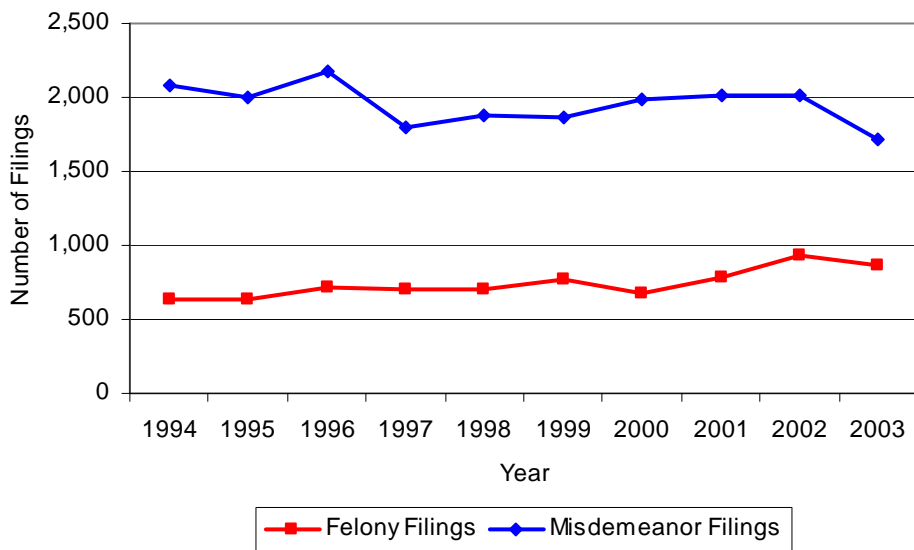
Misdemeanor and Felony Filings in Tazewell County

The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts reports data on criminal court cases in two categories: misdemeanors and felonies. After screening a case and deciding it warrants further action, the state's attorney must file formal charges in court. Misdemeanor cases are less serious than felonies and can be punished by a probation sentence of one year or less and less than one year of incarceration. Felony cases, on the other hand, are more serious and can be punished by a probation term up to four years and incarceration for more than one year. When comparing the number of filings across time and across counties, it should be noted that differences in reporting practices exist. For example, when two or more defendants are involved in a single case, some state's attorneys file a single case charging all defendants, while others file a separate case for each suspect.

In 2003, felony and misdemeanor court filings accounted for 8 percent of all filings in Tazewell County's courts (civil, traffic, family, and other). Between 1994 and 2003, the number of felony filings in Tazewell County increased 36 percent, from 638 to 869 (Figure 8). During the same period, misdemeanor filings decreased 17 percent, from 2,075 in 1994 to 1,714 in 2003. In 2003, misdemeanor filings out-numbered felony filings by more than two to one.

Figure 8

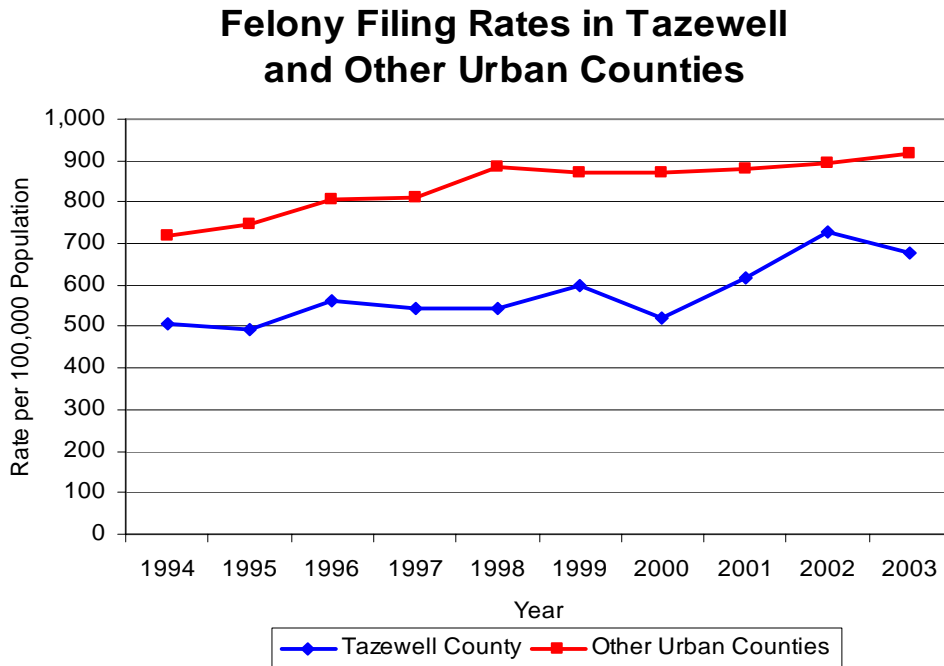
Felony and Misdemeanor Filings in Tazewell County



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Between 1994 and 2003, the felony-filing rate in Tazewell County increased 34 percent, from 508 to 679 cases per 100,000 population (Figure 9). The felony-filing rate in the other urban counties increased 28 percent during this period, from 718 to 917 cases per 100,000 population. In 2003, the felony-filing rate in Tazewell County was nearly 26 percent lower than the rate in the other urban counties.

Figure 9



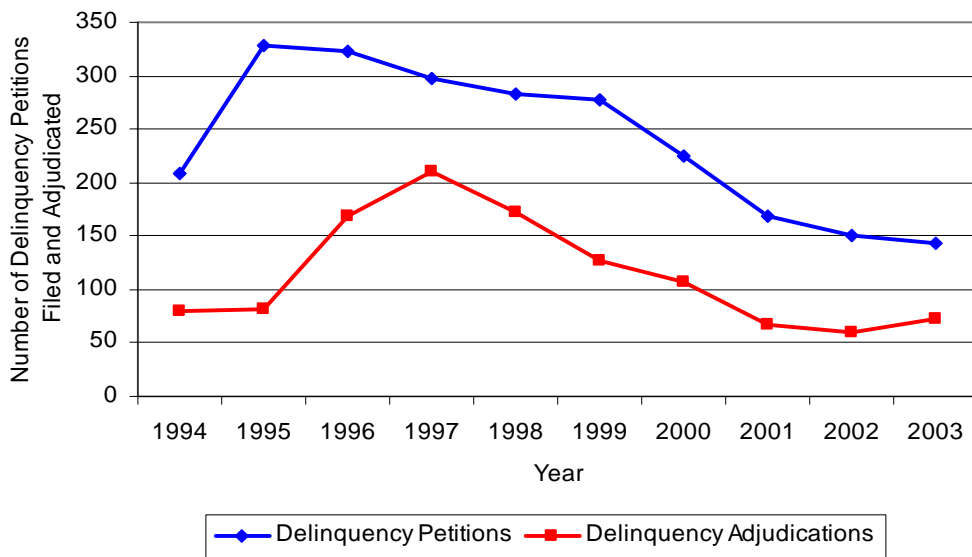
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts and U.S. Census Bureau data

Illinois’ juvenile court system differs in several key aspects from the adult criminal court system. One aspect revolves around the difference in treatment between juveniles and adults: the juvenile court process is somewhat less formal and adversarial; authorities are given much more latitude in determining the proper response to each case. Traditionally, the terminology used to describe juvenile proceedings has been less harsh than that used for the adult criminal process. For example, Illinois’ juvenile courts accept “petitions of delinquency” rather than misdemeanor or felony criminal complaints. However, pursuant to the Juvenile court Reform Act of 1998, criminal court terms, such as “trial” and “sentencing,” have replaced the less harsh “adjudicatory hearing” and “dispositional hearing” terms.

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of reported juvenile delinquency petitions filed in Tazewell County decreased 31 percent, from 209 to 144 (Figure 10). In 2003, one-half of the juveniles named in delinquency petitions were adjudicated delinquent. Between 1994 and 2003, delinquency adjudications decreased 9 percent, from 79 to 72. The majority of cases not resulting in adjudication were continued under supervision.

Figure 10

Juvenile Delinquency Petitions Filed and Adjudicated in Tazewell County



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

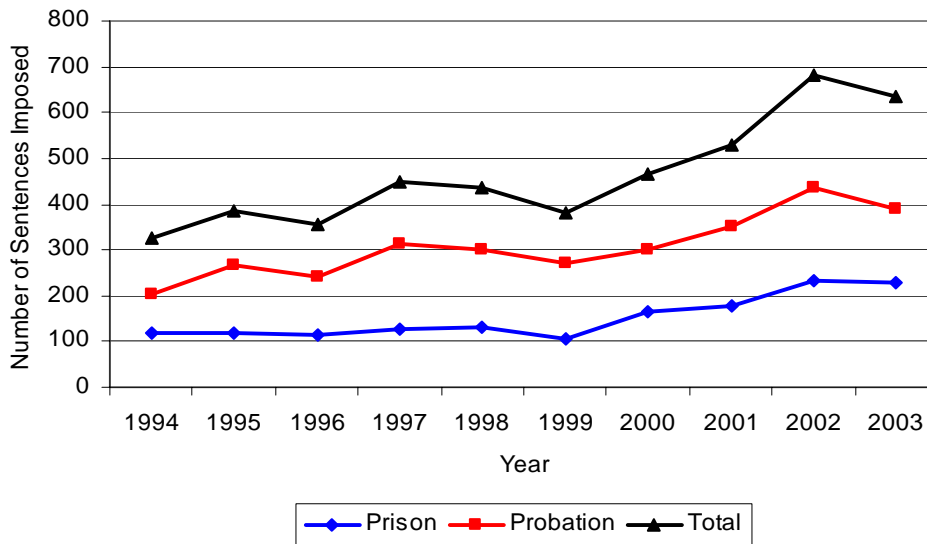
Between 1994 and 2003, the delinquency petition-filing rate in Tazewell County decreased 26 percent, from 1,529 to 1,130 per 100,000 juveniles. During the same period, the delinquency petition-filing rate in the other urban counties decreased 7 percent, from 1,902 to 1,774 petitions per 100,000 juveniles. In 2003, the delinquency petition-filing rate in Tazewell County was 36 percent lower than the rate in the other urban counties.

Anyone convicted of a felony in Illinois can be sentenced either to prison or probation, or receive a conditional discharge. A number of factors influence the type and length of sentence imposed on convicted felons, including the severity of the crime, the offender’s criminal and social history, safety of the community, and legislation affecting certain types of offenses. For some types of convictions a sentence to prison is required by state statute.

Between 1994 and 2003, the number of offenders convicted of a felony and sentenced in Tazewell County nearly doubled, from 325 to 633 (Figure 11). The number of convicted felons sentenced to probation increased 90 percent, from 204 to 388. Similarly, the number of convicted felons sentenced to prison increased 92 percent, from 120 to 230. Both felony probation and prison sentences experienced decreased proportions of total felony sentences between 1994 and 2003, decreasing from 63 percent to 61 percent and from 37 percent to 36 percent, respectively. In 2003, 3 percent of convicted felons were sentenced to something other than prison or probation.

Figure 11

Sentences Imposed on Felons Convicted in Tazewell County



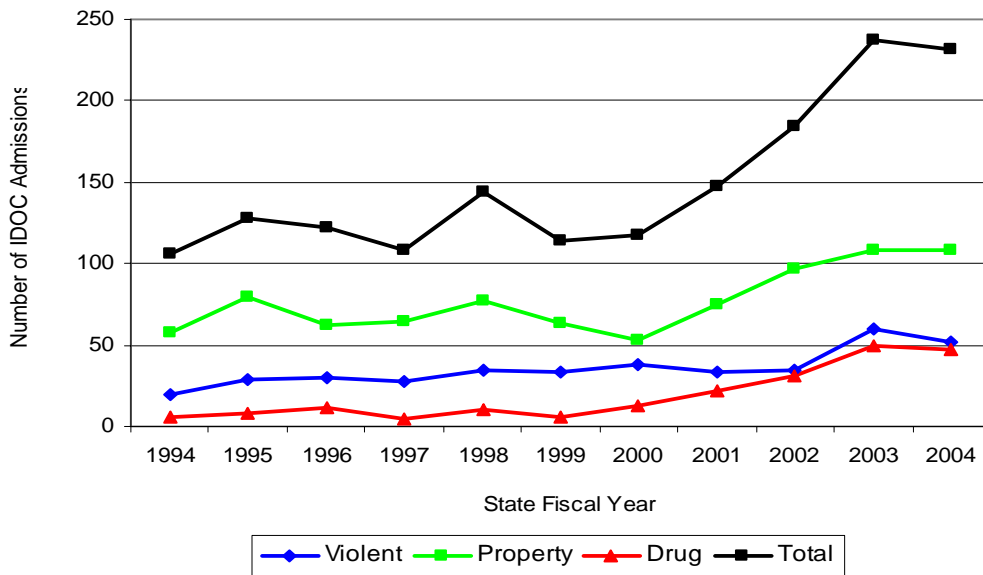
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Adult Prison Admissions from Tazewell County

Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, the number of admissions to the Illinois Department of Corrections' Adult Division from Tazewell County more than doubled, from 106 to 232 (Figure 12). During this period, the number of violent, property, and drug offender admissions increased. The number of violent offender admissions more than doubled, from 20 to 52, while the number of property offender admissions increased 86 percent, from 57 to 108, and drug offender admissions increased nearly seven-fold, from six to 47.

Figure 12

IDOC New Court Commitment from Tazewell County, by Offense Type



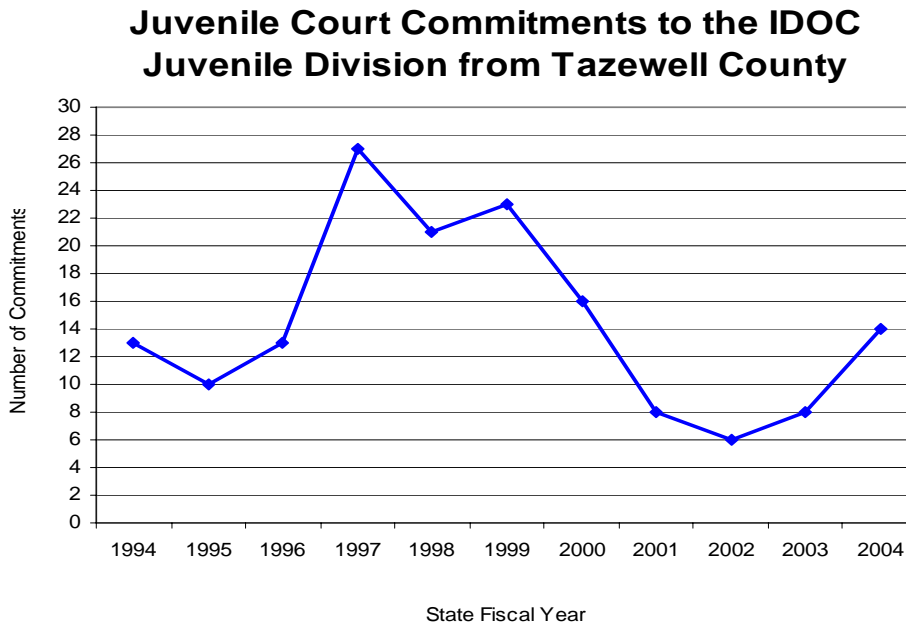
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

In SFY 2004, property offenders accounted for 47 percent of all admissions from Tazewell County, while violent offenders accounted for 22 percent and drug offenders accounted for 20 percent of all admissions.

Juvenile Court Commitments to the Illinois Department of Corrections

The Illinois Department of Corrections' Juvenile Division provides long-term custody for youths, 13 to 17 years old, who have been found delinquent by the juvenile court and committed to the IDOC. Youths may remain in an IDOC juvenile facility until they are 21. Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, the number of court commitments to the IDOC's Juvenile Division from Tazewell County increased slightly, from 13 to 14 (Figure 13).

Figure 13



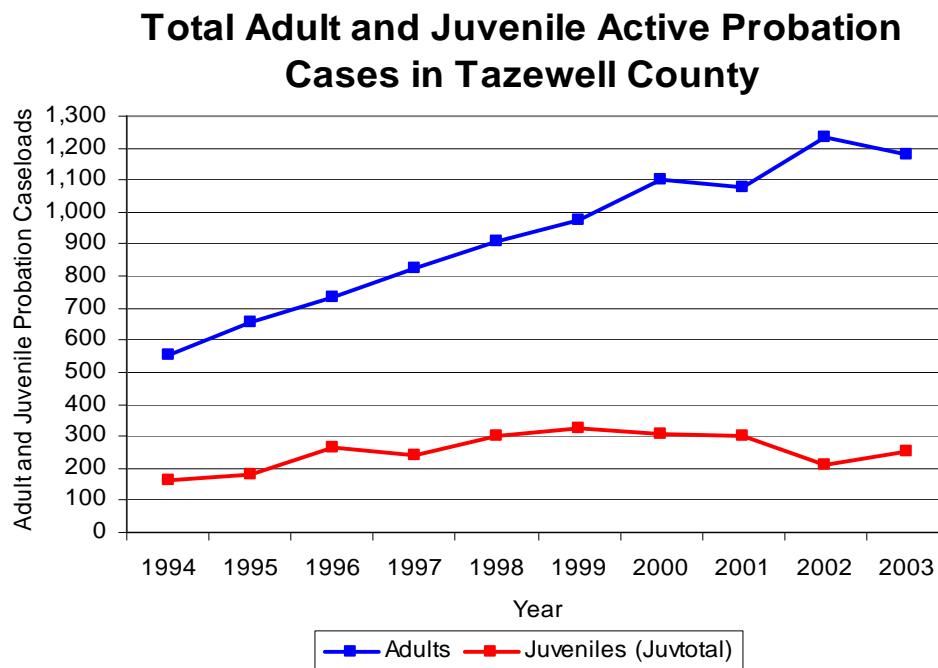
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

In SFY 2004, Tazewell County's rate of commitments to the IDOC's Juvenile Division of 115 commitments per 100,000 juveniles was 62 percent lower than the 306 commitments per 100,000 juveniles from the other urban counties.

Adult and Juvenile Probation Caseloads in Tazewell County

Between December 31, 1994 and December 31, 2003, the number of active adult probation cases in Tazewell County more than doubled, from 556 to 1,182 (Figure 14). In 2003, felony offenders accounted for 57 percent of Tazewell County's active adult probation caseload. Between 1994 and 2003, the number of juveniles supervised by the Tazewell County Juvenile Probation Department increased 58 percent, from 160 to 253. By comparison, the number of active adult probation cases in the other urban counties increased 26 percent between 1994 and 2003, while the juvenile probation caseloads increased 35 percent.

Figure 14



Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

The active adult probation caseload rate per 100,000 population in Tazewell County more than doubled between 1994 and 2003, from 443 to 923 cases per 100,000 population. During that same period, the active adult probation caseload rate increased 21 percent in the other urban counties, from 666 to 805 cases per 100,000 population. In 2003, the active adult probation caseload rate in Tazewell County was 15 percent higher than the rate in the other urban counties.

IV. Jail Populations in Tazewell County

Jail data in Illinois are collected by the Illinois Department of Corrections' Bureau of Inspections and Audits. As with court data, data are not available detailing the specific offenses for which offenders were held in county jails. In addition, between SFYs 1992 and 1994, the IDOC did not collect Illinois jail population data. Data presented for SFY 1994 were estimated by the Authority using the reported SFYs 1991 and 1995 data.

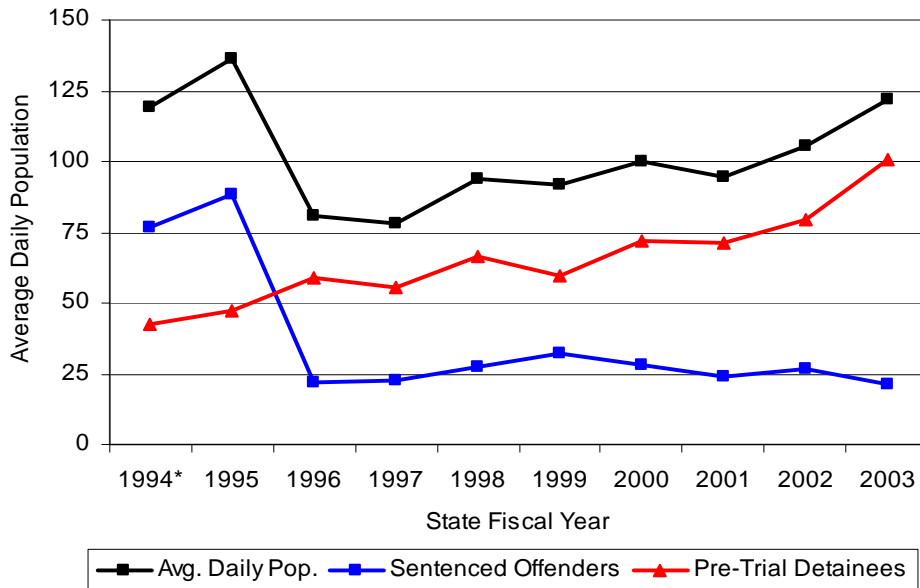
Average Daily Population of the Tazewell County Jail

The Tazewell County Jail was one of 91 county jails in operation in Illinois during SFY 2003. There are 11 counties that did not operate a jail of their own; they rely on other counties to house their pretrial detainees and sentenced offenders at either a per-diem or contracted rate.

Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, the average daily population of the Tazewell County Jail increased slightly, from 119 to 122 inmates (Figure 15). During this period, pretrial detainees (those individuals who have been arrested for a crime and are awaiting trial) accounted for an increased percentage of the average daily population, more than doubling from 36 percent to 82 percent. On the other hand, sentenced offenders (those offenders who have been convicted and sentenced to the county jail) accounted for a decreased percentage of the average daily population, decreasing from 65 percent to 18 percent.

Figure 15

Average Daily Population of the Tazewell County Jail



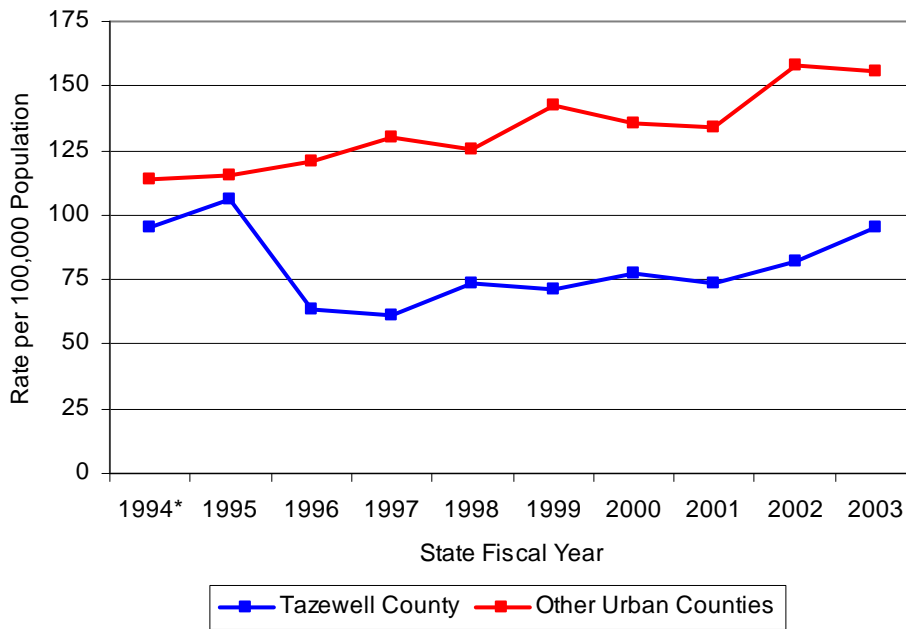
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

*Information estimated by ICJIA

Between SFYs 1994 and 2003, the average daily jail population rate in Tazewell County remained relatively unchanged at 95 per 100,000 population (Figure 16). During this same period, the average daily jail population rate in the other urban counties increased 37 percent, from 114 to 156 per 100,000 population. In SFY 2003, the Tazewell County Jail had an average daily jail population rate 39 percent lower than the rate in the other urban counties.

Figure 16

**Average Daily Jail Population Rates,
Tazewell and Other Urban Counties**



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois Department of Corrections and U.S. Census Bureau data

* Information estimated by ICJIA

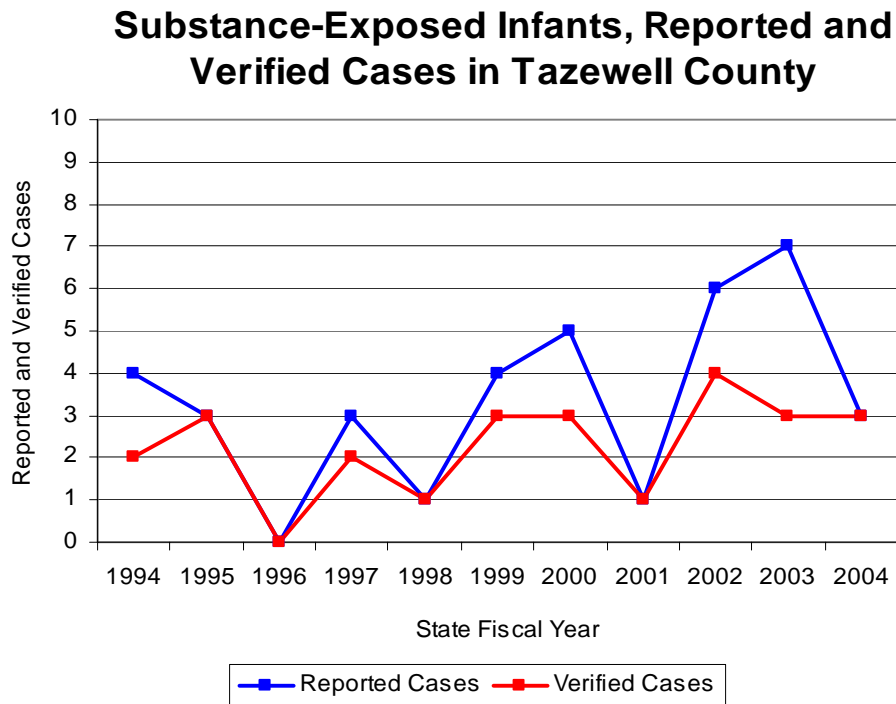
V. Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect in Tazewell County

Substance-Exposed Infants in Tazewell County

Illinois continues to experience the effects of prenatal substance abuse. In Illinois, if a baby is born and thought to have been exposed to illegal substances or alcohol, either through observation by physicians or toxicology tests, the case is reported to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). These cases are then investigated by DCFS to verify the child's prenatal exposure to either alcohol or illegal substances. Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, 96 of Illinois' 102 counties reported at least one case of a substance-exposed infant.

Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, the number of reported cases of substance-exposed infants reported in Tazewell County decreased from four to three. During the same period, the number of verified cases of substance-exposed infants increased from two to three (Figure 17).

Figure 17



Source: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

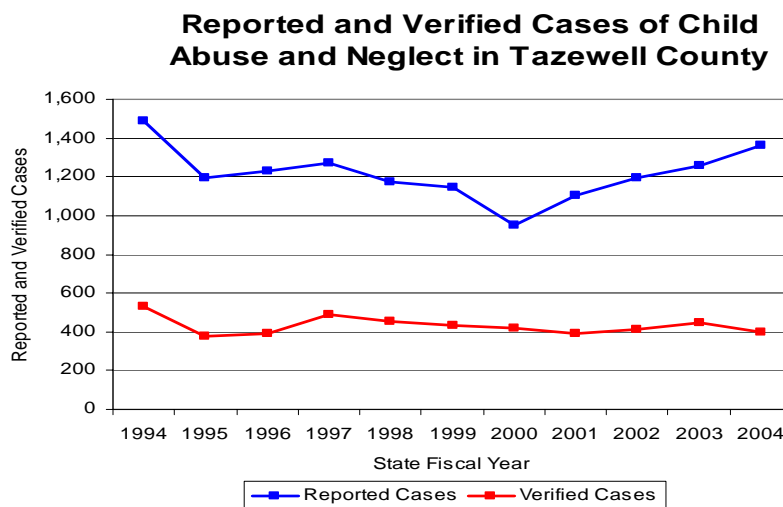
Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, the number of reported cases of substance-exposed infants in the other urban counties decreased 41 percent, from 360 to 212, while the number of verified cases of substance-exposed infants decreased 43 percent, from 340 to 193.

Child Abuse and Neglect Cases Reported and Verified in Tazewell County

Recent research on the relationship between maltreatment of youth and delinquency has revealed an important distinction between child maltreatment and adolescent maltreatment. Using data from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency, researchers have found that youth that were abused during childhood (12 years of age or less) were no more likely to become delinquent than youth who were not abused, but youth who were abused during adolescence (after age 12) were significantly more likely to be delinquent.¹ While prior child abuse may not be linked to juvenile delinquency, studies examining prior child abuse have shown that childhood victimization may be linked to other poor outcomes in youth, including low academic achievement, teenage parenthood (particularly for females), drug use, and symptoms of mental illness.² Additionally, research examining adolescent victimization (including physical and sexual assaults) and adult outcomes has found a correlation between previous victimization and substance abuse, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder in adulthood.³ In Illinois, DCFS investigates reported cases of child abuse.

Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, the number of child abuse and neglect cases reported in Tazewell County decreased 9 percent, from 1,491 to 1,360 (Figure 18). During that same period, 4,733 cases, or 35 percent of all cases reported, were verified by a DCFS investigation. Verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Tazewell County decreased 26 percent between SFYs 1994 and 2004, from 534 to 396.

Figure 18



Source: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

¹ Thornberry, Terence P., David Huizinga and Rolf Loeber. 2004. “The Causes and Correlates Studies: Findings and Policy Implications.” *Juvenile Justice Journal*. 9:1. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

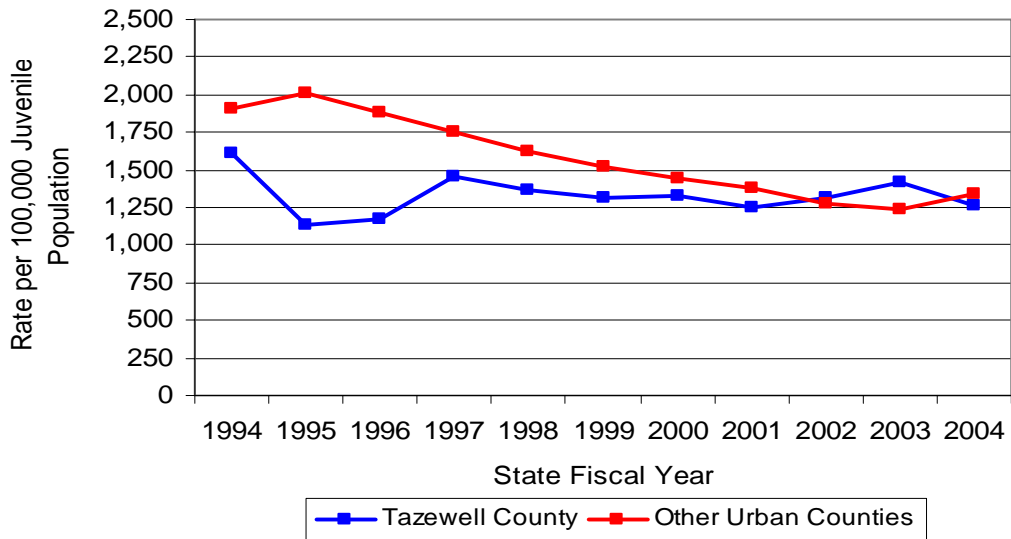
² Kelly, B., Thornberry, T. and Smith, C. 1997. “In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment.” *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

³ Menard, S. 2002. “Short and Long-Term Consequences of Adolescent Victimization.” *Youth Research Bulletin*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Between SFYs 1994 and 2004, the rate of verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Tazewell County decreased from 1,617 to 1,263 per 100,000 juveniles, a 22 percent decrease (Figure 19). During the same period, the rate of verified child abuse and neglect cases decreased 30 percent in the other urban counties, from 1,907 to 1,340 per 100,000 juveniles. In SFY 2004, the rate of verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Tazewell County was nearly 6 percent lower than in the other urban counties.

Figure 19

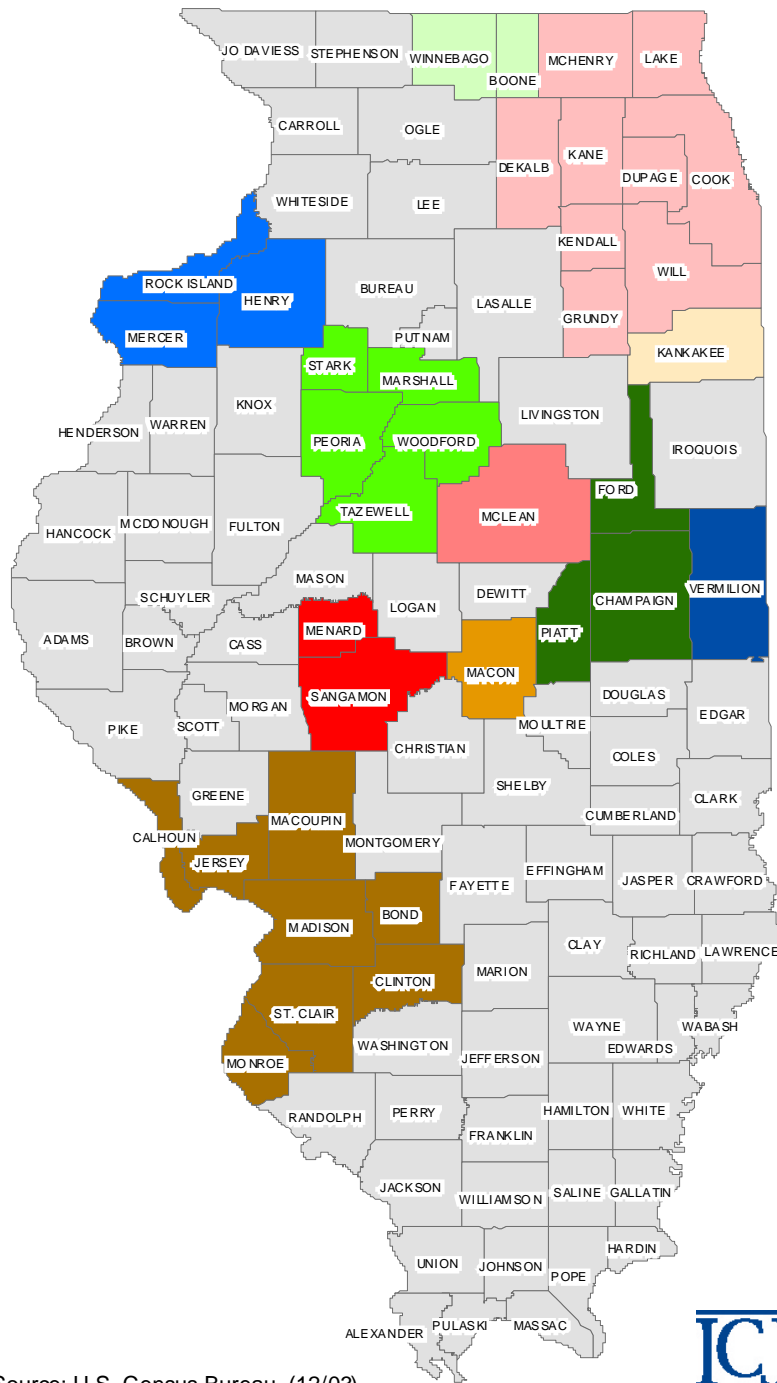
Rate of Verified Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect, Tazewell and Other Urban Counties



Source: ICJIA calculation using Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and U.S. Census Bureau data

VI. Appendix I (Map of Illinois Counties within a Metropolitan Statistical Area)

Illinois Counties, by Metropolitan Statistical Area*



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