

# The Compiler

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Summer 1996

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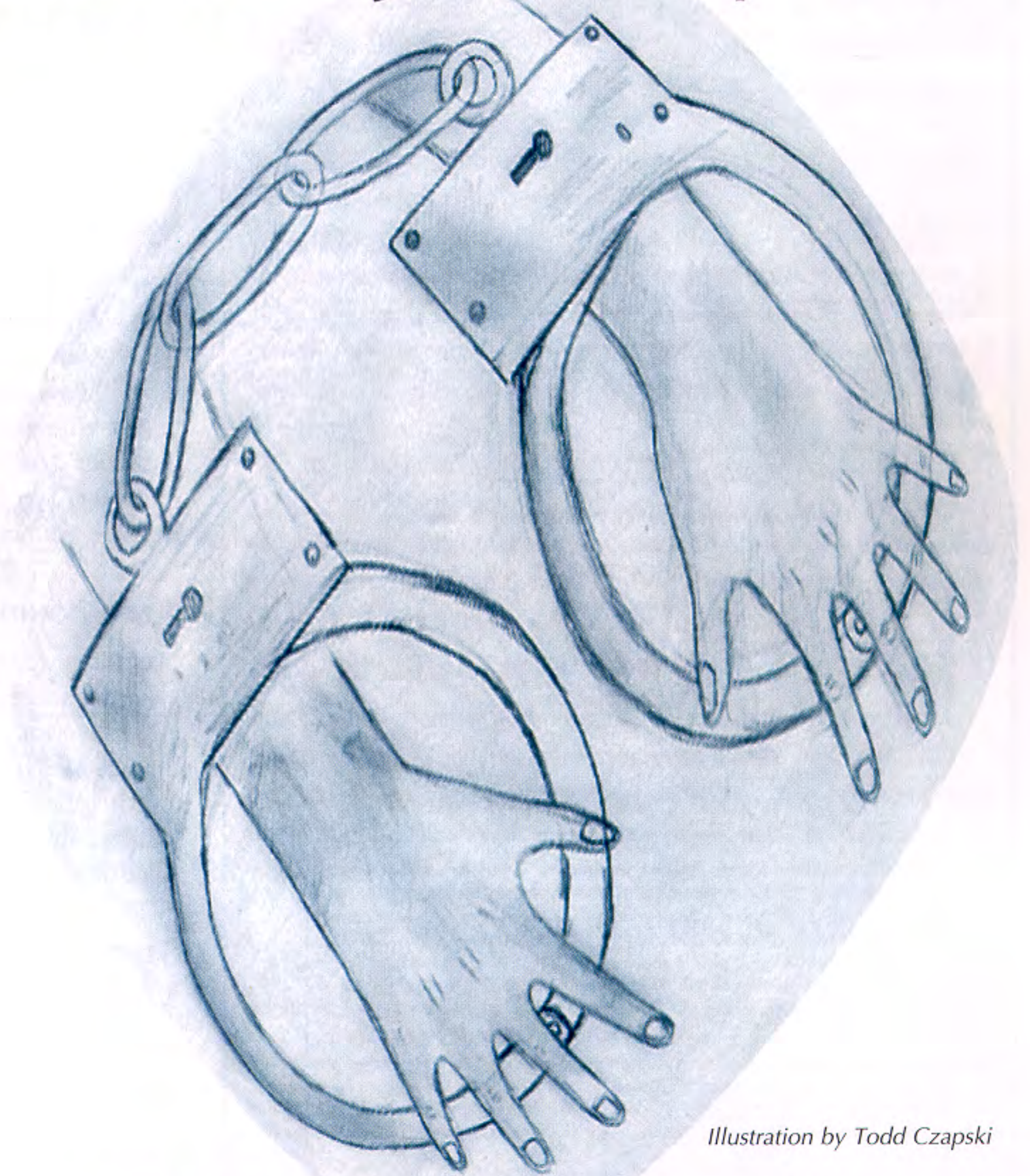


Illustration by Todd Czapski

Serious crime among juveniles is one of the most vexing problems facing the criminal justice system today. Our look at some of the issues involved begins on page 4.

THE COMPILER is published by authority of the state of Illinois by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

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Created in 1983, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is a state agency dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. The Authority works to enhance the information tools and management resources of state and local criminal justice agencies, and it serves as a statewide forum for criminal justice coordination, planning and problem solving. It also is responsible for research, information systems development and administration of federal anti-crime funds. The Authority's specific powers and duties are spelled out in the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act [20 ILCS 3930/1 et seq.].

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is governed by a 15-member board of state and local leaders from the criminal justice system, plus experts from the private sector. Authority members help develop priorities and monitor their progress. The agency's day-to-day work is carried out by a full-time professional staff working out of the Authority's Chicago office.

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### Fiscal '96 federal block grants finalized

With President Clinton's April signing of the Omnibus Spending Bill, the federal fiscal year 1996 criminal justice block grants were released. Based on the Edward Bryne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance grant program, the Victims of Crime Act and the Violence Against Women Act awards, Illinois has received nearly \$30 million for support of statewide justice programming.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is currently developing applications for additional grant funds through three newly funded programs. Funding for the new programs includes discretionary awards through VAWA that focus on victimization of women and children in rural areas. Additional grants will go toward substance abuse treatment programs for adult offenders and prison construction.

Illinois is expected to receive \$24 million through the Law Enforcement Block Grants program. Most of those funds will go directly to jurisdictions based on a formula of population and crime. About \$18 million is expected to go Chicago. Slightly more than \$1 million will be available for small jurisdictions and will be administered by the Authority.

### Grant proposal guidebook available

The Authority has published a handbook on planning, writing and submitting grant proposals. The guidebook is designed for people who have been asked to prepare a grant proposal but don't know where to begin, and also for those who may need a quick refresher course. The 12-page guidebook is not definitive, but does describe the basics of a grant proposal and how to put it together. To obtain copies of *A Grant Proposal Guidebook*, contact the Authority at 312/793-8550.

### Kane honored by Justice Department

Authority Associate Director Candice M. Kane was recently awarded a certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Department of Justice for outstanding service on behalf of crime victims. The Justice Department thanked Kane for her years of service supporting victims of crime programs throughout Illinois and the nation. The certificate was presented to Kane by Authority Chairman Peter B. Bensinger at the Authority's June meeting.

### Turnbaugh receives award from Publicity Club of Chicago

Kristi Turnbaugh, public information officer with the Authority, was recently awarded a Silver Trumpet Award from the Publicity Club of Chicago for her work on the 1995 winter/spring issue of *The Compiler*, which focused on alternatives to incarceration in Cook County. The honor is awarded for distinguished individual achievement in public relations. PCC's annual competition is open to all professional public relations and communications practitioners in the Chicago area.

## JRSA training schedule announced

The Justice Research and Statistics Association will offer a two-day statistical training session Aug. 15-16. The class, "Advanced Statistical Analyses Using Multiple Regression," will be held in Atlanta. Training emphasis will be on reviewing prior criminal justice research and critiquing regression techniques. Class examples will provide practical experience in applying course lectures to research projects. Participants should have a basic knowledge of statistics, including basic linear regression.

Anyone interested in attending the training session should contact the JRSA at 202/624-8560, or e-mail: <CJINFO@JRSA.ORG.>

## Justice Research and Statistics Association conference

The 1996 national conference of the Justice Research and Statistics Association, supported by the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, will be held in San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Panels and workshops will be devoted to firearms and violence, juvenile justice, data and information systems, and research and policy.

To register for the conference, contact the JRSA at 444 N. Capitol St., N.W., Suite 445, Washington, D.C., 202/624-8560.

## American Society of Criminology meeting

The American Society of Criminology will hold its 1996 annual meeting Nov. 20-23 in Chicago. The meeting will be at the Chicago Marriott Downtown. The theme for the 48th annual meeting is the twin challenge of controlling crime and achieving justice.

Founded in 1941, the American Society of Criminology is dedicated to the advancement of criminology, including scholarly, scientific and professional knowledge of the etiology, prevention, control and treatment of crime and delinquency.

Anyone interested in attending the meeting should register by contacting Sarah Hall, 614/292-9207, fax: 614/292-6767.

## Publication examines trends and issues in corrections

The most current issues and trends in corrections are examined in the *State of Corrections — 1995 Conference Proceedings* published by the American Correctional Association. The book contains addresses from ACA conferences on issues such as leading and motivating correctional employees and new directions in prison design and management. Copies of the book are \$20 for ACA members and \$25 for nonmembers (plus \$4.25 for shipping and handling). To order, call ACA's customer service department at 1-800-222-5646.

## National Night Out

The National Association of Town Watch is sponsoring the "13th Annual National Night Out" on Tuesday, Aug. 6. Any municipality, law enforcement agency or community group that did not participate in last year's National Night Out can

register to receive an organizational kit and other information about the program.

National Night Out is a year-long community-building campaign designed to: 1) heighten crime/drug prevention awareness; 2) generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts; 3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations; and 4) send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

For free registration material write: NATW, Night Out '96, P.O. Box 303, Wynnewood, Pa. 19096. Or call: 1-800-NITE-OUT (1-800-648-3688), or 610/649-7055.

## McGruff encourages Illinoisans to help "Take A Bite Out Of Crime"

McGruff the Crime Dog has had a busy year, and he's still going strong! The crime dog and the Authority have released four



**TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME**

brochures over the past year encouraging Illinoisans to help "Take A Bite Out Of Crime." With funding provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, the Authority is offering the following brochures, free of charge, to law enforcement, parents, teachers and other concerned folks interested in preventing crime:

- ◆ *Don't let a crook ruin your holidays!:* Provides tips on how to shop safely, protect your home and valuables, and avoid fraud.
- ◆ *Cool kids resolve conflict peacefully!:* Provides tips and written activities on how to handle conflicts nonviolently, aimed at kids aged 10 to 14. Perfect for teachers and parents alike!
- ◆ *Being a kid should be fun...and safe!:* Provides tips and written activities for children (aged 5 to 9) on home and street safety.
- ◆ *You can fight crime in your neighborhood!:* Provides information on how to prevent crime and start a neighborhood watch.

The Authority also will staff a tent at the Illinois State Fair, which runs Aug. 9-18 in Springfield. Fairgoers of all ages should check out the McGruff puppet shows, get their pictures taken for free next to a McGruff backdrop and participate in other crime prevention activities. Authority staff will hand out McGruff brochures (listed above). All events are subject to change.

For more information, or to order brochures, contact the Federal and State Grants Unit at the Authority, 312-793-8550.

—With contributions by Jeff Travis, senior research analyst with the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit.

# With higher numbers of children entering their crime-prone years, more needs to be done to address increasing rates of juvenile violence

By Roger Przybylski

Juvenile crime is receiving increased attention in Illinois and across the country. At the national level, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno recently released the National Juvenile Justice Plan for reducing youth violence and preventing delinquency. Here in Illinois, a special legislative committee recently examined the state's juvenile crime problems, and House and Senate leaders are holding hearings on juvenile justice this summer.

Over the past two years, researchers at the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority have been studying juvenile crime and the justice system's response, as well as reviewing the research of others. Our intention was to help document the extent and nature of the problem in Illinois and build a foundation for effective policy and program development. While our findings paint a sobering picture of the past and suggest guarded concern for the future, they also shed light on new strategies for reducing youth violence.

## More juveniles committing violent crimes

There are about 1.9 million juveniles in Illinois, roughly 17 percent of the state's total population. Between 1980 and 1990, Illinois' juvenile population fell by about 11 percent.

Although the number of juveniles taken into police custody for serious crimes of all kinds actually declined about 13 percent between the mid-1980s and the early 1990s, the number taken into custody for violent crimes has increased. Between 1984 and 1992, for example, the number of juveniles taken into

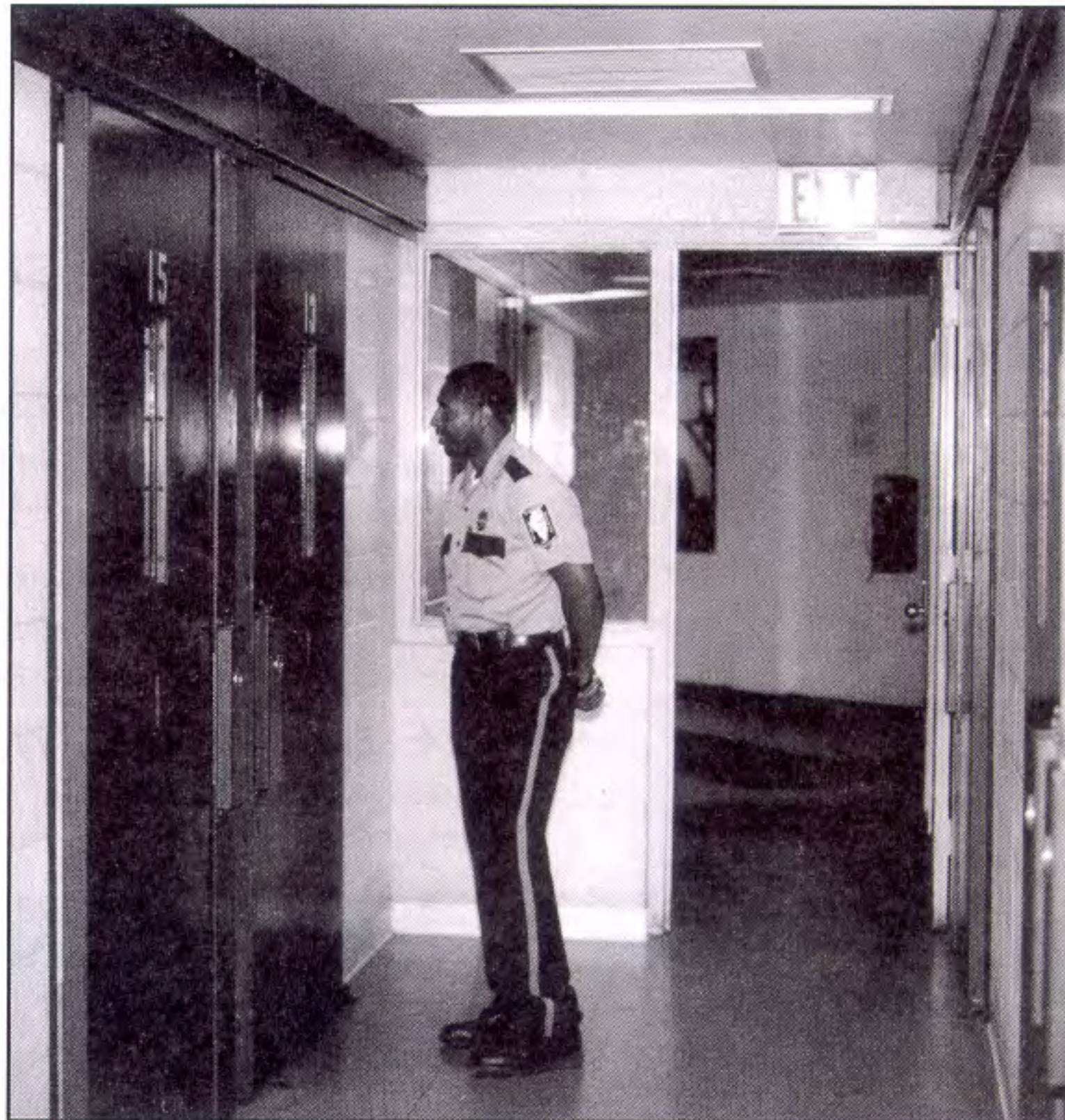
custody for violent Index offenses (murder, criminal sexual assault, armed robbery and serious assault) increased 16 percent, from 4,581 to 5,336. This trend is mirrored in statistics for juveniles taken into custody for weapons offenses.

Juveniles also have been increasingly involved in drug crime. Between 1984 and 1992, the number of juveniles taken into custody for drug offenses almost doubled, with most of the increase occurring since 1988. Whereas cannabis violations accounted for most juvenile drug offenses in the mid-1980s, that is no longer the case. Controlled substances violations, mostly involving cocaine, now account for nearly 80 percent of the juvenile drug offenses in the state.

## Pattern of increasing juvenile crime

Since statewide trend data concerning juvenile crime currently end in

1992, it is legitimate to ask whether the pattern observed in the early 1990s may have changed during the past few years. Alternative indicators from other components of the justice



*Correctional officer Leon Pointer stops to talk to a youth through a locked dormitory door at the Illinois Youth Center—St. Charles. The six youth centers operated by IDOC's Juvenile Division have a rated capacity of 1,210, but currently hold nearly 1,900 offenders.*

system suggest this is not the case. The number of juveniles on probation for violent offenses increased 35 percent between 1990 and 1995, and admissions of violent offenders to the Illinois Department of Corrections Juvenile Division increased 17 percent between fiscal years 1994 and 1995.

Juvenile activity has clearly increased across all components of the system. The number of delinquency petitions filed in juvenile courts increased 59 percent between 1983 and 1995. Delinquency petitions account for about three out of every four juvenile petitions filed statewide. Juvenile probation caseloads also have increased in recent years, jumping 29 percent between 1988 and 1995, while commitments to IDOC's Juvenile Division increased 59 percent during the same time period. As of 1995, IDOC's Juvenile Division was operating at 134 percent over capacity. Juvenile detention centers across the state are in a similar predicament.

### More transfers to criminal court

One way Illinois and other states have tried to deal with increases in serious juvenile crime is by transferring more juveniles to adult courts. Juvenile transfers in Illinois jumped from 182 in 1985 to 2,775 in 1994, with most occurring automatically due to the nature of the offense. Part of the increase in transfers has been driven by an increase in the number of offenses that are eligible for transfer to criminal court. For example, in 1991, manufacturing and/or delivery of controlled substances on school property or property managed by a

## Juvenile activity has clearly increased across all components of the system.

public housing authority were added to the eligibility list.

Unfortunately, statewide data on dispositions in transfer cases are not available in Illinois. In an attempt to shed light on the issue, Authority researchers studied a sample of cases from Cook County, where most transfers occur. Among the 503 transfer cases analyzed, there was considerable variation in sentencing across offense types. While most of the juveniles transferred on murder or armed robbery charges were incarcerated, a high percentage of the drug and weapons offenders were not.

We also examined the prison sentences imposed on juvenile transfers, comparing them with those imposed on a similar group of 17- and 18-year-old adults. Median sentence lengths were analyzed for three specific offense

types: murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault and armed robbery. Juvenile transfers sentenced for murder received a median sentence slightly below that of their young adult counterparts — 25 years compared to about 27 years — while

median sentence lengths for armed robbery were equivalent between the two groups. Juveniles transferred and sentenced for aggravated criminal sexual assault received a longer sentence than their adult counterparts — nine years compared to about six years.

### Juveniles as victims

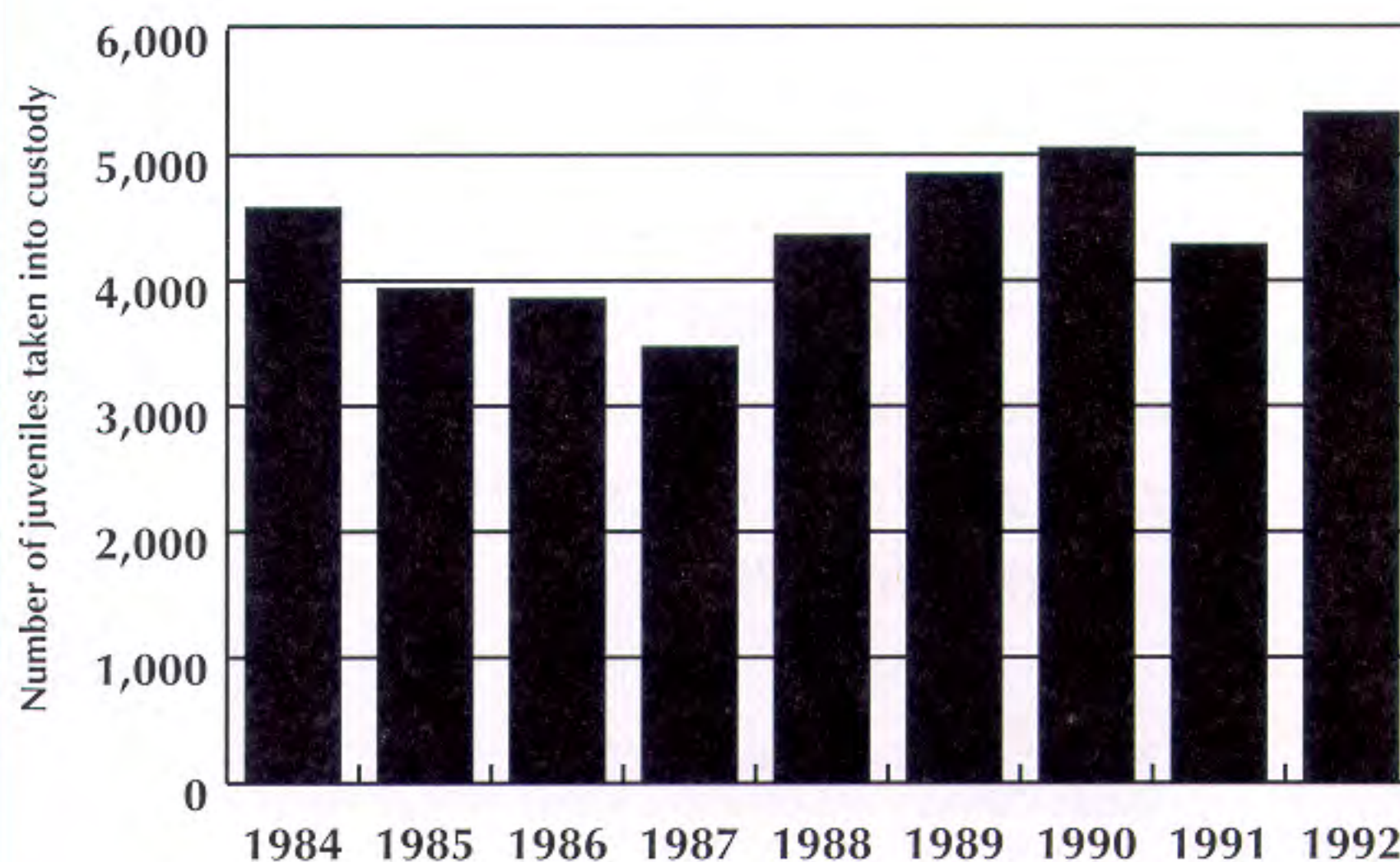
While increased attention has been focused on juvenile offenders, it is equally important to recognize that juveniles are often victims as well. For example, more than 1.3 million cases of child abuse or neglect were reported to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services between fiscal years 1983 and 1995, and the number of cases reported annually has skyrocketed. A 1990 survey conducted by Authority researchers found that one in 12 Illinois students had been physically at-

tacked in or around their schools in the past school year. Tragically, the risk of violent victimization in the United States in 1991 was greater for a 12-year-old than for anyone 24 or older.

What do we know about the career paths of violent juvenile offenders? A series of studies offers promising insights.

The National Youth Survey, conducted by Delbert S. Elliott at the University of Colorado, began studying a nationally representative sample of about 1,700 youths

### Juveniles taken into police custody for violent Index offenses in Illinois



Source: Illinois Uniform Crime Reports, Illinois State Police

ages 11 to 17 in 1976. The most recent wave of interviews occurred in 1993, when the study participants were between the ages of 27 and 33.

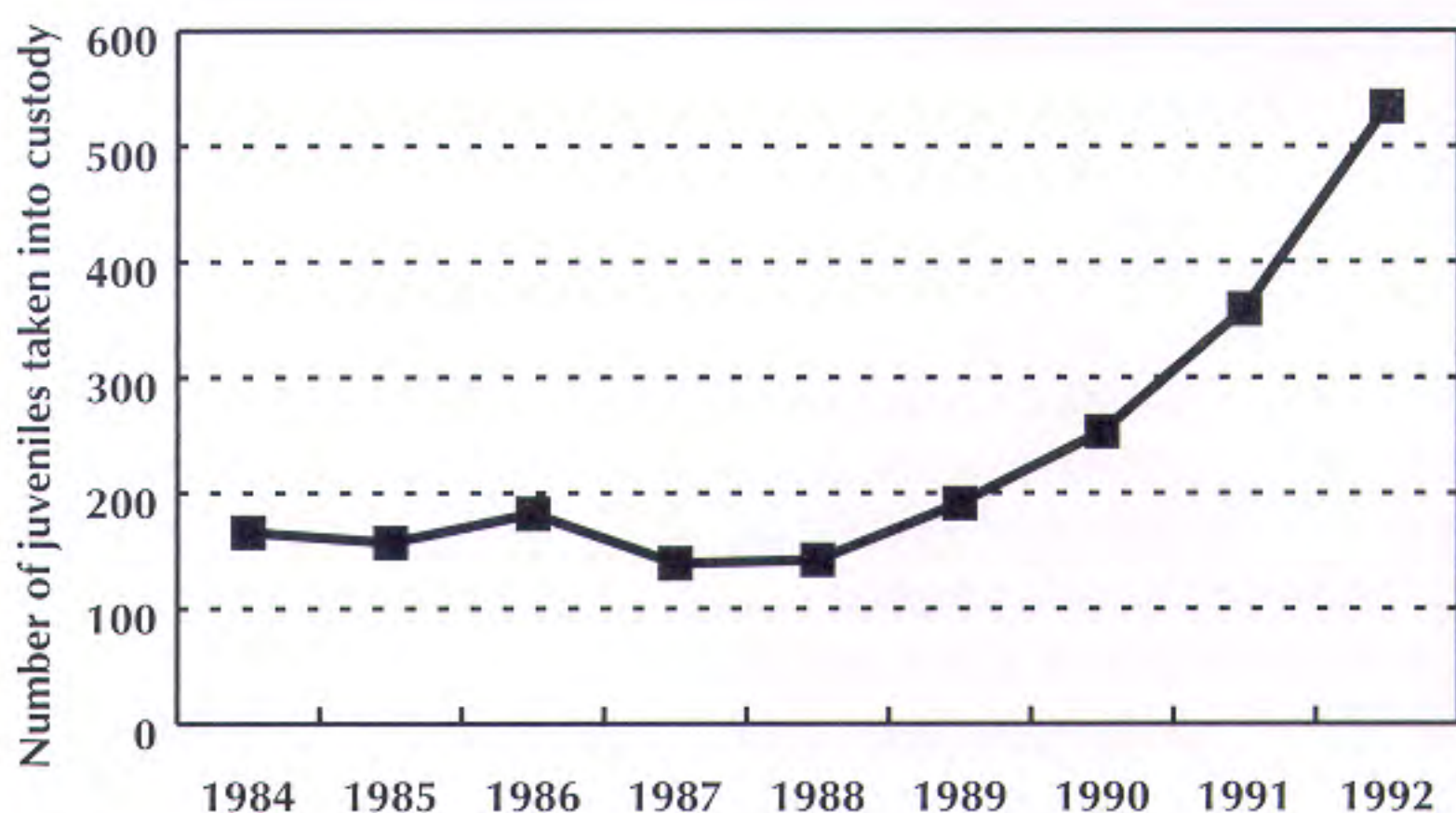
### A few commit most crimes

One of the major findings from the research was that a small percentage of juveniles were responsible for most violent offenses. For example, 5 percent of the juveniles in the NYS were responsible for 89 percent of the armed robberies and 77 percent of the felony assaults. Another important finding is that the peak age of serious violent offending is 17, and the age at which offending begins is even younger. In contrast, the peak ages for arrest are 18 and 19, and arrest rates remain high until age 25. Thus, there is a considerable time lag between the peak age of offending and the peak age of arrest, suggesting the justice system is intervening too late.

The National Program of Research on Causes and Correlates of Delinquency has studied large samples of high-risk, inner-city youth in Denver, Pittsburgh, and Rochester, N.Y. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the research found that chronic violent offenders have multiple risk factors in their backgrounds, including deficits in such areas as family and school. The Rochester site also examined the impact of family violence and found that children who were neglected or abused, or who witnessed violence in the home, were more likely to commit violent acts later in life.

Robert Sampson of the University of Chicago and John Laub

## Juveniles taken into custody for violent Index offenses committed with a firearm in Illinois, excluding Chicago



Source: Illinois Uniform Crime Reports, Illinois State Police

of Northeastern University recently re-analyzed data originally collected on 1,000 juveniles as part of a landmark study of delinquency completed in 1960. In their book *Crime in the Making*, Sampson and Laub conclude that across the life course, the causes of crime are rooted in weakened social bonds to family, school and work.

It is apparent from each of these studies that reducing juvenile violence requires a mix of prevention and early intervention.

***Less than one-half of 1 percent of all juveniles in the state were taken into custody for a violent offense in 1992.***

### Risk-focused prevention

Risk-focused approaches to prevention have been successfully used to reduce cardiovascular disease and traffic fatalities and they hold considerable promise for reducing delinquency and violence. More than 30 years of research in health and medicine has identified precursors of violence — called risk factors — like many of those found in the OJJDP research. Risk factors can be found in the community, the family, schools, peers and the individual.

Protective factors that can mediate the impact of risk factors also have been identified. The interaction of risk factors and protective factors explain why some youth succumb to delinquency and others do not. As risk factors are decreased and protective factors enhanced, the likelihood of delinquency and violent offending is reduced.

In light of what we have learned about the precursors of violence, recent juvenile victimization trends are extremely disturbing. For example, reported cases of child abuse and neglect in Illinois doubled in the past decade, reaching nearly 140,000 in 1995. Cases of child sexual abuse and substance-affected births have increased as well. This means that more and more Illinois children are being exposed to risk factors that research clearly shows increases the likelihood of violent behavior later in life.

### A coming wave of juvenile violence?

Changing demographics may compound the problem in the near future. A recent report to the U.S. Attorney General by James Alan

Fox of Northeastern University suggests that without large-scale intervention, we are likely to see a future wave of youth violence at the national level as the population of young people grows. Is such a scenario likely for Illinois?

The U.S. Bureau of the Census projects that the number of people ages 0 to 19 in Illinois will increase by about 4 percent by the year 2010. The number of youth in their high-risk years for offending will increase even more; 10- to 14-year-olds are projected to increase by about 6 percent, while 15- to 19-year-olds are expected to increase nearly 20 percent. Unprecedented rates of child abuse, neglect and other victimization, coupled with a growing juvenile population, may indeed mean that Illinois will experience more juvenile violence in the future.

But rates of violent offending are hard to predict and the future is far from predetermined. More young people will not mean more violence if we can influence the rate of offending. And the best way to reduce future offending is through prevention and early intervention.

Reducing exposure to risk factors like child abuse and lack of education is an important first step. We know that dropping out of school, for example, is a risk factor for delinquency and that three out of every four prison inmates in Illinois did not complete high school. Yet an intolerably high number of children — more than 35,000 — drop out of school in Illinois each year.

While it may not be the job of those of us in the justice system to solve these problems directly, we must avoid the temptation to define our role too narrowly. The evidence is quite compelling: reducing juvenile violence requires a multifaceted approach that incor-

## ***Rates of violent offending are hard to predict and the future is far from predetermined. The best way to reduce future offending is through prevention and early intervention.***

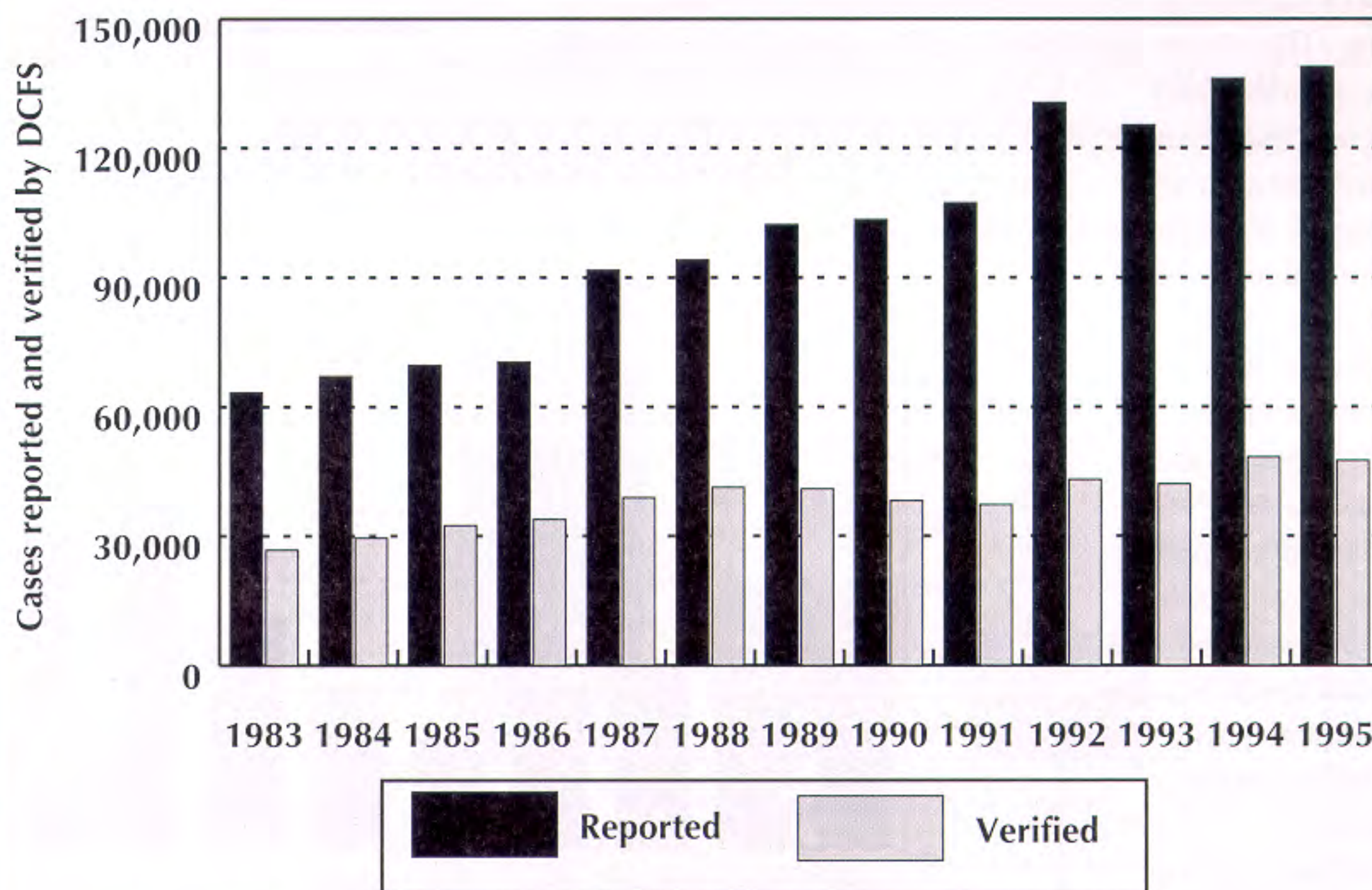
porates both prevention and early intervention. It is incumbent on all of us in the justice system to look beyond the boundaries of institutions to identify common goals and create interdisciplinary partnerships to achieve them.

With all the attention that has been focused on juvenile crime and violence, it is important to keep in mind that serious offenders account for a very small percentage of our youth. Less than one-half of 1 percent of all juveniles in the state were taken into

custody for a violent offense in 1992, and less than 6 percent were taken into custody for an offense of any kind. So, as we search for strategies to combat juvenile violence, we must remember that the overwhelming majority of our youth will develop into law-abiding adults.

— Roger Przybylski is director of the Research and Analysis Unit at the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

### **Reported and Verified cases of child abuse and neglect in Illinois**



Source: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

# Transferring juveniles to criminal court is getting another look

Critics argue that automatic transfer laws don't deter crime and that most teenagers are better served in the juvenile system

By Daniel Dighton

**A**s juvenile crime rates continue to climb, the practice of automatically transferring juveniles accused of certain crimes to adult criminal court is being re-examined.

Critics claim the current laws are not having the desired impact of stemming the tide of juvenile crime. They also say the laws cast too wide a net, snaring youths for drug and weapons violations who would be better served in the juvenile system. What's more, there is growing evidence that youths sentenced through the adult system have a higher recidivism rate than those who go through the juvenile system.

Ominous forecasts are being made of even higher juvenile crime rates over the next decade, and experts and policy-makers are busy searching for new approaches to the issue. The dilemma lies in finding a balance between the need to protect society while also salvaging the lives of children caught up in a life of escalating crime.

## Get-tough response to juvenile crime

When violent juvenile crime began to soar in the late 1980s, the trend in Illinois and other states was toward a get-tough response. This stance manifested itself in a series of laws sending more and more juveniles to criminal court to face trial as adults. Automatic transfer laws in Illinois have been amended six times since the first one was passed in 1982. There are now 10 categories of offenses under which 13- to 15-year-olds can be transferred to criminal court. Seven of those categories call for automatic transfers.

Prior to 1973 a juvenile could be

transferred to criminal court by prosecutorial discretion. That year, Illinois adopted a judicial transfer provision, which called for judicial review of a prosecutor's petition for transfer. Juveniles also have the option, with counsel, of having their case waived to criminal court. In 1995, the Illinois legislature added presumptive transfer, which puts the burden on the juvenile to rebut the presumption that the case should be transferred.

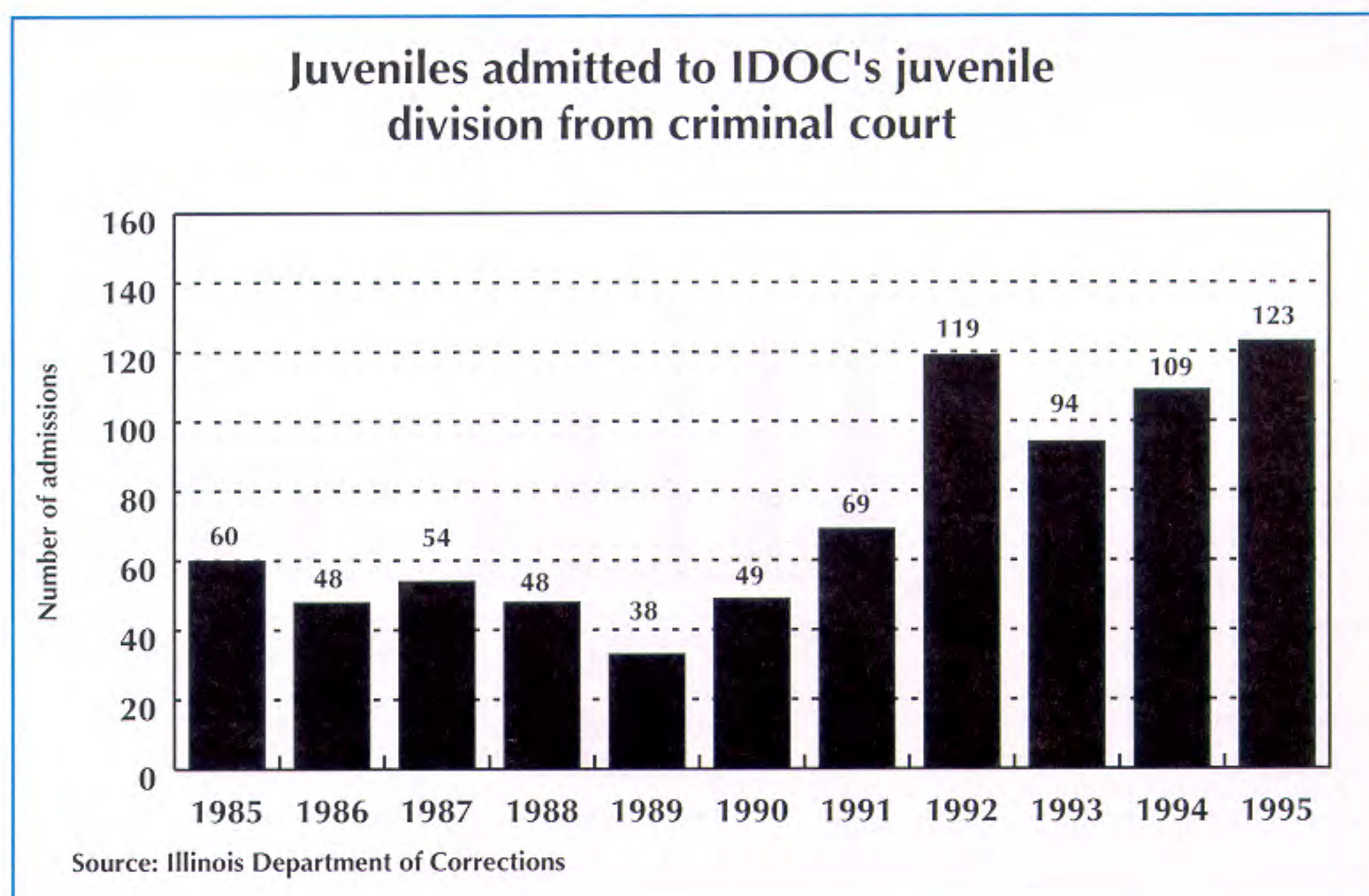
While many who work in juvenile justice acknowledge that incarceration is necessary in some cases, they also say there is no quick or easy fix, and that simply sending children off to prison is not solving the problem. Many think that we have overreacted with all the laws on juvenile transfer.

"I can see us losing a lot of kids unless we can kind of calm down and come up with a more reasoned approach," said Darrell McGibany, director of probation and court services in Madison County.

Jesse Doyle, superintendent of the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, compared the reaction to juvenile violence to an adult temper tantrum, a way of expressing frustration over something we don't understand and can't seem to

control. "As a society we have a dilemma, and cognitively, we don't know how to resolve it," he said.

Some high-profile cases of juvenile violence have been startling in their viciousness and have attracted huge media atten-





tion, but the fact is, juvenile crime involves a very small segment of the population. Less than one-half of 1 percent of juveniles in Illinois were taken into custody in 1992 for committing violent offenses. Though juveniles make up about 17 percent of the state's population, they accounted for only 6 percent of all people arrested for violent Index offenses (murders, sexual assaults, robberies and serious assaults) in 1992, the latest figures available for the state.<sup>1</sup>

According to national figures, however, the juvenile crime problem grew worse in the following two years.

### **Rising tide of juvenile violence**

A report by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the U.S. Department of Justice showed that after remaining relatively constant from 1975 to 1988, the rate of juvenile arrests for violent crimes nationwide rose more than 50 percent between 1988 and 1994. The juvenile arrest rate for violent crime in 1994 was far higher than any year for which comparable statistics are available, going back to the mid-1960s.<sup>2</sup>

Juveniles were responsible for 14 percent of violent crimes nationwide in 1994, and made up 19 percent of all people arrested for violent crimes. The difference in percentages is explained by the fact that juveniles tend to commit crimes in groups. Still, less than one-half of 1 percent of juveniles nationwide were arrested for a violent crime in 1994.<sup>3</sup> The numbers reflect that a small number of juveniles are committing most of the crimes and most of those offenders are being arrested more than once, according to the OJJDP.

The OJJDP also found that juveniles were the victims of violence at increasingly alarming rates. Nationally, juvenile homicide victimization involving firearms nearly tripled between 1984 and 1994.<sup>4</sup>

### **Surge in transfers to criminal court**

As the number of violent crimes committed by juveniles has risen, so has the number of transfers to criminal court. The trend has remained fairly consistent throughout the state and can be illustrated by a few counties. In Champaign County, for example, there was one transfer of a juvenile to criminal court in 1992. In 1995 there were 10. In Madison, there were three transfers in 1992 and 17 in 1995. In Will County, there were 10 transfers in 1992 and 19 three years later.<sup>5</sup>

In Illinois, if a person younger than 17 is sentenced to prison in criminal court, he or she will go to the Juvenile Division of the Illinois Department of Corrections. Although they can remain there until they turn 21, most are transferred to the adult side when they turn 18 to serve out the remainder of their sentences,

said IDOC Deputy Director Joanne Perkins, who runs the juvenile division.

There were 123 minors admitted to the Juvenile Division of IDOC in state fiscal year 1995 as a result of criminal convictions, an 11-percent increase over the previous year and triple the number admitted from criminal courts in 1986. Eighty-five

percent of the juvenile felony admissions to IDOC in 1995 were for crimes committed against a person.<sup>6</sup>

In a report on juvenile transfer in Cook County prepared for the Northwestern University Legal Clinic, Elizabeth Clarke, of the Cook County Public Defender's Office, noted that nearly half of the cases in her study that were transferred to criminal

court were either dismissed or resulted in probation.<sup>7</sup> Clarke concluded that the current transfer provisions are too broad and unjustly send less serious offenders to criminal court.

### **Drug and weapons transfers criticized**

Of the 334 juvenile cases in Clarke's study that were automatically transferred to Cook County criminal court between November 1992 and March 1994, 40 percent were for drug or weapons possession offenses and 94 percent of the youths transferred were minorities. About one-half of the transferred cases in the study were either dismissed or resulted in a probationary sentence.

Laws requiring automatic transfer for possession of drugs or weapons within 1,000 feet of a school or public housing grounds often are blasted as unfair because they target areas with large concentrations of minorities. Critics, including Clarke, claim the provisions do not necessarily identify serious and violent juvenile offenders.

In the recently released Report of the Legislative Committee on Juvenile Justice, a supplemental minority report, signed by 10 of the committee's 31 members, recommended removing the nonviolent drug and weapons possession provisions from automatic transfer laws.<sup>8</sup>

Cook County Juvenile Court Judge William Hibbler, one of the committee members who endorsed the minority report, said drug possession cases in particular were inappropriate for criminal court because the juvenile system can provide better treatment and rehabilitative programs.

"I can't find any positive impact of that legislation on trying to deal with juvenile justice problems," Hibbler said. "I think as a basic action to correct the behavior of kids, to send them to the adult court is going in exactly the wrong direction."

Steven Drizin, another committee member critical of cur-

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***"I can see us losing a lot of kids unless we can kind of calm down and come up with a more reasoned approach." —***  
**Darrell McGibany, director of probation and court services in Madison County**

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rent transfer provisions, is an attorney with the Northwestern University Legal Clinic. He said transfer to criminal court and long-term incarceration may be needed in some instances, but current laws don't do a good job of selecting those cases.

"Experience has shown that it is not working the way it was supposed to work," Drizin said. "It's costing the state and taxpayers a lot of money, and it's not selecting out those offenders who it's designed to select out. The net is so wide that we are not doing a good job of selecting who those kids are."

Drizin said the current laws bring in a disproportionate number of minorities, primarily because of the provisions regarding drugs and weapons near schools and public housing property. Also, he said, these provisions are increasingly throwing first-time nonviolent offenders into the adult system, even though they would be better served by treatment and supervision programs offered in the juvenile system. "There's no justification for transferring those offenders into the adult system."

### Sanctions for violent offenders

On the other hand, there is general agreement that the juvenile system as it is currently structured in Illinois lacks the means to deal with the small number of hardcore, violent juvenile offenders. There is a consensus that some youthful offenders need to be incarcerated longer than the juvenile system can keep them. Under current law, delinquents must be discharged from state custody when they turn 19.

Jim Reilly, a former prosecutor who is now an assistant to Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, said adult sentences are sometimes

appropriate, especially for one of the city's major problems, 15- and 16-year-olds who commit violent crimes with handguns. "I think it has been worthwhile and effective," he said.

Reilly, also a member of the Legislative Committee on Juvenile Justice, said the mayor's office supports automatic transfer because of the seriousness of the crimes involved and because the average incarceration in the juvenile system is for less than a year. "At least now there's a certainty of penalty for violent crimes," he said.

Reilly said that although most transfers to criminal court don't end up with prison sentences, that does not mean transfers are not working. He said probation sentences may be appropriate in some cases. But he agreed with a recommendation by the

Legislative Committee that youths sentenced to probation as adults should be supervised by juvenile probation officers.

The philosophy behind juvenile justice has always been that children, because of their age and development, are less accountable for their actions and more amenable to rehabilitation than adults. This view has prevailed since the nation's first juvenile court was established in Cook County in 1899.

The argument for transfer to adult court focuses on the limited sanctions the juvenile courts can impose. But recent studies suggest that justice in the adult court is not necessarily all that severe for juveniles, nor is it swift.

A study conducted in St. Louis found that not only did cases move much more slowly in criminal court, but, unless it was a very serious crime, those involving youthful offenders were not likely to be prosecuted vigorously. In any case, there were no immediate consequences for juveniles transferred to criminal court because the court process drug on so long. By contrast, cases in juvenile court were disposed of more swiftly

and were likely to result in probation or assignment to a juvenile institution.<sup>9</sup>

Since juveniles often wait a year or more at county juvenile detention centers before their trial date comes up in criminal court, transfers exacerbate overcrowding at the temporary detention centers.

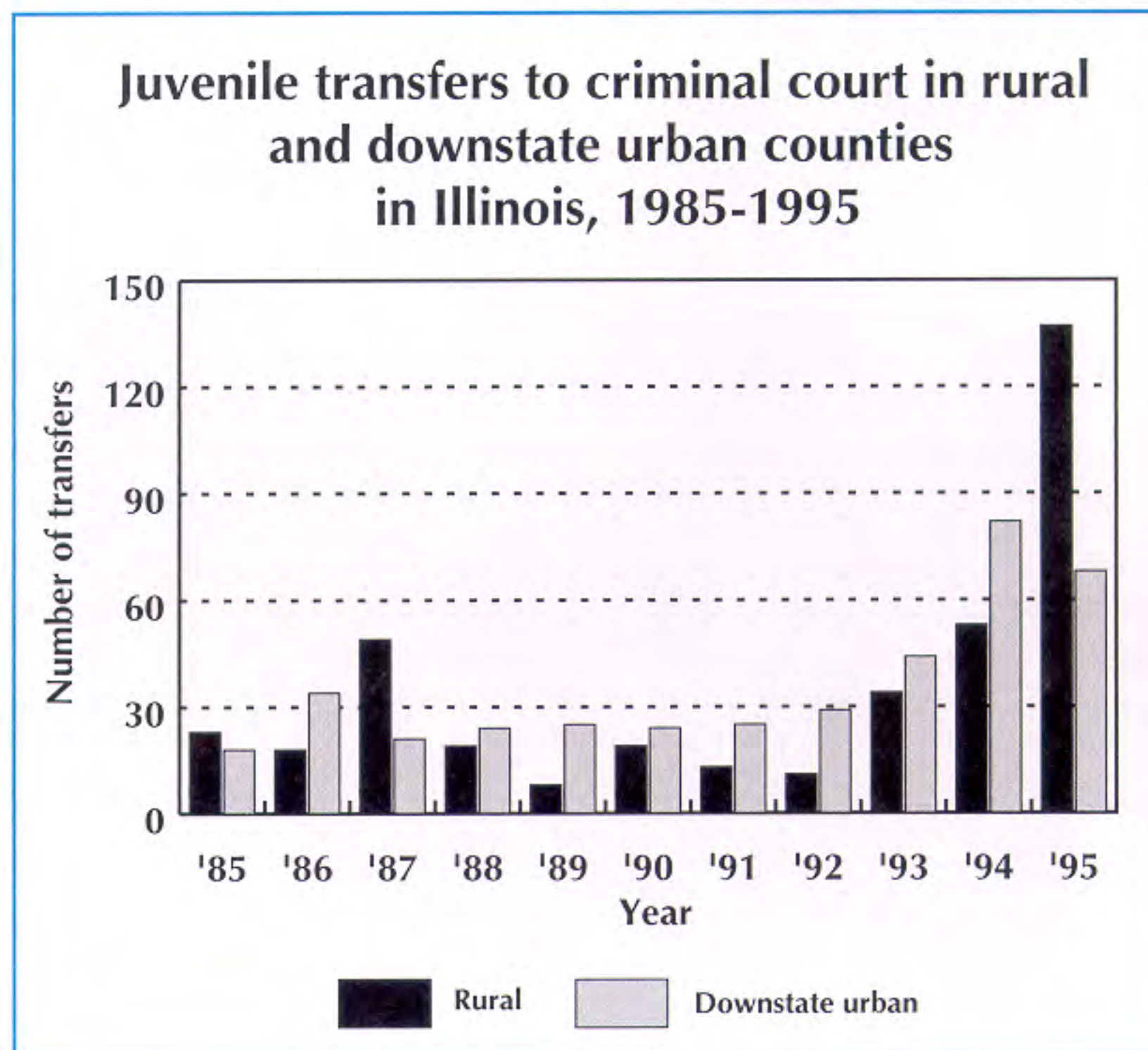
### Lack of deterrence effect

Part of the rationale for transfer to adult court is that the stiffer penalties will serve as a deterrent to future crime. But that notion, too, is questioned by recent research. A Florida study showed that the recidivism rate during the

first year after release from incarceration was higher for youths tried as adults (30 percent) than for those who went through the juvenile system (19 percent). The authors concluded that "transfer in Florida has had little deterrent value."<sup>10</sup>

Jeffrey Fagan, in a study he conducted in northern New Jersey and southeastern New York, also found that transfer to criminal court did not necessarily result in stiffer penalties, nor did it lead to a lower recidivism rate.<sup>11</sup>

One thing that troubles many critics of transfer provisions in Illinois is that under "truth in sentencing" laws there is no flexibility on terms of imprisonment. Factors such as age, degree of culpability and potential for rehabilitation don't make any difference.



## Automatic transfer in Illinois

The first automatic transfer law for juveniles in Illinois was passed in 1982. Since then, six more laws have been passed adding provisions for automatic transfers to criminal court. The following chart lists the offenses requiring automatic transfer and the minimum age applicable.

Year effective	Age	Offenses
1982	15	First degree murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault, or armed robbery with a firearm.
1985	15	Drug/weapon offenses on or within 1,000 feet of school property.
1990	15	Felony/forcible felony in furtherance of gang activity with prior felony/forcible felony adjudication.
1990	15	Drug offenses on or within 1,000 feet of public housing property.
1991	13	Subsequent charges of escape/bond violation for minors already transferred to criminal court.
1995	15	Aggravated vehicular hijacking.
1995	13	First degree murder committed during a criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault, or aggravated kidnapping. Excludes minors charged through accountability.

Judge Hibbler said this takes away a judge's ability to consider mitigating factors. "I'm not offended by the thought of serious felons going to the adult court. But we certainly need to build in a mechanism to give the judges some discretion," he said.

### New approaches

Hibbler supports giving juvenile courts the ability to impose longer sentences. This approach is being tried in New Mexico, where adult sentences can be imposed from juvenile court for certain offenses if prosecutors file a pretrial motion. The case is still heard in juvenile court, but the minor has the right to a 12-person jury if an adult sentence might be imposed. This system ensures that detailed information about the individual and the offense is available to the judge before sentencing.

Drizin supports what is called the "dual" or "blended" sen-

tence option. Versions of this alternative have been adopted in several states, including Minnesota, Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri and Colorado. Under a dual sentence, minors convicted of felonies are given a juvenile sentence and a suspended adult sentence. If they fail to respond to various treatment and rehabilitative programs under the juvenile sentence, the adult sentence can be imposed.

Colorado combines its dual sentence option with a three-tiered youthful offender program. The program begins with a boot camp, then shifts to education focusing on academic and life skills, and is followed by an aftercare program.<sup>12</sup>

These programs are based on the long-standing premise in juvenile justice that the behavior of youths can be changed with the proper attention and incentives. They acknowledge that youthful offenders eventually will be released back into their communities at a relatively young age, and they will need specific skills to survive without turning to crime. This reality is very much on the minds of those who work with juvenile offenders.

"If you've got a 14- or 15- or 16-year-old child, and even if they spend 20 years in jail, they're coming back out in the community. And the question is how are they going to come," said Superintendent Doyle of Cook County.

"Are they going to come, as I see, walking the streets all day, looking for a place to live, begging for money? Or have we prepared them to take their place in society, where they can take a job, even though it may be washing dishes or parking cars, or a chef, or even a higher level skill?"

### NOTES:

1. Report of the Legislative Committee on Juvenile Justice, May 1996, pp. 23-24.
2. Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1996 Update on Violence (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice, February 1996) p. 14.
3. Ibid., p. 14.
4. Ibid., p. 3.
5. Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.
6. Ibid., p. 26.
7. Elizabeth Clarke, *A Case for Reinventing Juvenile Transfer* (Draft), (Children and Family Justice Center of the Northwestern University School of Law, October 1995) p. 1.
8. Legislative Committee report, p. 56.
9. Kristine Kinder, et al, *A Comparison of the Dispositions of Juvenile Offenders Certified as Adults with Juvenile Offenders Not Certified* (Juvenile and Family Court Journal, 1995) pp. 39-40.
10. Donna M. Bishop, et al, *The Transfer of Juveniles to Criminal Court: Does It Make a Difference?* (Crime & Delinquency, April 1996) p. 183.
11. Jeffrey Fagan, *The Comparative Impact of Felony Offenders* (National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice, June 1991), as cited in Clarke, p. 13.
12. Legislative Committee report, p. 56.

# Community-based program helps teens make transition after incarceration

## Secured "step-down" program planned for Chicago

By Daniel Dighton

With a rated capacity of 1,210 youths and a resident population of nearly 1,900, the Juvenile Division of the Illinois Department of Corrections is running out of space. The soaring population at the state's six juvenile correctional facilities has prompted IDOC to put renewed emphasis on providing a continuum of care through community-based programs.

One such program in Chicago is helping youths recently released on parole make the transition back into their communities. Soon, it will be expanded to include a transitional facility for juveniles about to be released on parole.

An old manufacturing building and warehouse at 100 N. Western Ave. has been converted into a multipurpose facility for parole officers, various treatment specialists and an educational center. Early next year, a 100-bed, secured transitional facility will be added. The transitional, or "step-down," program will be designed to reintegrate into the community youthful offenders who are approaching their parole date at IDOC residential facilities, said Joanne Perkins, IDOC deputy director in charge of the juvenile division.

### Structured environment in the community

Education programs, counseling and employment opportunities will be part of the services offered as parole officers work closely with the teenagers and their families in a structured environment. Currently, there is no transition program before parole. "This will bring them back into the community and closer to

their families," Perkins said.

The program also will target recently released offenders who are having problems while on parole. Rather than sending them back to one of the six Illinois Youth Centers in the state, the only alternative now available, the youths will be given another chance with closer supervision in the transitional program. If the cause of the problem is a bad home environment, the facility will provide an interim option until another living arrangement can be found.

Scheduled to open in early 1997 in the top floor of the renovated facility, the transition program is a pilot effort by IDOC. It hopes to eventually establish similar programs in five to six other urban areas in the state, Perkins said.

### Education program

Another facet of IDOC's effort to provide a continuum of services is an expanded education program. The Healy Program Center moved at the end of May from its old location on Taylor Street into the ground floor of the building at 100 N. Western Ave. It is designed mostly for youths released on parole, but also includes some students who are on probation.

In addition to more space, the new location has the advantage of bringing all the education and parole services together in one location, said John Platt, administrator of community services for the juvenile division.

Established 10 years ago with two teachers, the Healy center offers a varied instruction program that is an alternative to regular school. It provides GED instruction as well as classes in core areas such as math, science and English. The 48 students are



*Teacher Charles Lucky, center, looks on while University of Illinois at Chicago Nutrition and Dietetics instructor Janet Regan Klich helps student Daryl Branch prepare a cake as part of a class on nutrition and cooking offered through the Illinois Department of Corrections' Healy Program Center.*

taught by four instructors from the Chicago public school system and a GED instructor from IDOC. Plans call for expanding the school to 80 students, including youths from the transitional program.

Instruction in life skills is a key component of the program at Healy. Working with the Jane Addams School of Social Work, instructors attempt to teach students about their inner-city environment and how to deal with it in a positive way, rather than through gang activity, drugs and violence.

As remarkable as it sounds, some of the students have never been out of their West Side Chicago neighborhoods, have never been to the Loop or even seen Lake Michigan, said Willeen Leslie, regional program supervisor at the Healy Program Center. "We have students who have not been to the downtown area, ever," she said.

Field trips to museums and other cultural sites are part of the program. One popular activity is a weekly cooking class offered through the nutrition and dietetics program at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The class focuses on good nutrition and helping students prepare simple, healthy meals at home. Another benefit of the class, since the students have to follow detailed recipes, is that it enhances math and reading skills.

### Combining services with supervision

The philosophy behind the community-based facility on Western Avenue is essentially the same as for the rest of juvenile corrections: to provide a combination of services and supervision. "It's that mix that makes the difference," Platt said. "One would be ineffective without the other."

Corrections officials hope to help the youths make a positive adjustment back into the community through the various programs available at the facility. In many ways, the current initiative is an effort to return to the level of community services available before federal and state budget cuts led to massive lay-

offs in 1991. "It's an effort to try and reclaim where we were," Platt said.

In addition to education programs, IDOC, with the help of a federal grant administered by the Authority, is adding to its parole staff in Cook County. The county now has only seven parole officers, resulting in caseloads that number in the 60s. Over the next few months, however, the staff, including parole officers, counselors and substance abuse specialists, will be expanded to 24, with much more manageable caseloads of between 25 and 35 youths, Platt said.

With more staff, greater attention can be given to treatment for substance abuse, one of the integral problems plaguing youths who enter corrections system. A recent survey conducted of youths entering the system found a substance abuse rate of 80 percent, Platt said.

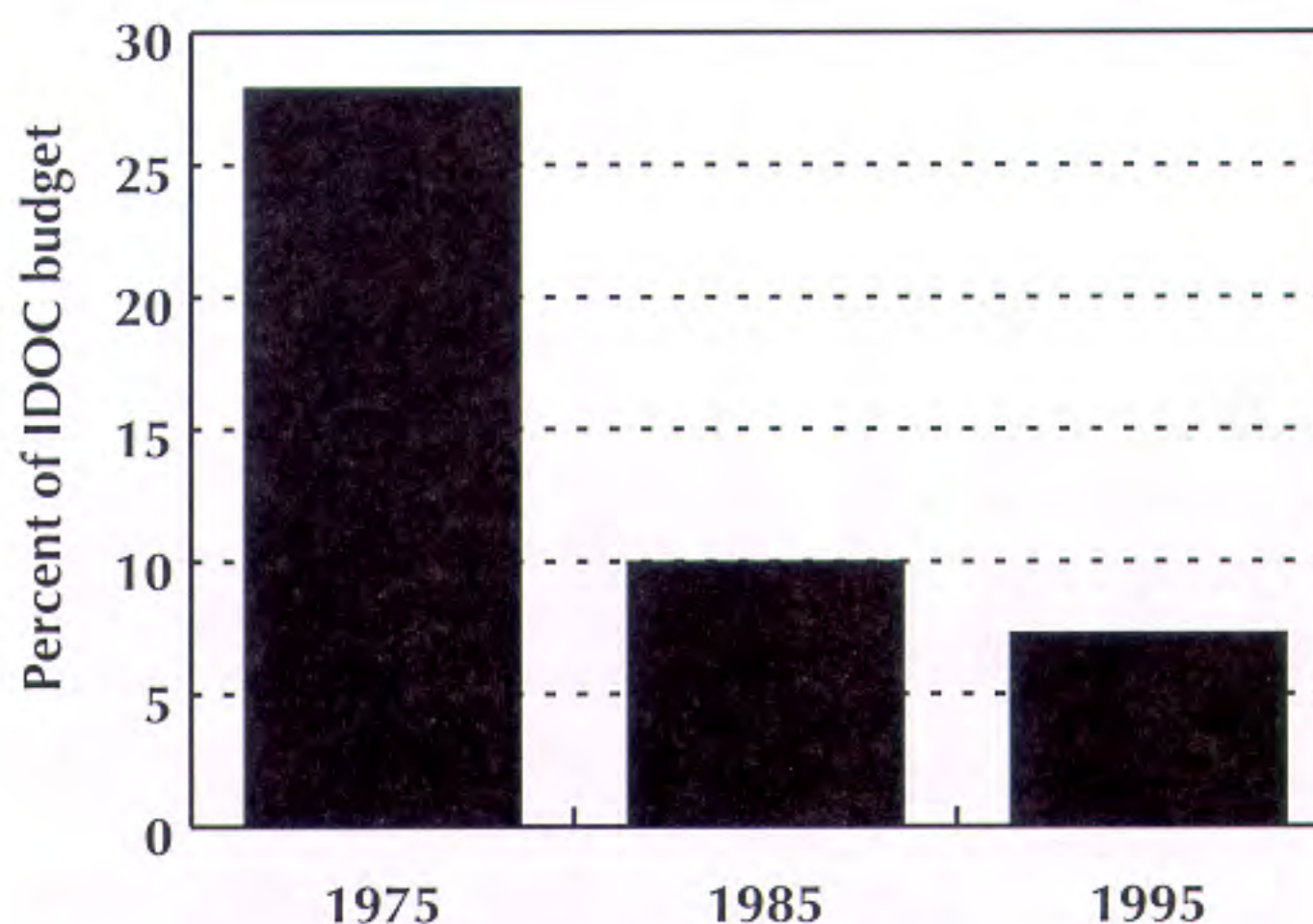
Bringing about positive changes in youths who come from damaged backgrounds, and who have substance abuse and various other physical and mental health problems, is a difficult and lengthy process. By expanding aftercare programs for youths on parole, IDOC



*Math teacher Charles Lucky helps a student at the Illinois Department of Corrections' Healy Program Center*

hopes to keep the youths engaged in the programs long enough to make a significant impact.

### Juvenile Division expenditures as percentage of total Illinois Department of Corrections budget



Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

# Intervention and prevention: What's available?

## Gaps in services mean there is no "continuum of care" for juveniles

By Sharon Bond

Juvenile justice practitioners often talk of an ideal scenario for dealing with youths who are in trouble: A continuum of care that provides services and sanctions appropriate to individual situations. While there are several options available in Illinois for youthful offenders, ranging from station adjustments to incarceration at the Illinois Department of Corrections' Juvenile Division, there is no consistent range of services available to all youth in the state.

Illinois is not alone in struggling to find the optimum combination of punishment, rehabilitation and prevention programs that will prevent juveniles from reoffending — or even from committing a crime in the first place. During the approximately 18 months that the Legislative Committee on Juvenile Justice met to discuss ways to improve Illinois' juvenile justice system, questions arose often as to what types of services and programs were effective, both in the state and elsewhere.

### Levels of service vary across state

In Illinois, services can be provided by a number of different entities, including Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services and Unified Delinquency Intervention Services. However, because funding for these agencies is dependent upon individual jurisdictions, and not the state legislature, there is not a consistent level of services provided in all areas of Illinois. A resource-rich area might have a number of services geared toward youth, while cash-strapped lo-

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***There is no systematic, comprehensive continuum of services available on a statewide basis.***

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cales offer little in the way of intervention programs. In fact, the final Report of the Legislative Committee on Juvenile Justice, issued in May 1996, noted that there is no systematic, comprehensive continuum of services available on a statewide basis, and that treatment resources are not equally accessible in all jurisdictions of Illinois.

The desire among practitioners to broaden services and programs so that juveniles either are identified early on as being in a risk-prone group, and diverted from a path of delinquency, or intervened with at an early stage of trouble-making, is not merely a philosophy based on compassion. It is backed up by research that shows risk-focused prevention works, as long as it contains critical components, according to a study published by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Those components include:

- ◆ Clear and consistent consequences for misconduct;
- ◆ Continuous case management;

- ◆ Emphasis on reintegration and re-entry services;
- ◆ Community-based delivery of services;
- ◆ Opportunities for youth achievement and involvement in program decision-making;
- ◆ Enriched educational and vocational programming; and
- ◆ A variety of forms of individual, group and family counseling matched to youths' needs.

### So what works?

In Illinois, the above-mentioned UDIS, which is available in only 18 of the state's 102 counties, provides intensive and client-focused advocacy, education and vocational training, as well as substance abuse and mental health treatment. About three of every four program participants are both attending school and gainfully employed at the time they leave the program, according to the Legislative Committee's report. About 600 youths are served annually in this program, at a cost of about \$3,000 per person.

UDIS is the "last stop" before going to the Illinois Department of Corrections, according to Juvenile Justice Commission Administrator Anne Studzinski. The ratio of youths to caseworkers is six-to-one; the environment is intense and "in-your-face," she said.

CCBYS serves more than 25,000 youths annually in Illinois; the primary goal is to divert juveniles from the child welfare and juvenile justice systems by

providing services aimed at family preservation or reunification. There are 70 local youth boards in Illinois providing crisis intervention, short-term, out-of-home placement and access to other services.

CCBYS service providers can intervene in a case after a juvenile has been detained for six hours at a police station.

Elsewhere in the state, an extended-day program in McLean County provides an alternative to secure detention. In this program, youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who have committed a delinquent act can be diverted to an after-school program for several hours a day (or all day in the summertime). Supervision is provided by juvenile probation officers; services include tutoring and individual and group counseling.

In Rock Island County, males between the ages of 13 - 18 who have experienced difficulty at home, the community or school, but who have not committed a violent act, can be referred to a 72-bed private residential treatment facility. Services provided there include counseling, substance abuse education, sexual abuse treatment, vocational and educational services, and aftercare.

Electronic monitoring is available as a sanction for Illinois juveniles, but is not used often, Studzinski said.

### **Programs in other states**

Other states are trying different approaches to juvenile justice, with some good results reported. Reclaim Ohio experienced a 45 percent drop in commitments to state institutions in eight pilot counties during its first year of operation, 1994. Funded by the state, the program provides money to juvenile courts for local incarceration and treatment of offenders.

The program is designed to ease the burden on the state's juvenile justice system, which was operating at 186 percent of capacity in 1994. Eligibility is extended to nonviolent youth who are first-time offenders. Reclaim Ohio was extended to all the state's 88 counties in 1995, at a cost of \$100 million. The pilot program cost \$7 million.

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## ***In Maryland, reincarceration rates among a group of juveniles released in 1987 and 1988 from a closed training school were less than 15 percent.***

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One program showing promising results in Pennsylvania is operating at the Bethesda Day Treatment Center. It provides intensive day treatment for youths who have committed delinquent or status offenses, whether or not they have been adjudicated delinquent. Serving as an alternative to residential placement for some youth, the program offers 55 hours of services per week. There are separate components devoted to schooling, treatment and employment opportunities.

A preliminary study of Bethesda's program showed recidivism rates of only 5 percent, far lower than state and national norms.

Four urban sites (Boston, Detroit, Memphis and Newark) are providing a continuum of services as part of the Violent Juvenile Offender program. Initially placed in small, secure facilities, participants gradually were reintegrated into their home communities through community-based residential programs, followed by intensive neighborhood supervision. In the two cities with the strongest program implementation, Boston and Detroit, an in-depth evaluation found that the VJO youth had significantly fewer — and less serious — rearrests than a control group.

In Maryland, reincarceration rates among a group of juveniles released in 1987 and 1988 from a closed training

school were less than 15 percent. One-half the youths from the Montrose school were sent home, and were provided with services and supervision there. The others were sent to smaller, nonsecure residential programs. The change was made, Maryland officials said, because they believed juvenile offenders could be handled effectively and safely through a continuum of community-based programs. Provided services range from traditional counseling and probation to intensive supervision and offense tracking.

Another home-based juvenile sanction, the Multisystematic Treatment Approach, is showing promising results in South Carolina and Missouri. The intensive service is targeted toward serious, chronic and, in some instances, violent juvenile offenders. Preliminary studies are showing that "carefully targeted and well-managed home-based services can be a viable alternative to costly institutional care without sacrificing public safety," says a report from the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work.

— Sharon Bond is director of the Authority's Office of Public Information.

# Juvenile detention admissions up sharply; largest increase in rural areas

80 percent of admissions to juvenile temporary detention centers in Illinois are for preadjudicatory detention

By David Olson and Nancy Smith

**D**emand continues to outpace capacity at Illinois' 16 county detention centers, where nearly 19,000 juveniles were held in 1995.

Statewide, admissions in 1995 were up 37 percent over 1992. Admissions from Cook County increased 36 percent, while admissions from counties outside of Cook increased 40 percent (Figure 1). The region experiencing the largest increase in detention center admissions during the period from 1992 to 1995 was Illinois' rural counties, where juvenile detention admissions increased more than 60 percent.

County juvenile temporary detention centers provide secure detention for juveniles awaiting hearings or for those adjudicated delinquent and sentenced to detention. Juveniles who are 10 years old or older

and taken into police custody may be detained in a juvenile detention center for up to 36 hours with the written authorization of a probation officer. Within 36 hours, the juvenile must be brought to juvenile court for a detention hearing to determine if detention should continue prior to the adjudication of the delinquency petition. In

addition to preadjudicatory detention, juveniles adjudicated delinquent also can be sentenced by the court to serve up to 30 days in a juvenile temporary detention center.

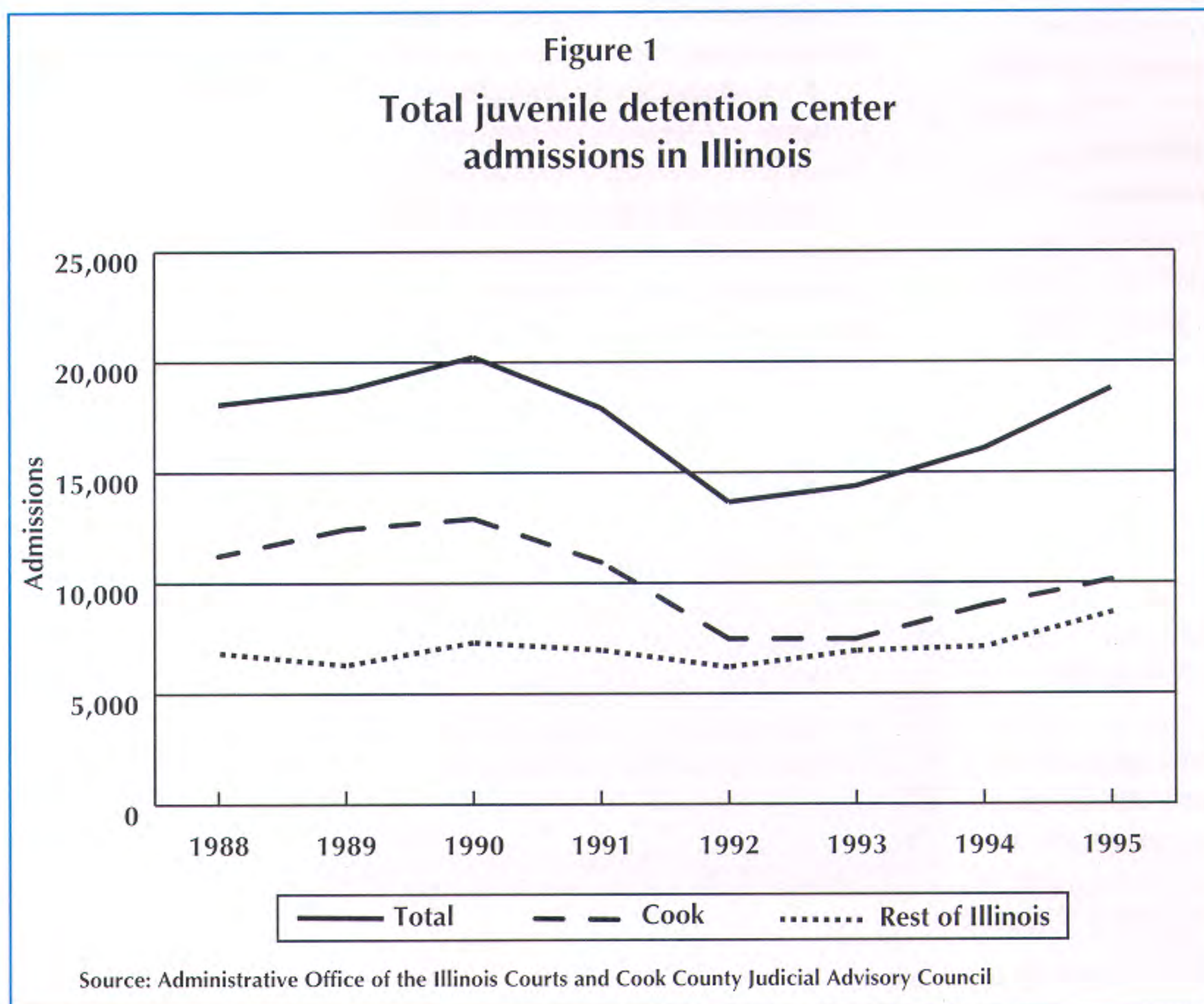
## Rising capacity

The combined capacity of the 16 juvenile detention centers operating in 1996 was 896 beds, which is 26 percent more than was available in 1989.

The capacity in eight of these 16 detention centers is 20 or less (See map). It cost more than \$37 million to operate the 16 detention centers in fiscal year 1995. A portion of the costs associated with operating juvenile detention centers outside of Cook County is supported with state funds passed through the Admin-

istrative Office of the Illinois Courts' Probation Division. In 1995, AOIC's Probation Division provided almost \$5 million to counties operating juvenile detention centers in the form of salary subsidies for detention center staff, or 26 percent of the operating costs.

The 86 counties that do not operate their own juvenile temporary detention centers contract at a per-diem rate



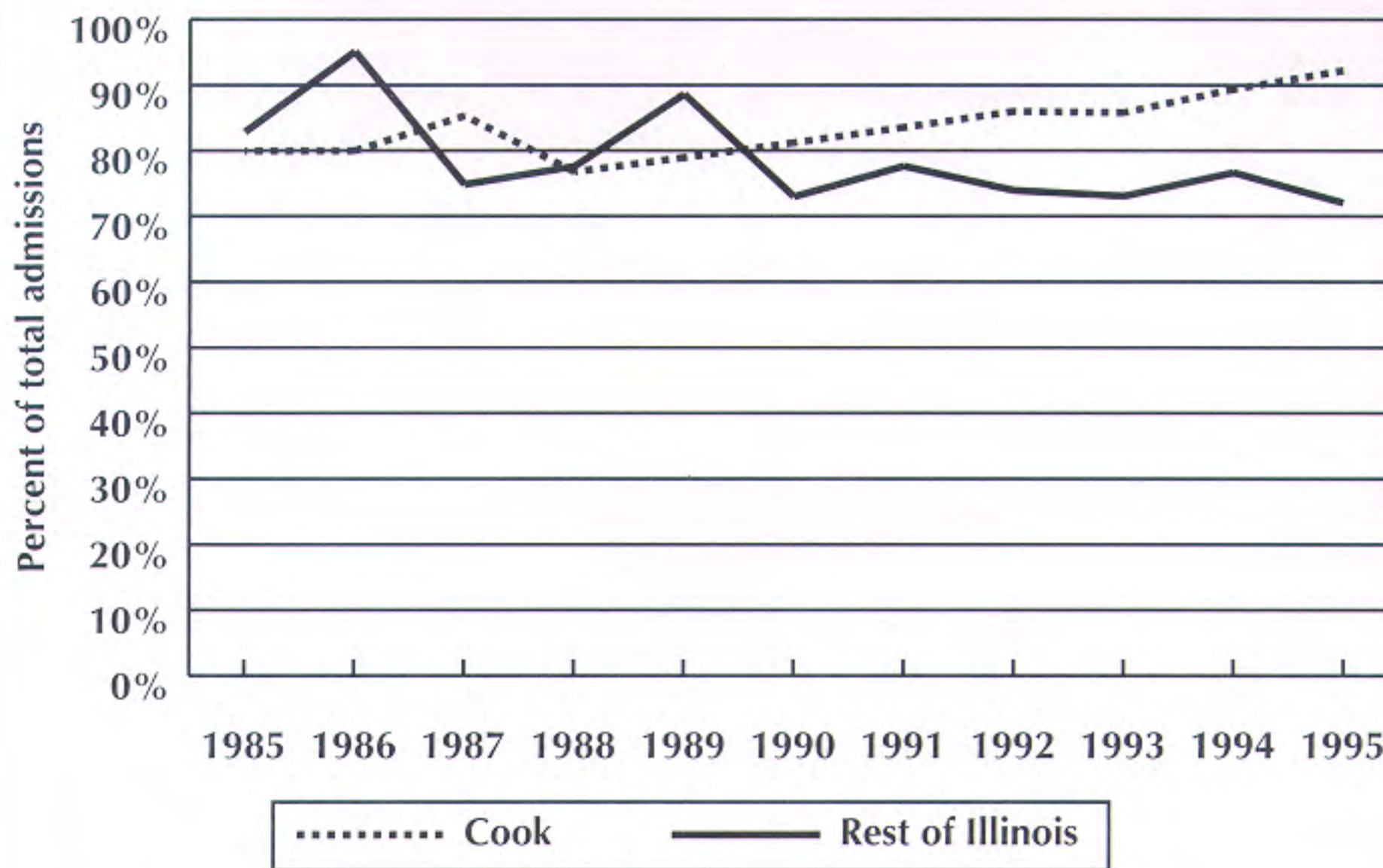


with one or more of the 16 counties operating a center. The per-diem rates ranged from \$50 to \$150 in 1995.

An analysis of the admissions reported through the Juvenile Monitoring Information System showed that more than 90 percent of the admissions to the detention centers in Cook, DuPage, Lake, Macon, Sangamon and Winnebago counties were from the county operating the detention center. On the other hand, less than 70 percent of the admissions to the detention centers in Adams, Champaign, Knox, McLean and Will counties were from the counties operating the detention center.

Often, juveniles must be transported long distances to detention centers that have bed space available. Juveniles have been transported from counties in northern Illinois to the detention centers operated in St. Clair and Madison counties – a distance of almost 300 miles. In some of the counties operating detention centers, the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission has provided grants to support the costs associated with transporting juveniles to and from detention centers.

**Figure 2**  
Preadjudicatory detention admissions as a percent of total admissions



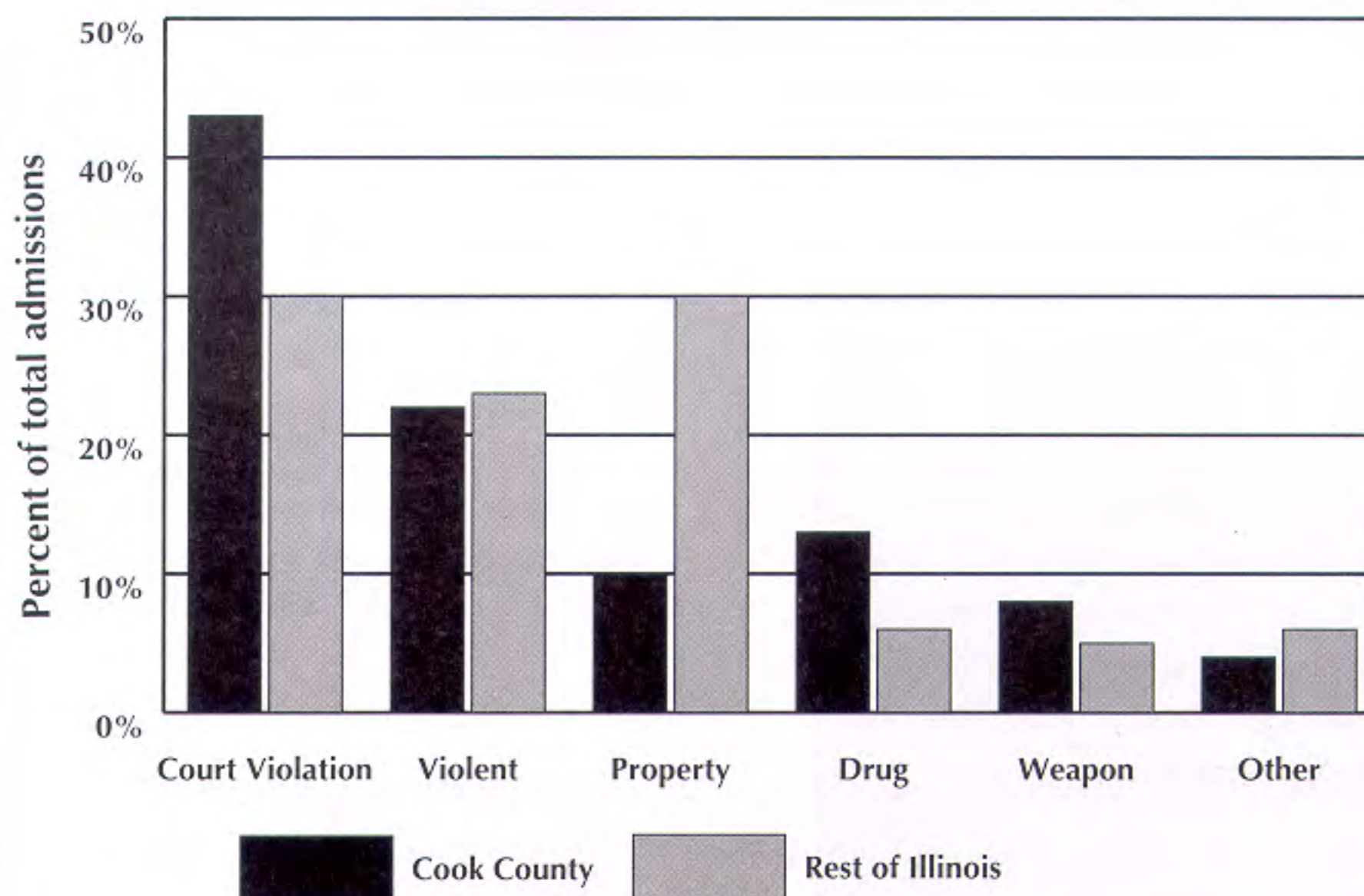
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

when Cook County is compared to the rest of Illinois, a different pattern has emerged. In Cook County, the proportion of total admissions accounted for by preadjudicatory admissions increased

from 80 percent to more than 90 percent between 1985 and 1995. In the rest of Illinois, however, the proportion of preadjudicatory admissions decreased from more than 80 percent to almost 70 percent (Figure 2).

The majority (88 percent) of juveniles admitted to temporary detention centers statewide in Illinois are male, although there are some differences between admissions from Cook County and the rest of the state. Based on 1994 data from the JMIS, males accounted for 93 per-

**Figure 3**  
Juvenile detention center admissions in Illinois, by offense type



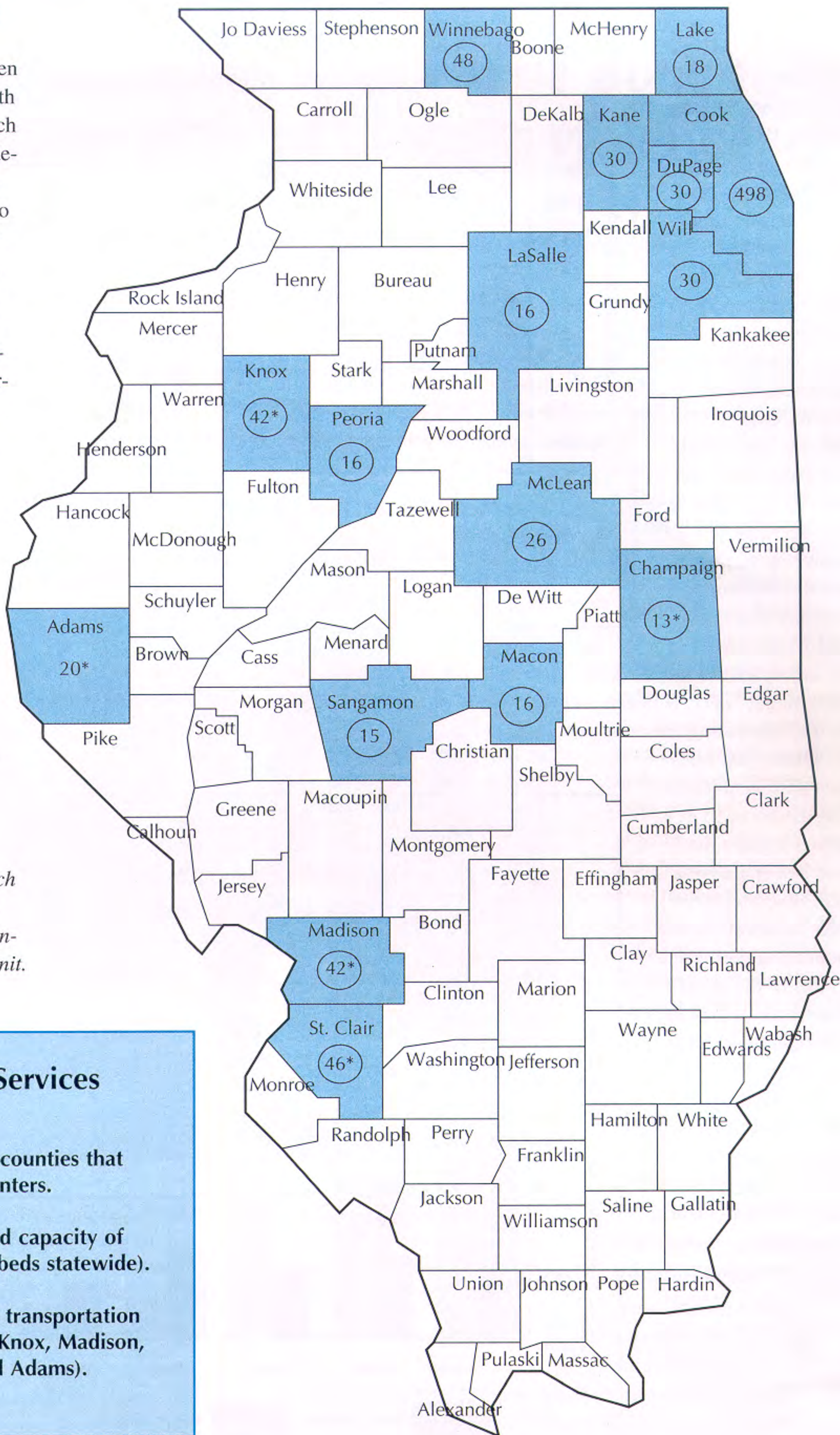
Source: Juvenile Monitoring Information System

cent of juvenile admissions in Cook County, compared to 83 percent in the rest of Illinois.

There also were differences between Cook County and the rest of Illinois with respect to the types of offenses for which juveniles were admitted to temporary detention centers (Figure 3). Court violations — most often juveniles who fail to abide by the conditions of probation or supervision — were the most common type of admission in Cook County and the rest of Illinois. Court violations accounted for more than 40 percent of admissions from Cook County and 30 percent of admissions from the rest of Illinois. Roughly one out of every five juvenile admissions was for violent crimes in both regions. In Cook County, 13 percent of admissions were for drug offenses, compared to 6 percent in the rest of Illinois.

One issue that has become particularly problematic for detention centers is the detention of juveniles transferred to criminal courts. Although they accounted for only about 3 percent of all detention center admissions in 1994, their length of stay is considerably longer than those charged as delinquents in juvenile court.

— David Olson is a senior research analyst with the Authority's Research and Analysis Unit. Nancy Smith is an intern with the Research and Analysis Unit.



**Juvenile Detention Services**

Shaded areas denote the 16 counties that operate detention centers.

Encircled number is the rated capacity of the center in that county (896 beds statewide).

The five counties that operate transportation programs are noted with an \*(Knox, Madison, St. Clair, Champaign and Adams).

# Motor vehicle thefts drop in '95

A 17 percent drop in thefts since 1991 equates to a savings of \$62.5 million since the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council's inception

By Gerard Ramker

Recently released statewide uniform crime reporting statistics revealed that vehicle thefts declined by more than 8 percent in 1995 compared to 1994. The number of vehicle thefts in Illinois has dropped by more than 17 percent between 1991, one year before programs funded by the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council were launched, and 1995. Furthermore, the decreases witnessed in Illinois outpaced national trends. Between 1991 and 1994 there was a 7.38 percent drop in

related crimes have increased in number and length. The average prison sentence for motor vehicle theft doubled between 1984 and 1993. In 1990, the majority of motor vehicle thieves received sentences of probation. In 1995, the majority were sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections.

### Funding for law enforcement

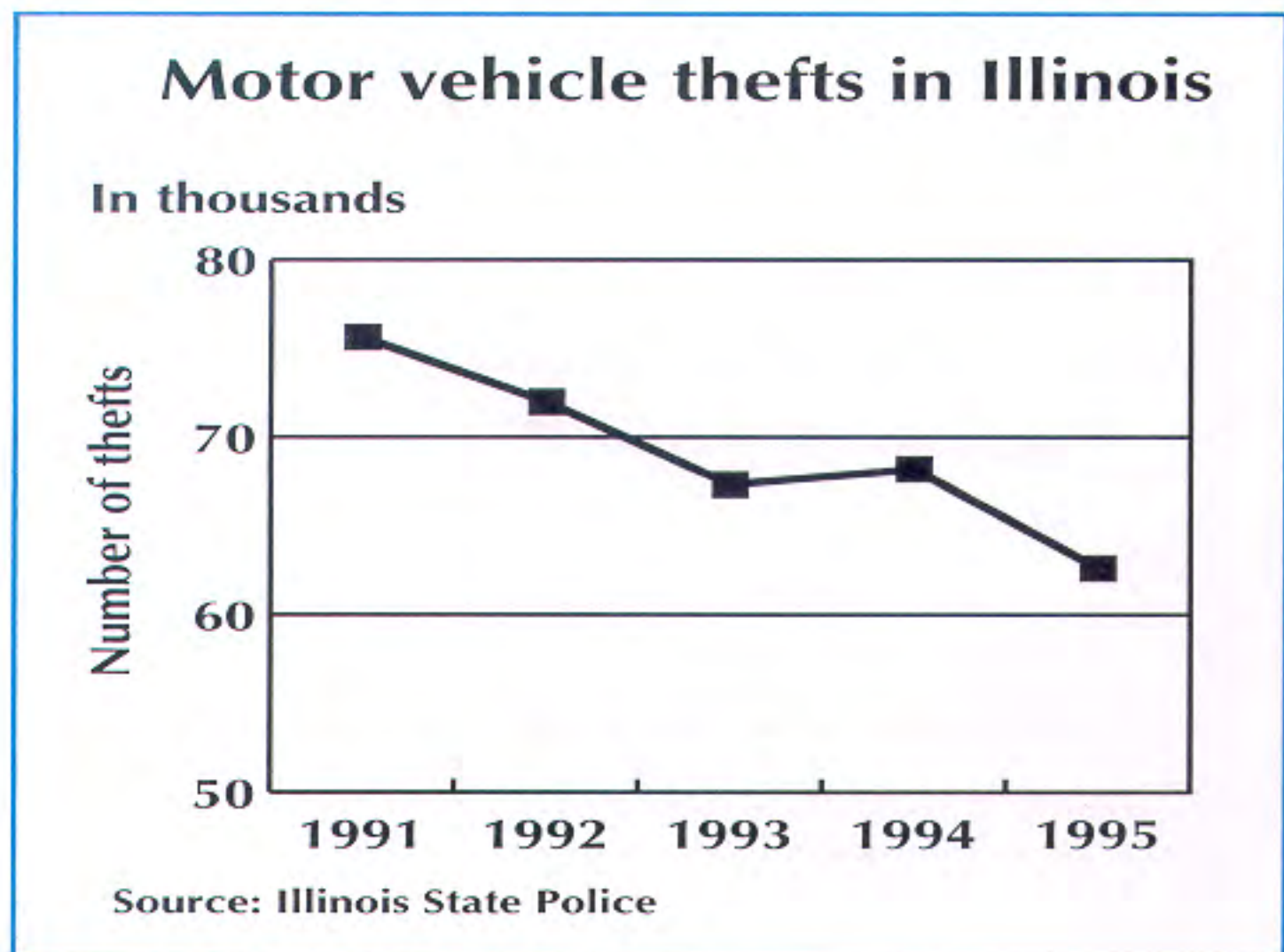
The vast majority of the Council's grant funds have been awarded for enhanced law enforcement efforts targeting vehicle theft, including multijurisdictional task forces, special investigative teams, vertical prosecution efforts, training, and the collection, analysis and sharing of criminal intelligence information.

The Council recently awarded more than \$6 million for 1996 vehicle theft prevention programs. More than 92 percent of these funds are used to support law enforcement activities. Some funds also have been awarded for public awareness and innovative programs.

In addition to the funds paid by auto insurers in the state, grantees and participating agencies share a significant portion of program costs through the use of matching funds. Those matching funds amount to more than \$2.2 million in 1996, or 29 percent of the \$7.9 million total cost of funded programs.

### Publications available

The Council recently approved its 1995 annual report, which is now available. The Council also recently issued new versions of its quarterly "News & Notes" newsletter. For copies of these or other Council publications, please contact the Council at 312/793-8550.

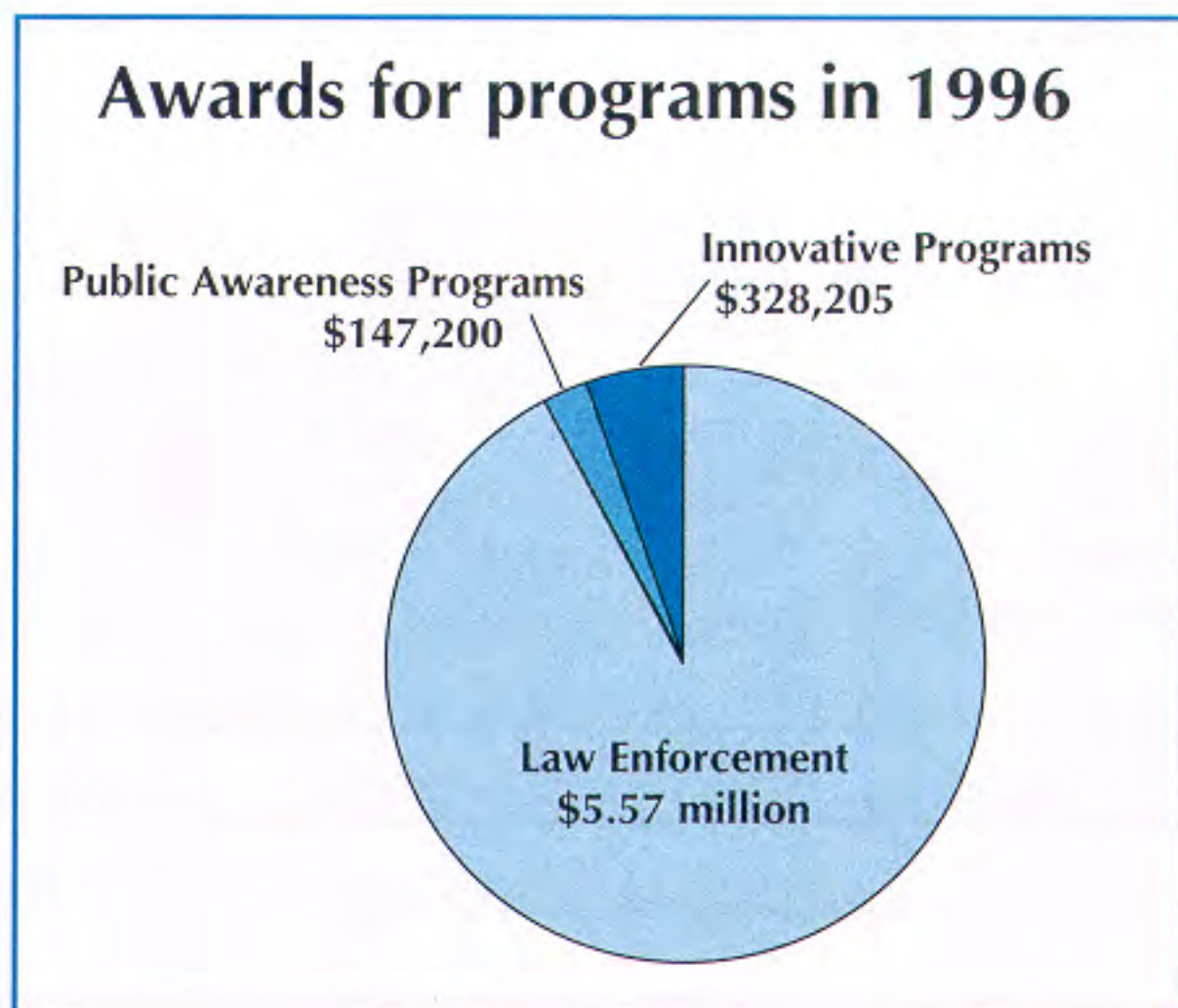


motor vehicle thefts in the United States. During the same period, the number of thefts in Illinois dropped 9.8 percent. There were significant decreases in the number of vehicle thefts in Illinois for each year during that period except 1994, when there was a slight increase (1 percent) from the previous year.

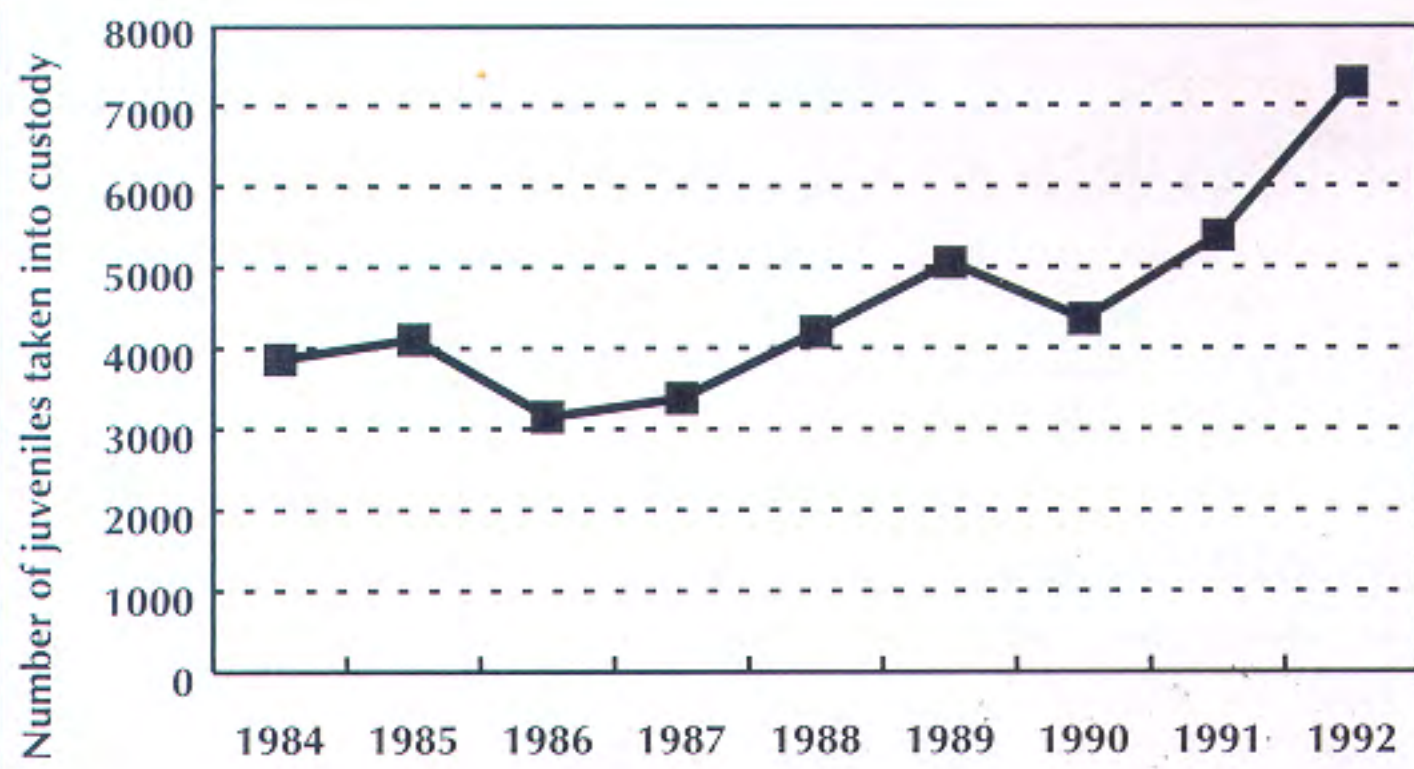
### \$62.5 million saved

Some 13,000 fewer vehicles were stolen in 1995 than in 1991, a 17.2 percent reduction, equating to a savings of about \$62.5 million. During this time frame, task forces and audit teams operating around the state recovered 5,992 vehicles, equating to a value of \$42.7 million. During the same period, grantee and administrative expenditures totaled \$24 million. These figures translate to a return of about \$4.30 on every \$1 spent on anti-vehicle theft efforts throughout 1995.

There were 6,690 criminal investigations, 8,698 audits of vehicle-related businesses, 2,728 arrests, and 932 convictions as a result of Council-funded programs during this period. Sentences to the Illinois Department of Corrections for motor vehicle theft and

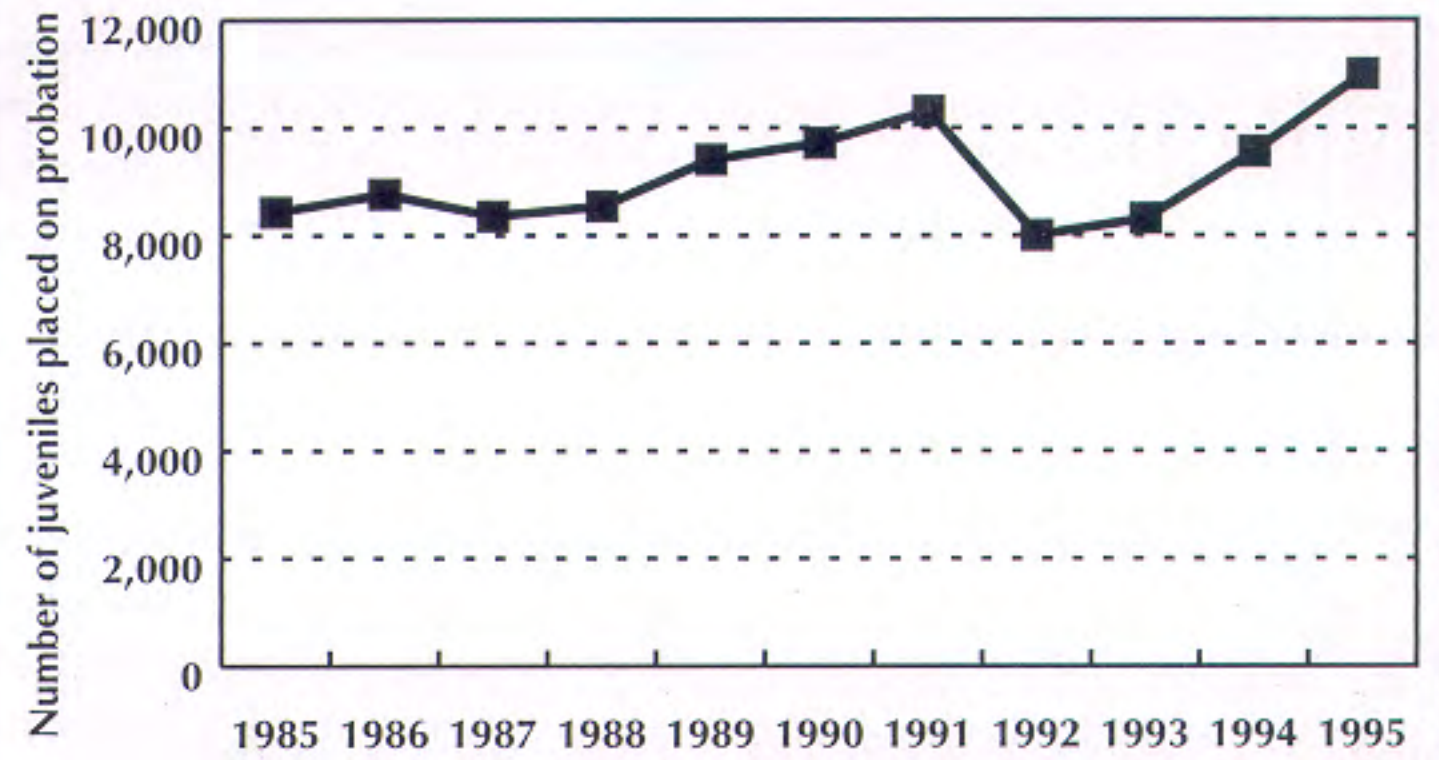


Juveniles taken into custody for drug offenses in Illinois



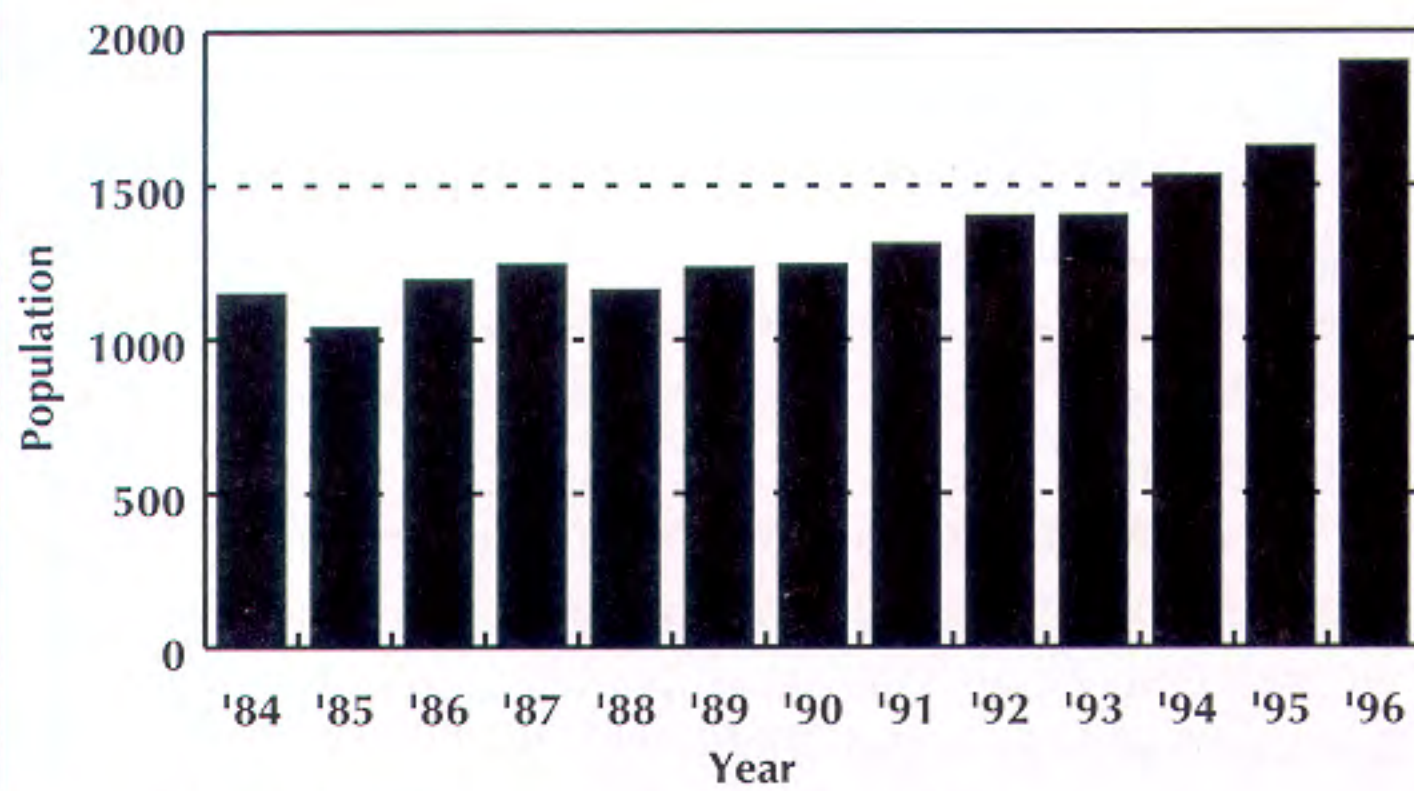
Source: Illinois Uniform Crime Reports, Illinois State Police

Juveniles adjudicated delinquent and placed on probation in Illinois



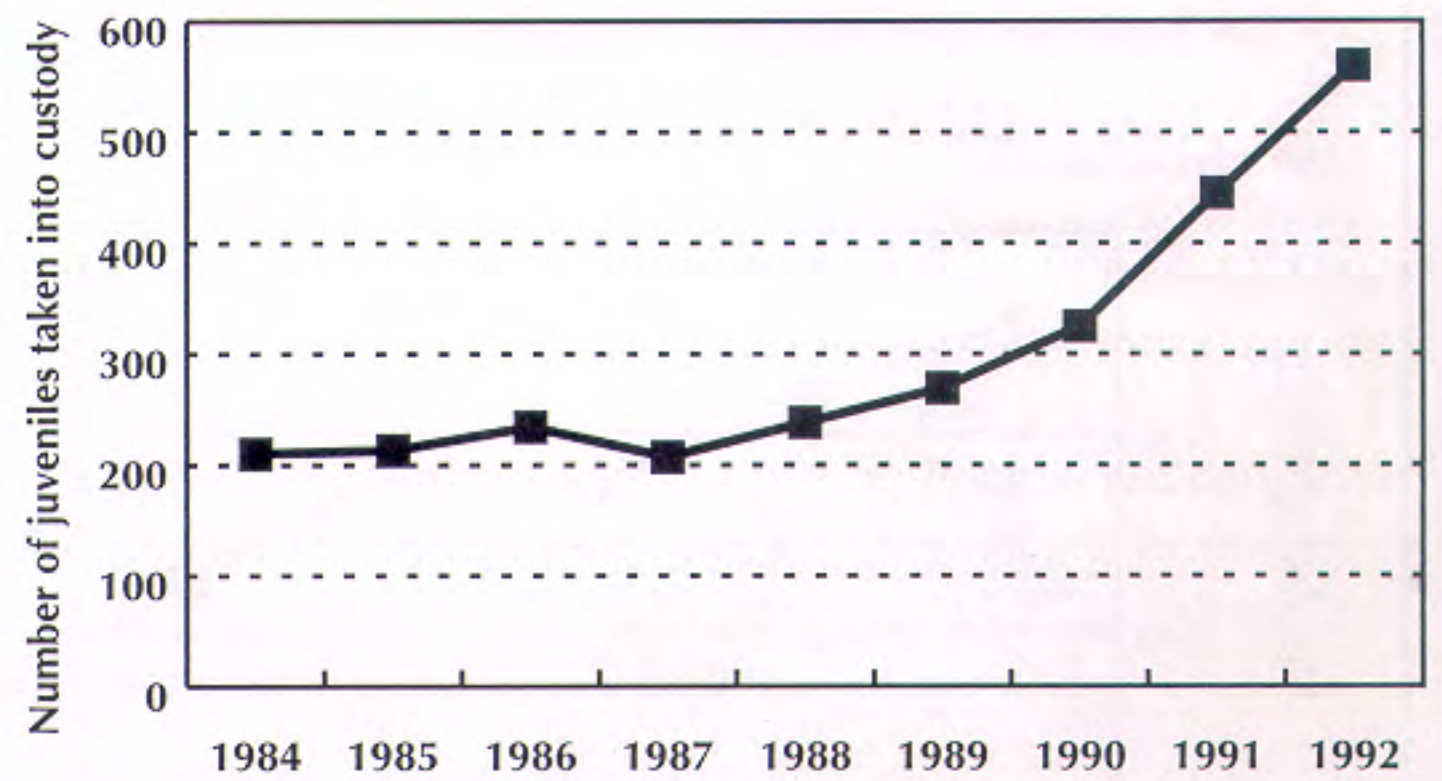
Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Illinois Department of Corrections' Juvenile Division end of fiscal year population



Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

Juveniles taken into custody for unlawful use of a weapon in Illinois



Source: Illinois Uniform Crime Reports, Illinois State Police



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