

120 S. Riverside Plaza,
Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Tel: (312) 793-8550
Fax: (312) 793-8422
TDD: (312) 793-4170

www.icjia.state.il.us

Prepared by

The Research and
Analysis Unit

Rod R. Blagojevich
Governor

Sheldon Sorosky
Chairman

Lori G. Levin
Executive Director

March 2004

Assessing Illinois' Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Task Forces



A Profile of the Lake County Metropolitan Enforcement Group

This project was supported by Grant # 02-DB-BX-0017, awarded to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, coordinates the activities of the following programs, offices and bureaus: Bureau of Justice Assistance, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions contained within this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3997
Telephone (312) 793-8550
Telefax (312) 793-8422
TDD: (312) 793-4170
World Wide Website <http://www.icjia.state.il.us>

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A number of organizations and individuals put a great deal of effort into the development of this document. The Authority's Research and Analysis Unit is very grateful for the assistance provided by the following organizations:

Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts
Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Illinois Department of Corrections
Illinois State Police
Lake County Metropolitan Enforcement Group (LCMEG)
U.S. Bureau of the Census

In addition, the following individuals were instrumental in gathering, interpreting and presenting these data:

Robert Bauer
Gary Kupsak
Kelly Marzano
Thomas Nichol
David Olson
Gerard Ramker
Michelle Repp
Gregory Stevens

CONTENTS

Section	Page Number
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
I.	Introduction..... 1
II.	Trends in Violent Index Offenses and Arrests..... 3
III.	Trends in Drug Arrests 6
IV.	Trends in Drug Seizures 14
V.	Trends in Prosecutions for Drug Offenses..... 16
VI.	Trends in Percent of Convicted Drug Offenders Sentenced to Prison..... 18
VII.	Trends in Drug Treatment Admissions in Lake County, by Drug Type..... 23
VIII.	Trends in Substance-Exposed Infants 26
IX.	Summary of Drug Situation 27
X.	Appendices..... 29
	Map 1 2002 Percent of Illinois' County-level Population Covered by an Authority-funded Metropolitan Enforcement Group or Task Force..... 30
	Map 2 2002 Illinois Cannabis Seizure Rates, by County 31
	Map 3 2002 Illinois Cocaine Seizure Rates, by County 32
	Map 4 2002 Illinois Crack Seizure Rates, by County 33
	Map 5 2002 Illinois Methamphetamine Seizure Rates, by County 34
	Map 6 2002 Illinois Heroin Seizure Rates, by County 35
XI.	Bibliography 36

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page Number
Figure 1.	Violent Index Offense Rates for Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG 3
Figure 2.	2002 Violent Index Offenses* Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG..... 4
Figure 3.	Violent Index Arrest Rates for Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG 5
Figure 4.	2002 Violent Index Arrests* Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG..... 5
Figure 5.	Total Drug Arrest Rates for LCMEG and Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG..... 7
Figure 6.	2002 Drug Arrests* Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG 7
Figure 7.	Total 2002 Drug Arrests* Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG, by Drug Type 8
Figure 8.	Drug Arrests by LCMEG..... 9
Figure 9.	Percent of Total Drug Arrests Accounted for by LCMEG 9
Figure 10.	Cannabis Arrests Rates in Lake County as Reported by Participating Agencies, Non- participating Agencies, and LCMEG..... 10
Figure 11.	Percent of Cannabis Arrests Accounted for by LCMEG 11
Figure 12.	Controlled Substances Arrest Rates in Lake County as Reported by Participating Agencies, Non-participating Agencies, and LCMEG..... 12

Figure 13. Percent of Controlled Substances Arrests Accounted for by LCMEG	12
Figure 14. LCMEG Drug Arrests for Possession versus Delivery, by Drug Type	13
Figure 15. Cannabis Seized and Submitted by Lake County and Seized by LCMEG.....	14
Figure 16. Powder and Crack Cocaine Seized and Submitted by Lake County and Seized by LCMEG	15
Figure 17. Number of Felony Filings in Lake County	16
Figure 18. Total LCMEG Drug Arrests and Percentage of Arrests Resulting in Prosecution	17
Figure 19. Sentences Imposed on Felons Convicted in Lake County	18
Figure 20. Sentences Imposed on Convicted LCMEG Drug Offenders	19
Figure 21. Number of Drug Offenders Committed to IDOC by Lake County and LCMEG.....	20
Figure 22. Drug Offenders as a Percent of Total IDOC Commitments from Lake County	21
Figure 23. Drug Offenders Committed to IDOC from Lake County, by Offense Class.....	22
Figure 24. Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions from Lake County	23
Figure 25. Comparison of Drug Arrests by LCMEG and Participating and Non-participating Agencies vs. Drug Abuse Treatment Admissions in Lake County, 2002.....	25
Figure 26. Cases of Substance-Exposed Infants in Lake County	26
Figure 27. Availability of Drugs in Illinois, 2000.....	27
Figure 28. Price Per Gram in Illinois, 2000	28

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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. In addition, as part of its monitoring and evaluation efforts, the Authority also requires funded programs to submit monthly data reports describing their activities and accomplishments. This profile is intended to provide a general overview of the drug and violent crime problem in the jurisdictions covered by Illinois' MEGs and task forces, and the response to these problems by the units.

Although the data presented in this report are by no means inclusive of all indicators, they do provide a general overview of drug and violent crime and the response and impact of the criminal justice system. The following represent general conclusions that can be made based on the data analyzed for this report.

- In 2002, 24 local Illinois police agencies participated in LCMEG (a participating agency is defined as one that contributes either personnel or financial resources to LCMEG). Officers assigned to LCMEG (totaling 22 in 2002, 15 from participating agencies) accounted for 2 percent of the total number of sworn police officers working for agencies participating in LCMEG.
- On average, during the period analyzed, the violent Index offense rate tended to be slightly higher across the jurisdictions that did not participate in LCMEG than it was among the combined jurisdictions that did participate in LCMEG (page 3).
- The drug arrest rate was higher in the jurisdictions that participated in LCMEG than in those jurisdictions that participate in LCMEG. The drug arrest rate achieved by LCMEG was significantly lower than that achieved by both the participating and non-participating agencies. However, when comparing the rates of the participating and non-participating agencies to those achieved by LCMEG, LCMEG made one arrest for a violation of the Cannabis Control or Controlled Substances Acts, with only 22 officers, for every seven arrests made by the participating agencies and seven arrests made by non-participating agencies (page 6).
- When comparing the types of drug offenders arrested by those agencies participating in LCMEG, those agencies not participating, and LCMEG, it was found that LCMEG tended to target and arrest more serious drug law violators, specifically violators of the Controlled Substances Act, which tend to be felony-level offenses (page 8).
- The majority of all drug arrests reported by LCMEG, for either violations of the Cannabis Control Act or the Controlled Substances Act, involve drug sale or delivery (page 13).
- Between 1993 and 2002, the amount of cannabis seized by LCMEG increased while the amount of cocaine seized by LCMEG decreased (pages 14 and 15).
- Between 1989 and 2002, the majority of all drug arrests by LCMEG resulted in prosecution. Of these LCMEG drug offender prosecutions, 61 percent were for violations of Controlled

Substances Act. In addition, between 1989 and 2002, 54 percent of all drug offenders who were prosecuted as a result of LCMEG activity were convicted (page 17).

- In 2002, among those LCMEG drug offenders convicted and sentenced, probation sentences accounted for the largest proportion (49 percent), followed by prison sentences (39 percent) and jail sentences (13 percent) (page 19).
- Between 1989 and 2002, prison sentences resulting from LCMEG cases accounted for only 13 percent of all drug-law violators sent to prison from the region where LCMEG operates, although that percentage has decreased from 34 percent in 1989 to just 8 percent in 2002 (page 20).
- Unlike the arrests made by the participating and non-participating agencies, the arrests made by LCMEG tended to involve the substances considered to be most serious (i.e., felony versus misdemeanor) and the substances for which a large proportion of community residents were seeking and receiving substance abuse treatment in 2002 (page 24).

I. Introduction

The Lake County Metropolitan Enforcement Group (LCMEG) covers Lake County. This county had a 2002 total population of 674,850 – 30 percent more than in 1990. In 2002, 24 local police agencies participated in LCMEG. These include the Lake County Sheriff’s Office and the following municipal police departments: Antioch, Bannockburn, Buffalo Grove, Deerfield, Fox Lake, Grayslake, Gurnee, Hawthorne Woods, Highwood, Lake Forest, Lake Park, Lake Villa, Lake Zurich, Libertyville, Lincolnshire, Mundelein, Park City, Round Lake Beach, Round Lake Heights, Round Lake Park, Vernon Hills, Waukegan, and Winthrop Harbor, as well as the Veteran’s Administration Police Department. As a result, these agencies covered 72 percent of the population in Lake County (see Map 1 on page 30). A participating agency is defined as one that contributes either personnel or financial resources to LCMEG.

In addition to agencies that participate in LCMEG, Lake County is served by 17 additional police departments that do not participate in LCMEG. According to the Illinois State Police, the county sheriff and local police departments in Lake County, combined, employed 1,170 full-time police officers as of Oct. 31, 2002. In comparison, there were a total of just 22 officers assigned to LCMEG in 2002, 15 of which were assigned by participating agencies, two from the Illinois State Police (ISP), and five from federal law enforcement agencies, including three from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and one each from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Thus, the local officers assigned to LCMEG during 2002 accounted for a relatively small proportion—2 percent—of the total number of sworn police officers working in the participating police departments, and the region as a whole.

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. In addition, as part of its monitoring and evaluation efforts, the Authority also requires funded programs to submit monthly data reports describing their activities and accomplishments. To put this information into the hands of Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG) and Drug task force directors and policy board members, the Authority’s Research and Analysis Unit has developed profiles – of which this is one – for each MEG and task force. The profile is intended to provide a general overview of the drug and violent crime problem in the jurisdictions covered by Illinois’ MEGs and task forces, and the response to these problems by the units.

In addition to administering federal block-grant funds that come to Illinois for crime control initiatives, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is also responsible for providing 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. 3930). 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.

While the data presented in this report are by no means inclusive of all indicators, they do provide a general overview of drug and violent crime and the response and impact of the criminal justice system. In addition, these data are readily available and consistently defined through existing statewide data collection mechanisms. Some data presented in this profile have been analyzed differently than in

previous years; therefore, caution must be taken when comparing numbers presented with previous profiles.

While a considerable amount of the information presented in this profile has been provided to the Authority by LCMEG, a number of state agencies have also provided data to the Authority that are included in this report. Specifically, the Illinois State Police, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, the Illinois Department of Corrections and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services all provided data used to develop this profile. 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.

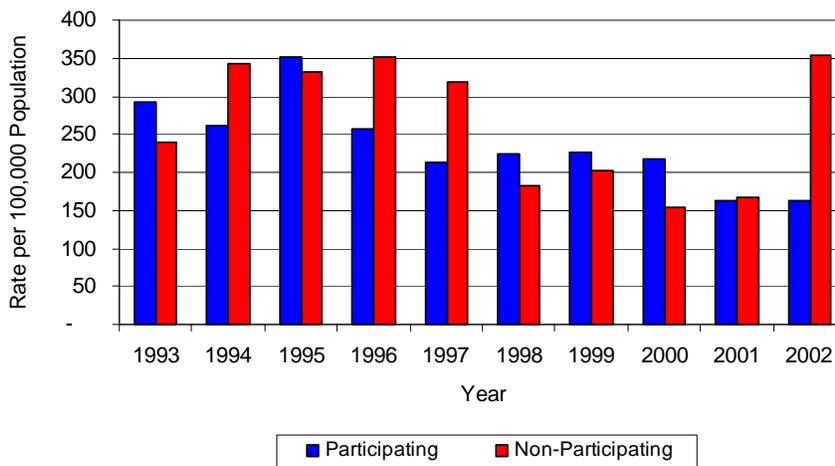
II. Trends in Violent Index Offenses and Arrests

While most of Illinois' Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Drug task forces are primarily involved in drug enforcement activities, it is clear that the relationship between drugs and violence is particularly evident in a number of Illinois communities. In addition, a number of MEGs and task forces have increased their involvement in the investigation of violent crime, particularly that associated with gang activity and violence related to drug distribution, sale and turf battles. 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. In Illinois, as part of the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) program, every law enforcement agency in the state is required to report crime data monthly to the Illinois State Police (ISP), either directly or through another law enforcement agency, usually the county sheriff's department. There are eight separate offenses that 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.

In 2002, the total number of violent Index offenses reported to the police in the region where LCMEG operates totaled 1,457, a 4 percent decrease from the 1,522 offenses reported in 1993. The majority (61 percent) of violent Index offenses reported to the police between 1993 and 2002 were aggravated assaults, while 25 percent were robberies.

During the period analyzed, the violent Index offense rate for Lake County decreased 22 percent, from 277 offenses per 100,000 population in 1993 to 216 offenses per 100,000 population in 2002. Similarly, the violent Index offense rate in the participating agencies decreased 44 percent, from 293 to 163 offenses per 100,000 population, while the rate in the non-participating agencies increased 48 percent, from 239 to 353 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 1). Thus, on average, during the period analyzed, the violent Index offense rate tended to be slightly higher across the jurisdictions that did not participate in LCMEG than it was among the combined jurisdictions that did participate in LCMEG.

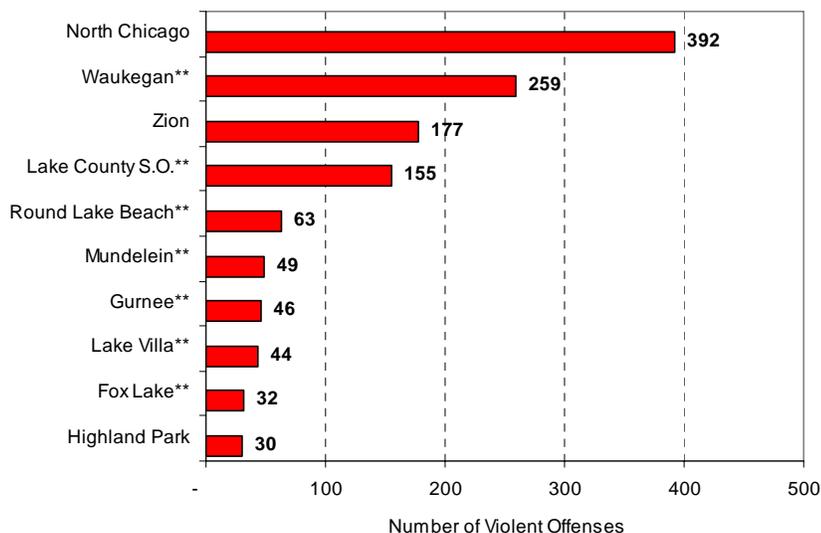
Figure 1
Violent Index Offense Rates for Participating
and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered
by LCMEG



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

Across the individual local law enforcement agencies covered by LCMEG’s jurisdiction, three agencies, the North Chicago Police Department, the Waukegan Police Department, and the Zion Police Department accounted for over one-half (57 percent) of all violent Index offenses reported to the police in 2002 (Figure 2). Agencies reporting fewer than 25 violent Index offenses in 2002 are excluded from Figure 2. When controlling for differences in the populations served by these law enforcement agencies, the violent Index offense *rate* ranged from zero violent Index offenses per 100,000 population in Deer Park to 9,268 offenses per 100,000 population in Island Lake.

Figure 2
2002 Violent Index Offenses* Reported by Participating
and Non-participating Agencies
in Region Covered by LCMEG



Source: Illinois State Police

*Agencies reporting 25 or more violent offenses

**Agencies participating in LCMEG

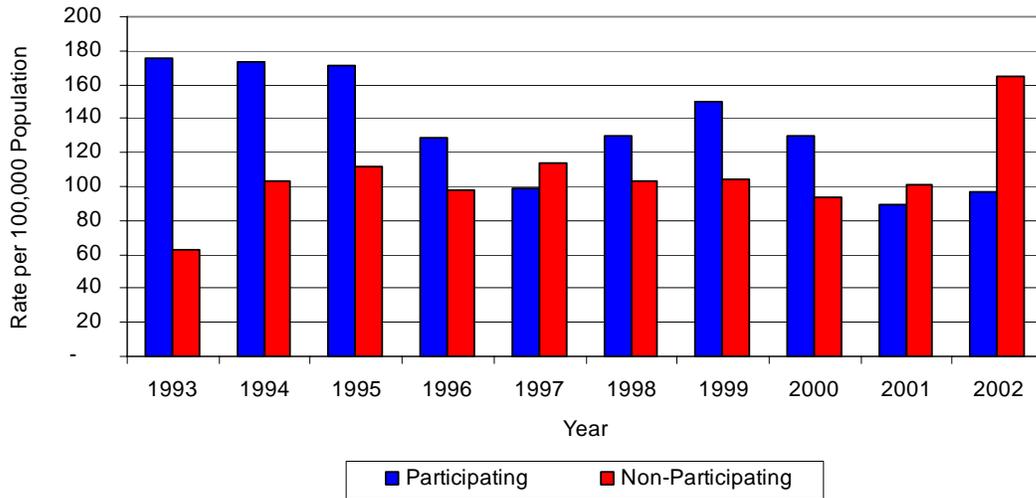
An indicator of the workload that law enforcement agencies place on other components of the justice system is the number of arrests made by police, including those for violent and property Index offenses and drug offenses. Unlike offenses, which are what police must respond to, arrests represent those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

Between 1993 and 2002, the number of arrests for violent Index offenses made by law enforcement agencies in Lake County remained unchanged at 783. However, during the same period, the number of arrests for violent Index offenses decreased 31 percent among participating agencies, from 681 arrests in 1993 to 472 arrests in 2002. Conversely, the number of arrests for violent Index offenses more than tripled among non-participating agencies, from 102 to 311. As with reported violent Index offenses, the majority (78 percent) of violent Index arrests were for aggravated assaults, followed by robberies (11 percent).

During the period analyzed, the violent Index arrest *rate*, which takes into account the substantial increase in the Lake County population during the period, for Lake County decreased 19 percent, from 142 offenses per 100,000 population in 1993 to 116 arrests per 100,000 population in 2002. Similarly, the violent Index arrest rate in the participating agencies decreased 45 percent, from 175 to 97 offenses per 100,000 population, while the rate in the non-participating agencies more than doubled, from 63 to 165 offenses per 100,000 population (Figure 3).

Figure 3

Violent Index Arrest Rates for Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG

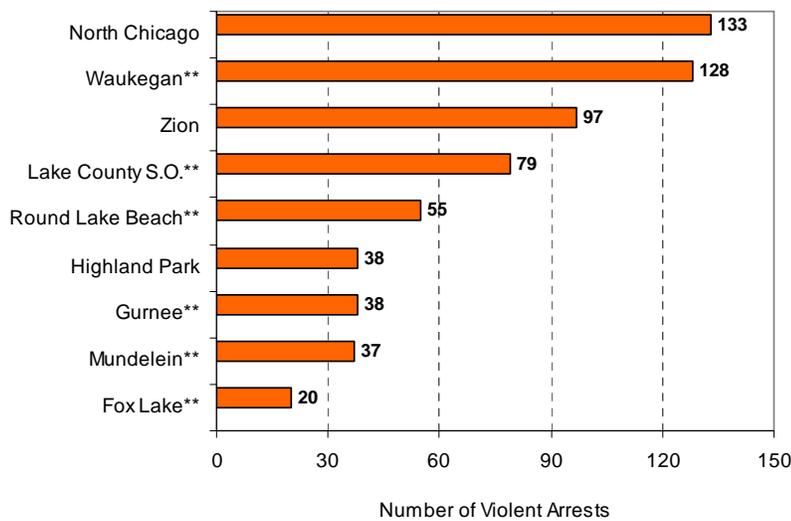


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police and U.S. Census Bureau data

Similar to the number of violent Index offenses, the largest proportion (47 percent) of arrests for violent Index offenses occurring in Lake County were made by three agencies. Agencies reporting fewer than 20 arrests for violent Index offenses in 2002 are excluded from Figure 4. Of the 775 violent Index arrests made in 2002, the North Chicago and Waukegan police departments each accounted for 17 percent, followed by Zion Police Department (13 percent) (Figure 4).

Figure 4

2002 Violent Index Arrests* Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG



Source: Illinois State Police

* Agencies reporting 20 or more violent arrests

**Agencies participating in LCMEG

III. Trends in Drug Arrests

There are two sources of drug arrest data presented in this section. One source is the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) program that includes information submitted by local law enforcement agencies on the number of persons arrested for violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act, Controlled Substances Act, Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act, and Drug Paraphernalia Control Act. In addition, data on drug arrests made by Illinois' MEGs and task forces are reported to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. In some jurisdictions, arrests made by the MEG or task force may be reported by both local law enforcement agencies through the I-UCR and to the Authority by the unit. In other jurisdictions, arrests made by the MEG or task force are only reported to the Authority by the unit. Therefore, in some instances drug arrests may be double counted – included in both local agency statistics reported to I-UCR and those of the MEG or task force. Currently there is no mechanism in place to ensure that drug arrest statistics are not being duplicated at both the local agency and MEG/task force level. This should be kept in mind when interpreting the information presented in the following section.

The majority of drug offenses in Illinois are violations of either the *Cannabis Control Act* – which prohibits the possession, sale and cultivation of marijuana – or the *Controlled Substances Act* – which prohibits the possession, sale, distribution or manufacture of all other illegal drugs, such as cocaine and opiates. Illinois also has various other laws prohibiting other drug-related activity. These include the *Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act* – which prohibits the possession or sale of hypodermic instruments – and the *Drug Paraphernalia Control Act* – which prohibits the possession, sale or delivery of drug paraphernalia. In general, violations of Illinois Controlled Substances Act are considered to be more serious, since they primarily involve cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and hallucinogens, and are almost all classified under Illinois law as felonies – offenses for which a sentence to prison for one year or more is provided. The majority of cannabis and drug paraphernalia offenses encountered by police, on the other hand, tend to be misdemeanor-level offenses – those offenses for which a sentence to a term of incarceration in other than a prison for less than one year may be imposed.

In 2002, local law enforcement agencies in the county covered by LCMEG reported 3,289 arrests for drug law violations, nearly double the number in 1993 (1,710 arrests). Between 1993 and 2002, arrests for violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act consistently out-numbered arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act in Lake County. During the same period, the number of arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act in Lake County more than doubled, from 858 to 1,756, while arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act increased just 1 percent, from 757 to 767. In addition, arrests for violations of the Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, enacted in 1993, increased dramatically from 73 in 1993 to 769 in 2002. Much of this increase can be attributed to a 1994 addition to the Drug Paraphernalia Control Act, which included the possession of drug paraphernalia as a violation.

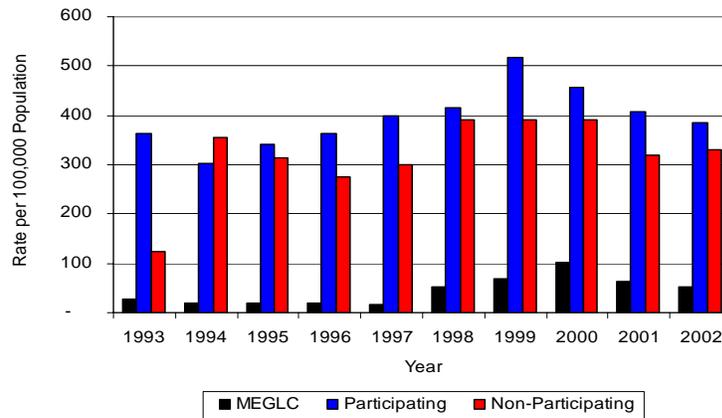
Because arrests for violations of the Drug Paraphernalia Control Act are frequently made in conjunction with other drug offense arrests, these arrests may be double-counted, thus skewing the actual number of drug arrests. Therefore, only arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act and Controlled Substances Act will be used for drug arrest comparisons between LCMEG and the participating and non-participating agencies.

During the period analyzed, the drug arrest rate for the Cannabis Control Act and Controlled Substances Act combined, in Lake County, increased 26 percent, from 294 arrests per 100,000 population in 1993 to 369 arrests per 100,000 population in 2002. The drug arrest rate in the participating agencies increased 6 percent, from 365 to 385 arrests per 100,000 population, while the drug arrest rate in the non-participating agencies nearly tripled, from 123 to 329 arrests per 100,000 population. The drug arrest rate for LCMEG more than doubled, from 26 to 53 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 5). Thus, for most of the period

analyzed, the drug arrest rate was higher in the jurisdictions that participated in LCMEG, than in those jurisdictions that did not participate in LCMEG. Although, the drug arrest rate achieved by LCMEG was significantly lower than the rate experienced by both the participating and non-participating agencies, the rates indicate that the unit made one arrest for a violation of the Cannabis Control Act or Controlled Substances Act, with 22 officers, for every seven arrests made by all of the participating agencies combined.

Figure 5

Drug Arrest Rates for LCMEG and Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG

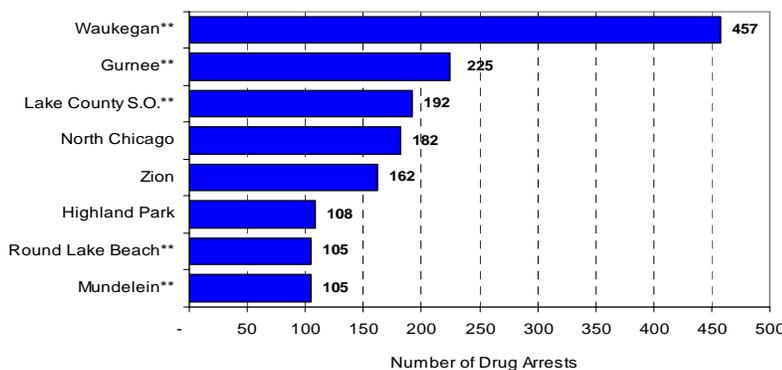


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, LCMEG, and U.S. Census Bureau data

Across the individual local law enforcement agencies in the region covered by LCMEG, the total number of cannabis and controlled substance arrests ranged from zero to 457. Of the 2,373 drug arrests made during 2002 in Lake County, five agencies accounted for more than one-half (51 percent) of these drug arrests. Agencies reporting fewer than 100 drug arrests in 2002 are excluded from Figure 6. The Waukegan Police Department accounted for the largest proportion (19 percent) of all drug arrests in Lake County, followed by the Gurnee Police Department (9 percent), the Lake County Sheriff’s Office and North Chicago Police Department (8 percent each), and the Zion Police Department (7 percent) (Figure 6). Among the eight agencies with the highest number of drug arrests during 2002, five participated in LCMEG.

Figure 6

2002 Drug Arrests*Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG



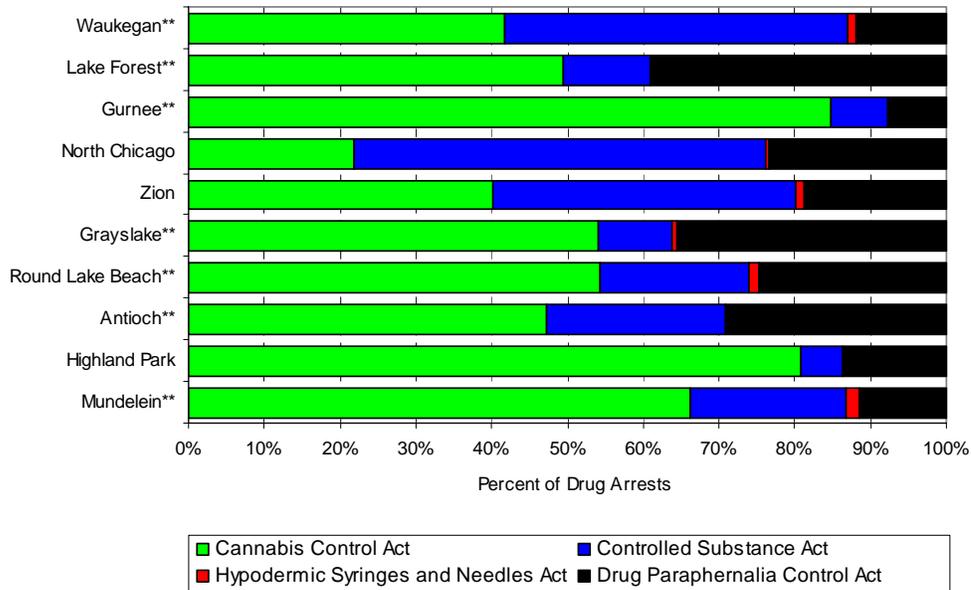
Source: Illinois State Police

*Agencies reporting 100 or more drug arrests

**Agencies participating in LCMEG

In addition to the dramatic difference in the number of drug arrests made, there are also differences in the types of drug law violation arrests across the agencies in the region. In 2002, violations of the Cannabis Control Act accounted for the largest proportion of arrests across most individual agencies in Lake County (Figure 7).

Figure 7
Total 2002 Drug Arrests* Reported by Participating and Non-participating Agencies in Region Covered by LCMEG, by Drug Type



Source: Illinois State Police

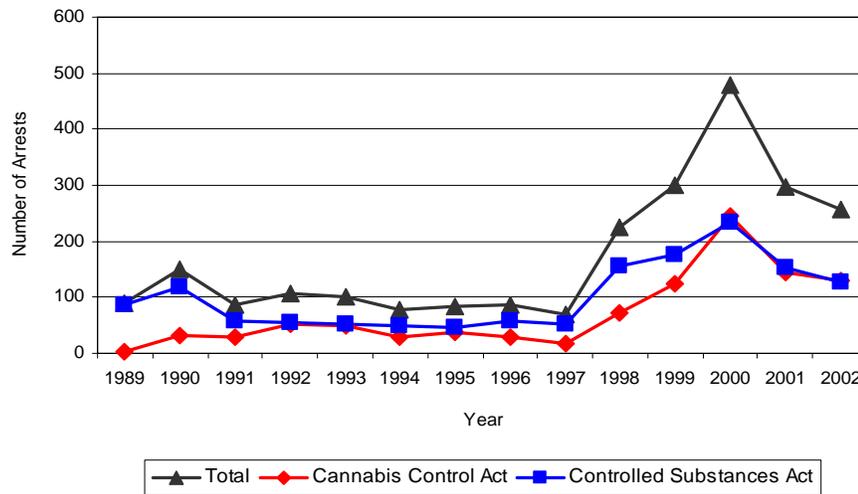
*Agencies reporting 100 or more drug arrests
 **Agencies participating in LCMEG

Between 1993 and 2002, the number of combined cannabis and controlled substances arrests made by LCMEG almost tripled, from 89 to 257 (Figure 8). Unlike drug arrests made by most local police departments in the region, violations of the Controlled Substances Act accounted for the majority of drug arrests made by LCMEG throughout most of the period analyzed. During the period analyzed, the number of LCMEG arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act increased dramatically, from three to 131, while arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act increased 47 percent, from 86 to 126 (Figure 8).

Between 1993 and 2002, the proportion of drug arrests accounted for by violations of the Controlled Substance Act decreased for LCMEG and participating agencies, while increasing slightly for non-participating agencies. In 2002, 49 percent of the drug arrests made by LCMEG were for violations of the Controlled Substances Act, compared to 97 percent in 1993. Similarly, in 2002, arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act accounted for one-third of the drug arrests made in the participating agencies, compared to 47 percent in 1993. Conversely, arrests for violations of the Controlled Substances Act accounted for 43 percent of total drug arrests for the non-participating agencies in 1993, compared to 44 percent in 2002. Thus, despite accounting for a decreased proportion, arrests by LCMEG were more likely than arrests by participating agencies to involve violations of Illinois' Controlled Substances Act, as opposed to the Cannabis Control Act. One interpretation of this pattern is that while LCMEG is more focused in who they are targeting and arresting than local departments, and are also getting a more serious

drug law violator, since violations of the Controlled Substances Act are more likely to involve felony-level offenses.

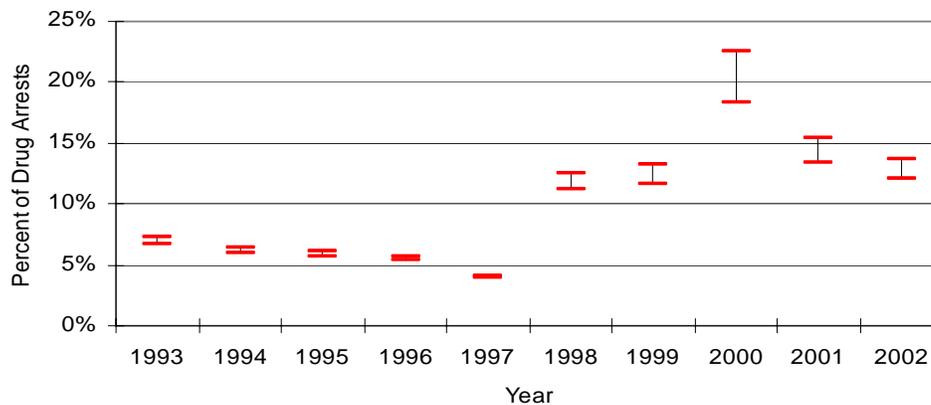
Figure 8
Drug Arrests by LCMEG



Source: LCMEG

The data presented below represent the percent of total drug arrests made by agencies participating in LCMEG accounted for by LCMEG. An upper and lower bound is shown in Figure 9 which accounts for whether or not the units numbers are counted as part of the UCR submissions made by local departments (which is unknown at this point). The upper bound indicates the percentage of arrests if *all* of the LCMEG arrests are included in the local UCR submissions. The lower bound indicates the percentage if *none* of the LCMEG arrests are included in the local UCR submissions. It is estimated that the proportion of all drug arrests across participating agencies accounted for by LCMEG was 7 percent in 1993, but increased to between 12 to 14 percent in 2002. Thus, despite the fact that the officers assigned to LCMEG accounted for a small proportion of total officers in the region, they accounted for an increased proportion of the drug arrests in the region.

Figure 9
Percent of Total Drug Arrests
Accounted for by LCMEG



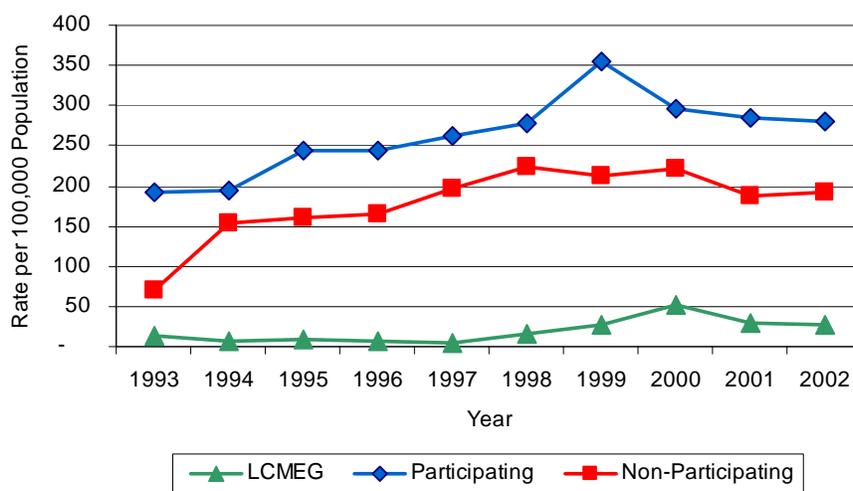
Source: LCMEG

The number of arrests for violations of Illinois' Cannabis Control Act in Lake County totaled 1,726 in 2002, more than double the 858 arrests made for cannabis violations in 1993. Between 1993 and 2002, the proportion of all drug arrests accounted for by violations of the Cannabis Control Act in Lake County increased during the period, increasing from 53 percent to 69 percent. Agencies participating in LCMEG accounted for the largest portion (79 percent) of the total number of arrests for cannabis violations. LCMEG reported a total of 131 arrests for cannabis violations in 2002, accounting for over one-half (51 percent) of the unit's drug arrests.

Between 1993 and 2002, the cannabis arrest rate increased 64 percent in Lake County, increasing from 156 to 256 arrests per 100,000 population. Similarly, the cannabis arrest rate in those agencies participating in LCMEG increased 46 percent, from 192 to 281 arrests per 100,000 population, while the non-participating agencies more than doubled, from 69 to 191 arrests per 100,000 population. The cannabis arrest rate for LCMEG also more than doubled during the period analyzed, from 13 arrests per 100,000 population in 1993 to 27 arrests per 100,000 population, in 2002 (Figure 10). Thus, the arrest rate for violations of the Cannabis Control Act was collectively higher in the area served by participating agencies than in the combined jurisdictions of the non-participating agencies.

Figure 10

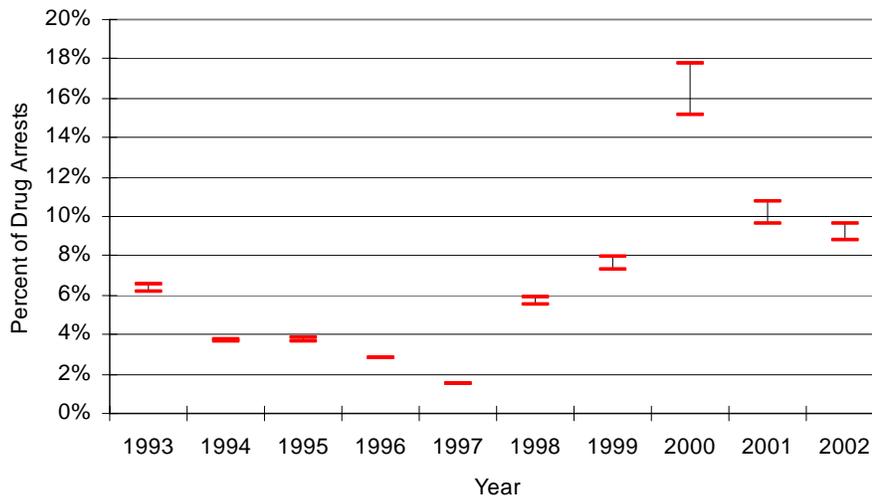
Cannabis Arrests Rates in the Region Covered by LCMEG as Reported by Participating Agencies, Non-participating Agencies, and LCMEG



Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and LCMEG data

The data presented in Figure 11 represent the percent of cannabis arrests made by agencies participating in LCMEG accounted for by LCMEG. An upper and lower bound is shown which accounts for whether or not the unit's numbers are counted as part of the UCR submissions made by local departments (which is unknown at this point). The upper bound indicates the percentage of arrests if *all* of the LCMEG arrests are included in the local UCR submissions. The lower bound indicates the percentage if *none* of the LCMEG arrests are included in the local UCR submissions. It is estimated that the proportion of cannabis arrests across participating agencies accounted for by LCMEG was between 6 to 7 percent in 1993, but increased slightly to between 9 to 10 percent in 2002.

Figure 11
Percent of Cannabis Arrests
Accounted for by LCMEG



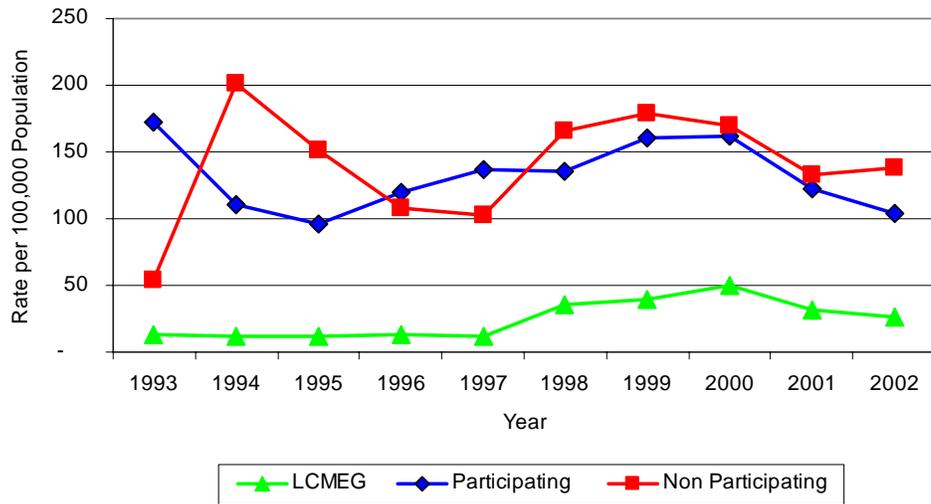
Source: LCMEG

In Lake County, the number of arrests for violations of Illinois’ Controlled Substances Act increased just 1 percent between 1993 and 2002, from 757 to 767, while reaching a period high of 1,061 arrests in 2000. Between 1993 and 2002, the proportion of all drug arrests accounted for by violations of the Controlled Substances Act in Lake County decreased from 47 percent to 31 percent. Agencies participating in LCMEG accounted for the largest portion (66 percent) of the total number of arrests for controlled substances violations. In 2002, LCMEG reported 126 arrests for controlled substance violations, accounting for 49 percent of all drug arrests reported to the Authority by the unit.

Between 1993 and 2002, the arrest rate for violations of the Controlled Substances Act in Lake County decreased 17 percent, from 138 to 114 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 12). The controlled substances arrest rate in the participating agencies also decreased, decreasing 40 percent, from 173 arrests per 100,000 population in 1993 to 104 arrests per 100,000 population in 2002. However, the arrest rate in the non-participating agencies more than doubled, from 53 to 138 arrests per 100,000 population during the same period. The controlled substances arrest rate for LCMEG nearly doubled, from 14 to 26 arrests per 100,000 population (Figure 12). Thus, the Controlled Substances Act arrest rate was higher in the non-participating agencies than the participating agencies.

Figure 12

Controlled Substances Arrest Rates in the Region Covered by LCMEG as Reported by Participating Agencies, Non-participating Agencies, and LCMEG

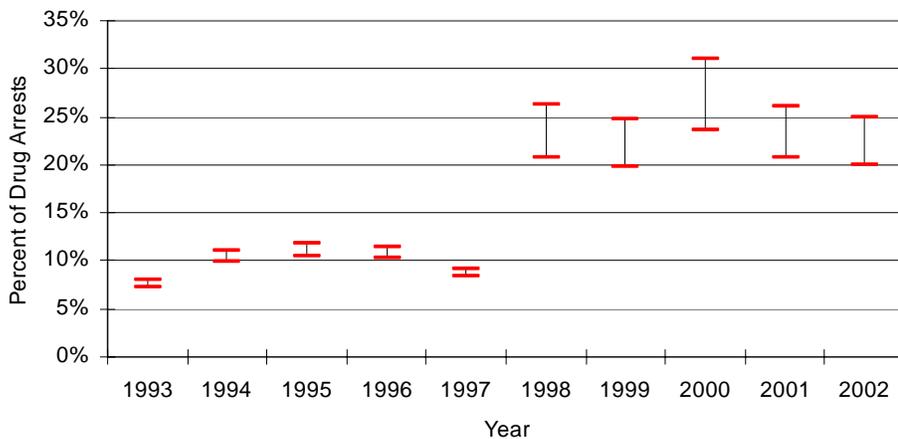


Source: ICJIA calculations using Illinois State Police, U.S. Census Bureau, and LCMEG data

The data presented in Figure 13 represent the percent of controlled substances arrests made by agencies participating in LCMEG accounted for by LCMEG. An upper and lower bound is shown which accounts for whether or not the units numbers are counted as part of the UCR submissions made by local departments (which is unknown at this point). The upper bound indicates the percentage of arrests if *all* of the LCMEG arrests are included in the local UCR submissions. The lower bound indicates the percentage if *none* of the LCMEG arrests are included in the local UCR submissions. It is estimated that the proportion of controlled substances arrests across participating agencies accounted for by LCMEG was between 7 to 8 percent in 1993, which increased to between 20 to 25 percent in 2002.

Figure 13

Percent of Controlled Substances Arrests Accounted for by LCMEG

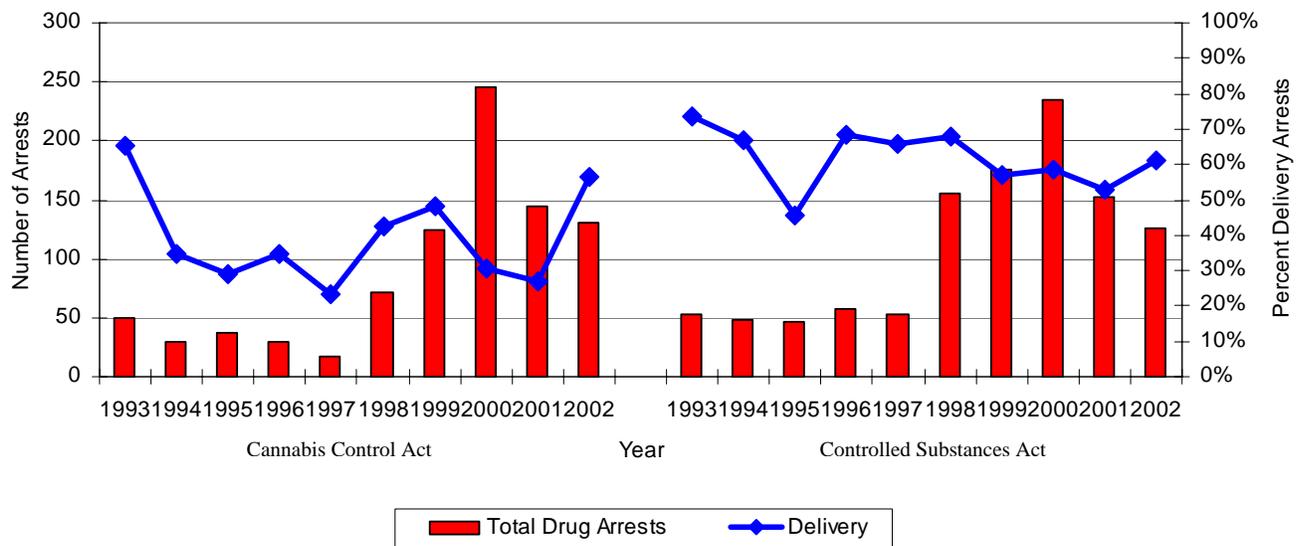


Source: LCMEG

The majority of all drug arrests reported by LCMEG are for delivery. Between 1993 and 2002, the number of drug delivery arrests made by LCMEG more than doubled, from 71 to 151. Arrests for drug delivery accounted for 51 percent of all drug arrests made by LCMEG between 1993 and 2002. When cannabis and controlled substance arrests were examined separately, during the period analyzed, arrests for delivery of controlled substances accounted for 62 percent of the total number of arrests made for violations of the Controlled Substance Act, whereas, arrests for the delivery of cannabis accounted for 39 percent of all arrests for violations of the Cannabis Act. Thus, while the total number of arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act and Controlled Substance Act have increased, between 1993 and 2002, the proportion of arrests that drug delivery arrests accounted for has decreased, from 65 to 56 percent and 74 to 61 percent, respectively.

Figure 14

**LCMEG Drug Arrests for Possession versus Delivery,
by Drug Type**



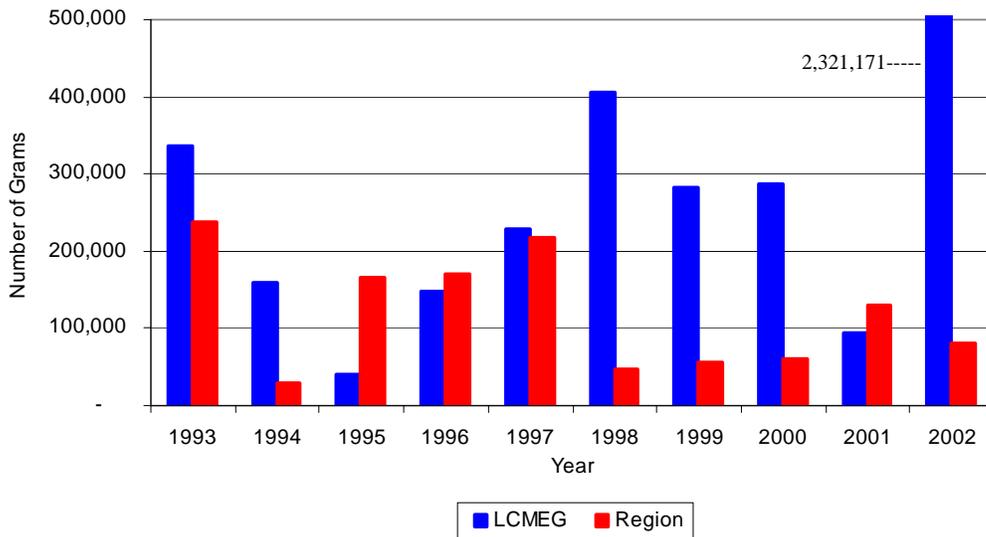
Source: ICJIA calculations using LCMEG data

IV. Trends in Drug Seizures

Drugs seized by law enforcement agencies are another indicator of the extent and nature of illegal drug trade in a jurisdiction. When illegal drugs are seized by law enforcement agencies, all or a portion of the total amount seized is 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 trends in the quantities of illegal drugs seized and submitted to the Illinois State Police and the Northern Illinois Police Crime Laboratory from local law enforcement agencies in Lake County as well as the quantities of drugs seized by LCMEG. It is important to note, however, that while LCMEG data report the total quantities of drugs actually *seized*, local agency data only represent the quantities of seized drugs that are *submitted* to the Illinois State Police for analysis. County-level cannabis, cocaine, crack, methamphetamine, and heroin seizure rates for Illinois' 102 counties are provided in maps located in the Appendix of this report.

As in most Illinois jurisdictions, cannabis accounts for the majority of illegal drugs seized in the region covered by LCMEG. The quantity of cannabis seized and submitted by law enforcement agencies in Lake County decreased 66 percent between 1993 and 2002, from 238,768 grams to 81,487 grams. Conversely, the quantity of cannabis seized by LCMEG increased nearly six-fold, from 336,317 grams in 1993 to 2,321,171 grams in 2002 (Figure 15). In 2002, LCMEG's cannabis seizure rate of 477,205 grams per 100,000 population was significantly higher than the cannabis seizure rate of 12,075 grams per 100,000 population seized by all law enforcement agencies in Lake County, combined, and the statewide rate of 19,437 grams per 100,000 population (Map 2). Note: due to the amount of cannabis seized in 2002 by LCMEG, the scale in Figure 15 was intentionally set at 500,000 in order to adequately present the data for all other years.

Figure 15
Cannabis Seized and Submitted to ISP
by Lake County and Seized by LCMEG



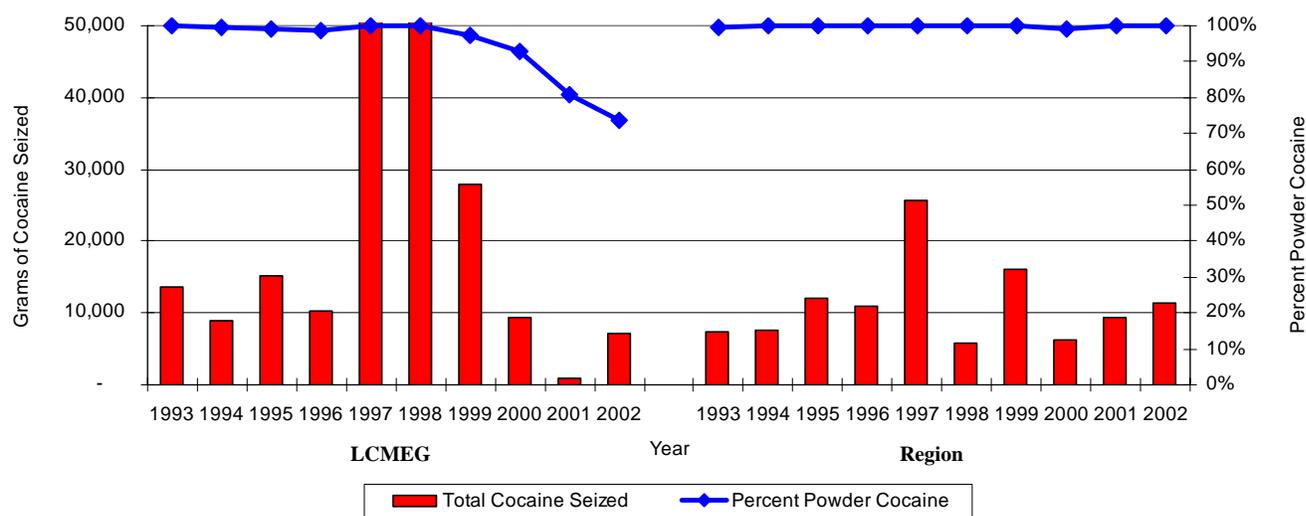
Source: Illinois State Police and LCMEG

Between 1993 and 2002, a combination of crack and powder cocaine has accounted for a small proportion of drugs seized in the region covered by LCMEG. The quantity of cocaine seized and submitted by law enforcement agencies in Lake County increased 53 percent, from 7,433 grams in 1993 to 11,382 grams in 2002. On the other hand, during the same period, the quantity of cocaine seized by LCMEG decreased 48 percent, from 13,533 grams to 7,096 grams despite seizing 608,548 grams in 1997 and 243,685 grams in 1998.

As a result the proportion of all cocaine seized accounted for by powder cocaine remained stable across Lake County throughout the period, accounting for nearly all cocaine seized between 1993 and 2002, while decreasing for LCMEG, from 100 percent in 1993 to 74 percent in 2002 (Figure 16). In 2002, LCMEG's cocaine seizure rate of 1,459 grams per 100,000 population was nearly 14 percent lower than the cocaine seizure rate of 1,687 grams per 100,000 population in Lake County and significantly lower than the statewide rate of 21,891 grams per 100,000 population (Maps 3 and 4).

Figure 16

**Powder and Crack Cocaine Seized and Submitted to ISP
by Lake County and Seized by LCMEG**



Source: Illinois State Police and LCMEG

The total quantity of illegal drugs seized and submitted by law enforcement agencies in Lake County decreased 60 percent between 1993 and 2002, from 246,283 grams to 97,411. Conversely, the total quantity of illegal drugs seized by LCMEG has increased nearly six-fold between 1993 and 2002, from 350,479 grams to 2,332,373 grams. The majority of 2002 total seizures was accounted for by a large quantity of cannabis seized that year.

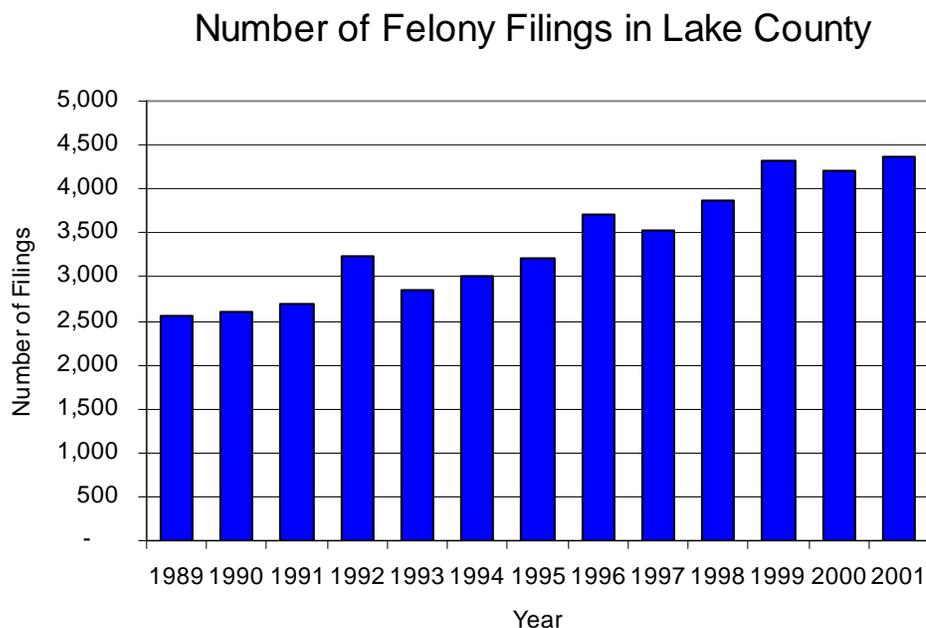
During the period, methamphetamine seizures accounted for a relatively small proportion of total drugs seized by LCMEG and law enforcement agencies in Lake County. Between 1993 and 2002, the quantity of methamphetamine seized in Lake County increased from 0.2 grams to 69 grams. Throughout the period analyzed, 53 grams of methamphetamine were reported seized by LCMEG, although no methamphetamine has been seized by LCMEG since 2000. In 2002, Lake County had a methamphetamine seizure rate of ten grams per 100,000 population, significantly lower than the statewide seizure rate of 222 grams per 100,000 population (Map 5).

V. Trends in Prosecutions for Drug Offenses and All Felonies

Although Illinois has one of the best court reporting systems in the country, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Court only collects information regarding the aggregate number of court filings. Currently, there are no statewide data available on court filings by offense type. The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts reports data on felony criminal court cases. After screening a case and deciding it warrants further action, the state's attorney must file formal charges in court. Felony cases can be punished by a probation term up to four years and incarceration for more than one year.

Between 1989 and 2001, the number of felony filings in Lake County increased nearly every year. During the period analyzed, the number of felony filings increased 70 percent, from 2,560 to 4,357 (Figure 17).

Figure 17

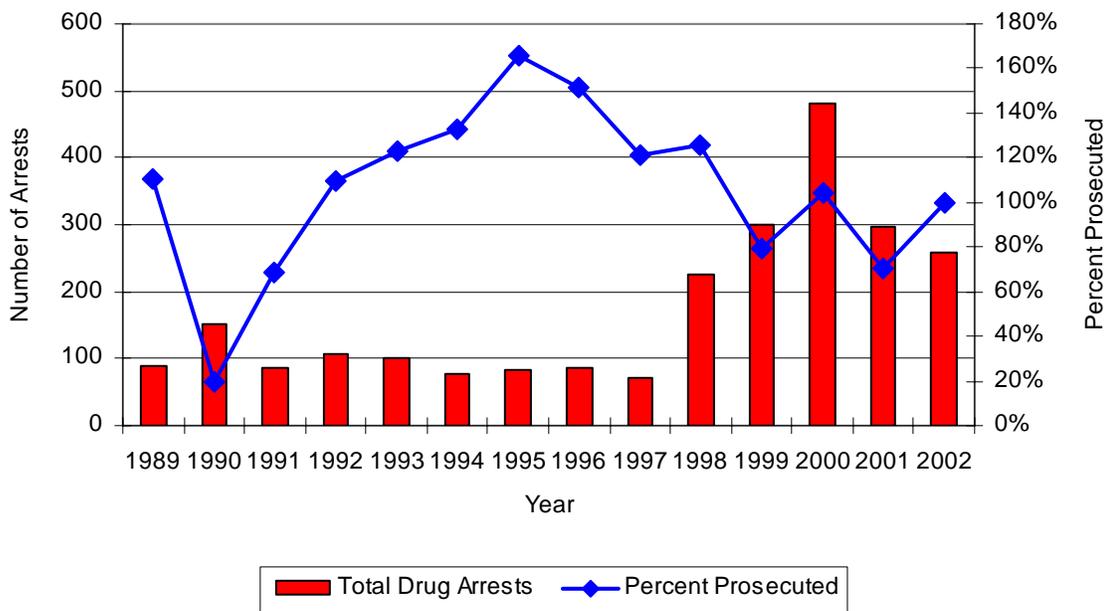


Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Between 1989 and 2002, there were 2,376 drug prosecutions initiated as a result of LCMEG arrests in Lake County. During this time, the number of LCMEG drug arrests nearly tripled, from 89 arrests in 1989 to 257 arrests in 2002 (Figure 18). Between 1989 and 2002, 98 percent of LCMEG drug arrests resulted in prosecution. During this period 61 percent of LCMEG drug offender prosecutions were for violations of the Controlled Substance Act. In some years, the proportion of arrests resulting in a prosecution exceeded 100 percent. This is due to some slight differences in the timing of an arrest and the filings of charges, or could be due to charges, rather than defendants, being reported by the unit. In addition, some offenders have charges filed, and a subsequent warrant issued, without an arrest taking place.

Figure 18

Total LCMEG Drug Arrests and Percentage of Arrests Resulting in Prosecution



Source: LCMEG

Between 1989 and 2002, 54 percent (1,294) of the 2,376 drug offenders who were prosecuted as a result of LCMEG activity were convicted. Convictions for controlled substances accounted for 67 percent of all LCMEG initiated convictions during the period analyzed.

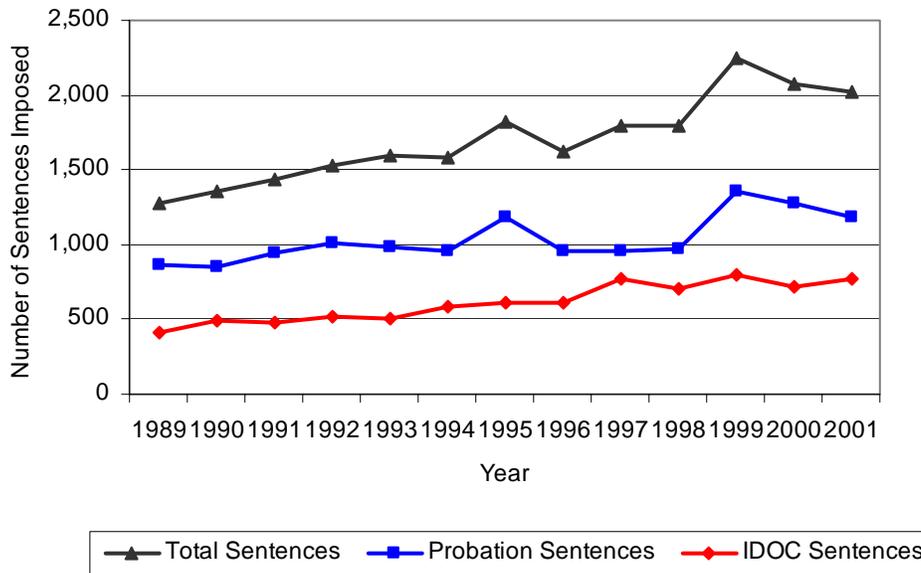
VI. Trends in Percent of Convicted Drug Offenders Sentenced to Prison

Under Illinois law, those convicted of most Class 1, 2, 3, and 4 felonies can be sentenced to probation or prison; the two most commonly used sentencing options. However, there are some exceptions. For example, those convicted of possessing 15 grams or more of cocaine, heroin, or methamphetamine are guilty of a Class 1 felony, but cannot be sentenced to probation. Such instances, as well as for all Class X felonies (e.g., sale/distribution of 15 grams or more of cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine), must result in a sentence to prison and cannot be sentenced to probation. Where a sentence to probation or prison is an option, a number of factors may influence the type and length of sentence imposed, including the severity of the crime, the offender's criminal and social history, and the safety of the community.

Between 1989 and 2001, the number of offenders convicted of a felony and sentenced in Lake County increased 58 percent, from 1,279 to 2,018. The number of convicted felons sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) nearly doubled between 1989 and 2001, from 414 to 771. Consequently, the proportion of felons sentenced to IDOC increased during the same period, from 32 percent to 38 percent of total felony sentences. In 2001, 1,189 probation sentences were imposed on convicted felons, 38 percent more than the 861 probation sentences in 1989 (Figure 19). As a result, the proportion of felons sentenced to probation decreased from 67 percent in 1989 to 59 percent in 2001. Sentences other than prison or probation account for the remaining 3 percent of felony sentences imposed in 2001.

Figure 19

Sentences Imposed on Felons Convicted in Lake County

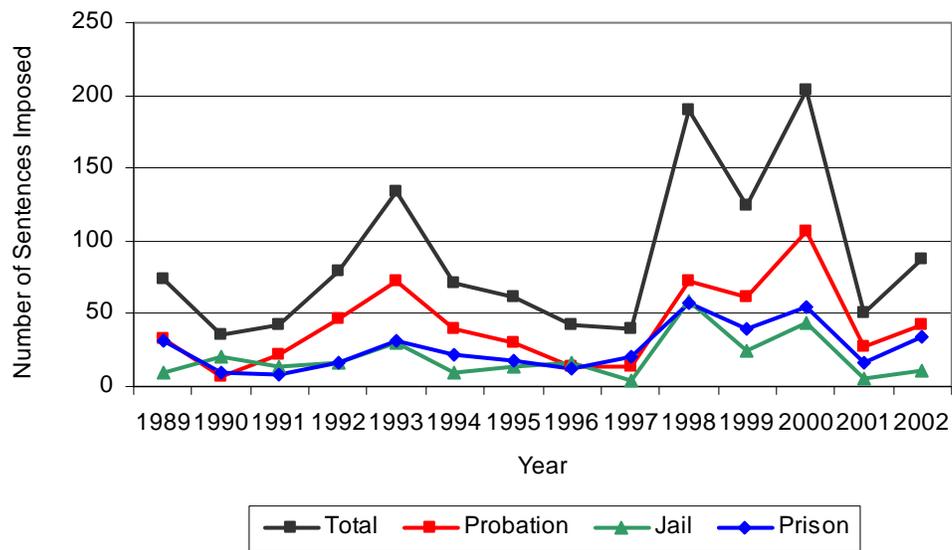


Source: Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Between 1989 and 2002, the number of LCMEG drug offenders convicted and sentenced increased 19 percent, from 74 to 88. During the period analyzed, the number of convicted LCMEG drug offenders sentenced to prison increased slightly, from 31 to 34. The number sentenced to probation increased 30 percent, from 33 to 43, while the number of convicted LCMEG drug offenders sentenced to jail increased from ten to 11 (Figure 20). In 2002, among those LCMEG drug offenders convicted and sentenced, probation sentences accounted for the largest proportion (49 percent), followed by prison sentences (39 percent) and jail sentences (13 percent).

Figure 20

Sentences Imposed on Convicted LCMEG Drug Offenders

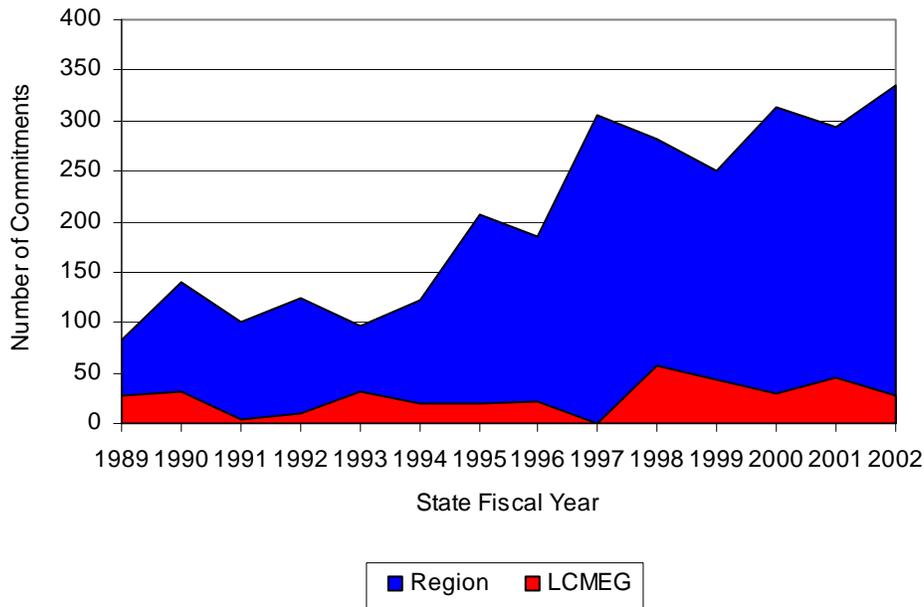


Source: LCMEG

Between state fiscal years¹ 1989 and 2002, the number of new court commitments to IDOC's Adult Division for drug offenses from Lake County more than quadrupled, from 82 to 334. Conversely, the number of drug offender admissions by LCMEG decreased slightly during the period, from 28 to 27 (Figure 21). Although prison sentences resulting from LCMEG cases accounted for 13 percent of all drug-law violators sentenced to prison from the region where LCMEG operates between 1989 and 2002, that proportion decreased from 34 percent in 1989 to just 8 percent in 2002.

Figure 21

**Number of Drug Offenders Committed to IDOC
by LCMEG and Region Covered by LCMEG**



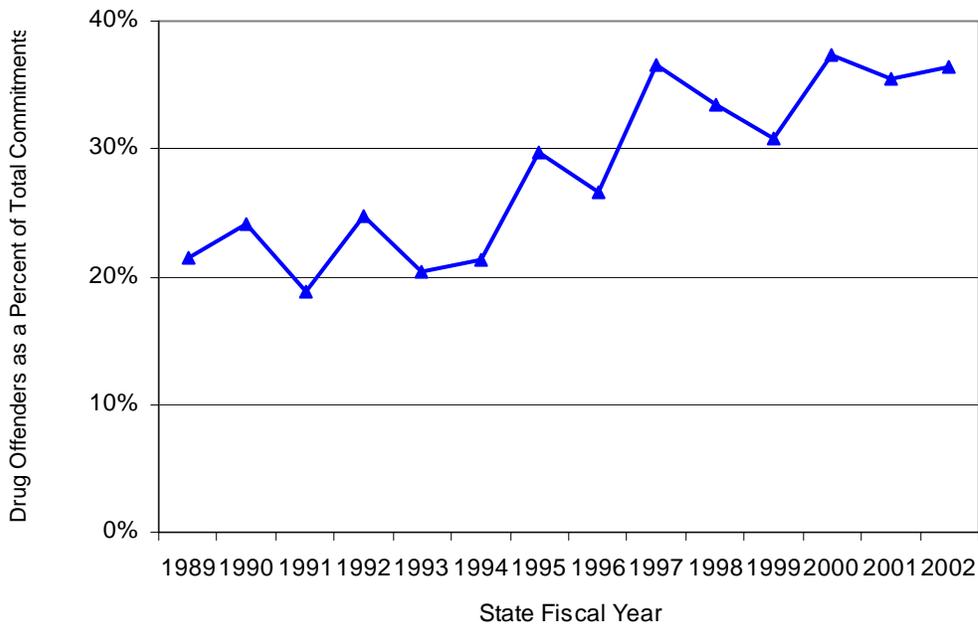
Source: Illinois Department of Corrections and LCMEG

¹ Some state data are collected according to State Fiscal Year (SFY) instead of calendar year. SFYs begin on July 1st and end the following June 30th, and are named according to the calendar year between January and June, e.g. state fiscal year 1991 was from July 1st, 1990 to June 30th, 1991.

During the period analyzed, drug offenders accounted for an increased proportion of adults convicted and sentenced to prison from Lake County. In 1989, drug offenses accounted for 21 percent of all commitments to IDOC, compared to 36 percent in 2002 (Figure 22).

Figure 22

Drug Offenders as a Percent of Total IDOC Commitments from Lake County

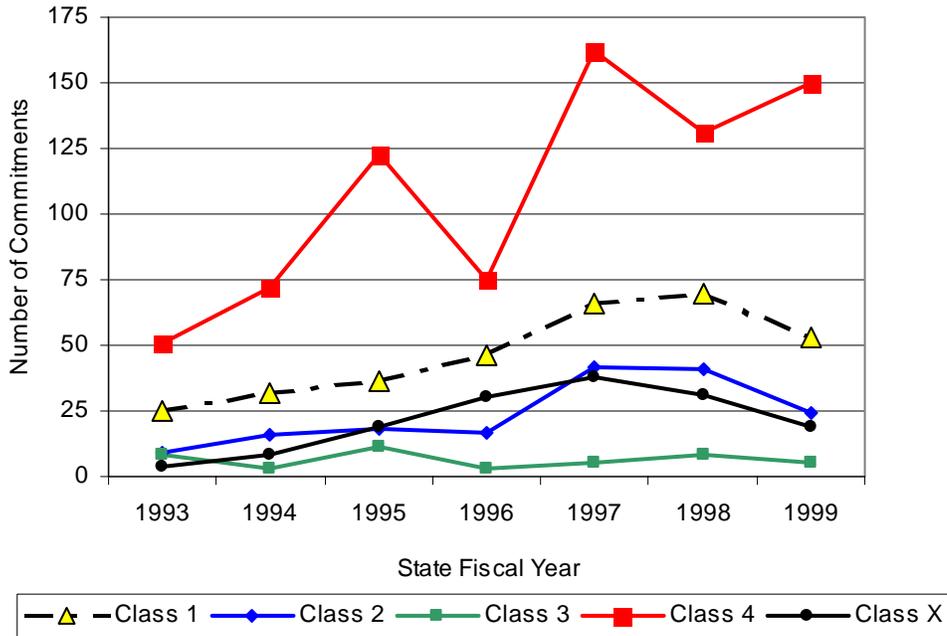


Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

Penalties for drug offenses were also examined between 1993 and 2002. Class 4 felonies accounted for the largest proportion (57 percent) of sentences to IDOC for drug offenses, followed by Class 1 felonies (21 percent), Class 2 felonies (10 percent), Class X felonies (8 percent), and Class 3 felonies (3 percent). Between 1993 and 2002, the number of Class 4 felony sentences more than quadrupled, from 51 to 222, while Class X felony sentences more than tripled, from four to 15. Class 2, Class 1, and Class 3 felony sentences at least doubled between 1993 and 2002, increasing from nine to 24, 25 to 57, and eight to 16, respectively (Figure 23).

Figure 23

Drug Offenders Committed to IDOC from
Lake County, by Offense Class



Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

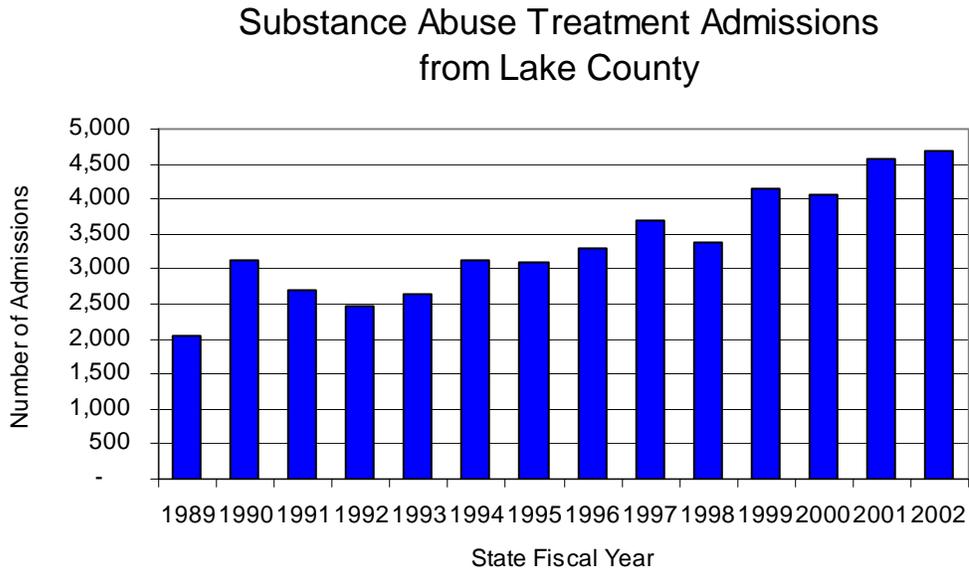
Despite these increases, the mean sentence length for all class types decreased between 1993 and 2002, with the exception of Class 3 felonies. The mean sentence lengths for Class 4 felonies decreased from 2.5 to 1.7 years, while mean sentence lengths for Class X felonies decreased from 11 to 7.8 years and the mean sentence lengths for Class 2 and Class 1 felonies decreased from 4.3 to 3.3 years and 5.6 to 5.3 years, respectively. Conversely, the mean sentence length for Class 3 felonies increased from 2.5 to 2.7 years.

VII. Trends in Drug Treatment Admissions in LCMEG Region by Drug Type

In addition to considering indicators of the extent and nature of drug abuse as reported through the criminal justice system (for example, arrests and prison sentences), there are indicators of substance abuse available from other Illinois social service agencies. Overseeing and supporting treatment for substance users, whether they are referred from the criminal justice system or elsewhere, is the responsibility of the Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASA). It is important to note, however, that while OASA data represent the majority of the overall demand for substance abuse treatment in the state, some private programs provide treatment services to a smaller but significant number of clients who may not be included in the state's reporting system.

In state fiscal year 2002, OASA reported 4,680 admissions for alcohol or drug abuse treatment from Lake County, which more than double the 2,055 admissions in 1989 (Figure 24). Among the 4,680 admissions to substance abuse treatment in state fiscal year 2002, 48 percent reported illicit drugs as their primary substance of abuse, while abuse of alcohol accounted for 37 percent and 14 percent reported no primary substance of abuse.

Figure 24



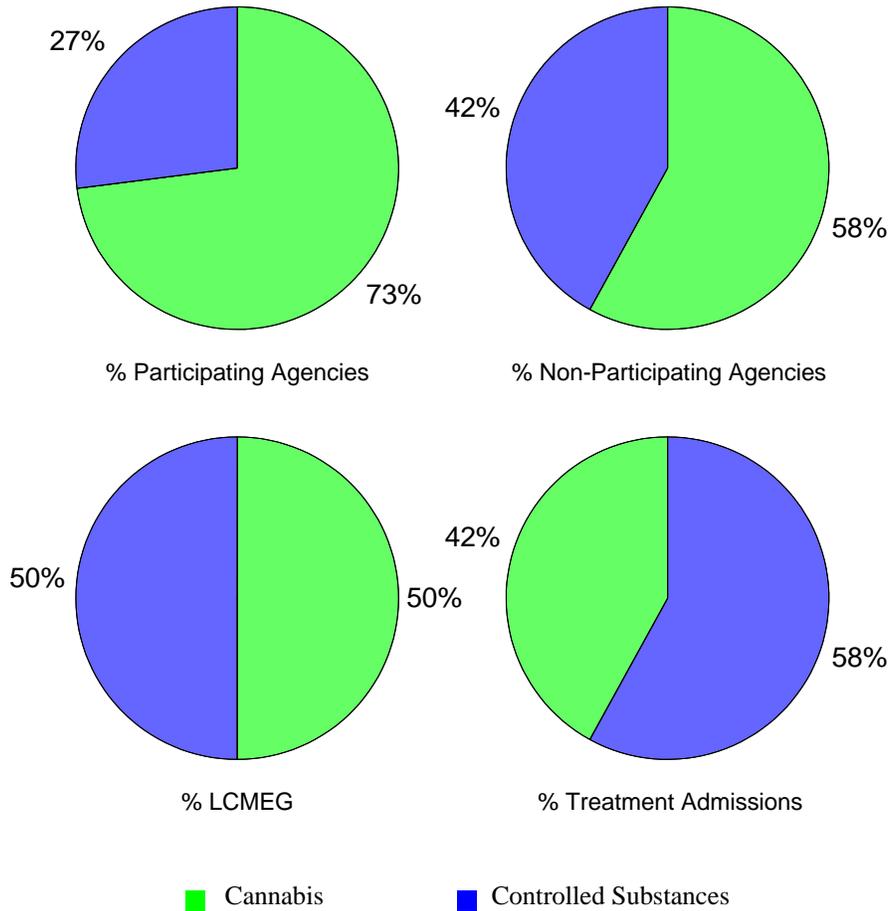
Source: Illinois Department of Human Services'
Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

While drug treatment admissions can be considered a measure of the demand placed on a specific component of the human services system within Illinois, the extent and nature of drug treatment admissions could also be indicative of the substance abuse problem within a particular region. In some respects, the characteristics of those admitted to drug treatment can be considered a profile of the most serious drug abusers in the community, since admission to treatment requires a documented, formal assessment of a drug problem and a level of substance abuse warranting treatment. By comparing the types of drugs of abuse reported by those admitted to substance abuse treatment with the types of drugs involved in law enforcement agency arrests, one can get a sense of the degree to which arrests reflect the drugs which are most problematic within a community.

In the following analyses, the percent of arrests accounted for by drugs classified under Illinois' Controlled Substances Act (primarily cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine) versus the Cannabis Control Act (marijuana) across the participating agencies combined, non-participating agencies combined and LCMEG are compared to the proportion of drug treatment admissions accounted for by these groups of substances. From these comparisons, a number of general conclusions can be made. First, the proportion of arrests made by LCMEG accounted for by drugs other than marijuana (Controlled Substances Act offenses) was very close to the proportion of drug treatment admissions from the covered region accounted for by these substances. Thus, there is considerable convergence between the drugs involved in LCMEG arrests and treatment admissions. On the other hand, the majority of arrests by local police departments (including those participating in LCMEG and non-participating agencies) were for cannabis offenses. Thus, while local arrests may reflect the most widely available and used drug in the region, they tend not to involve the substances considered to be most serious (i.e., felony versus misdemeanor) nor the substances individuals are seeking and receiving treatment for (Figure 25).

Figure 25

Comparison of Drug Arrests by LCMEG and Participating and Non-participating Agencies vs. Drug Abuse Treatment Admissions in Lake County, 2002



Source: Illinois Department of Human Service's Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse and SEIDTF

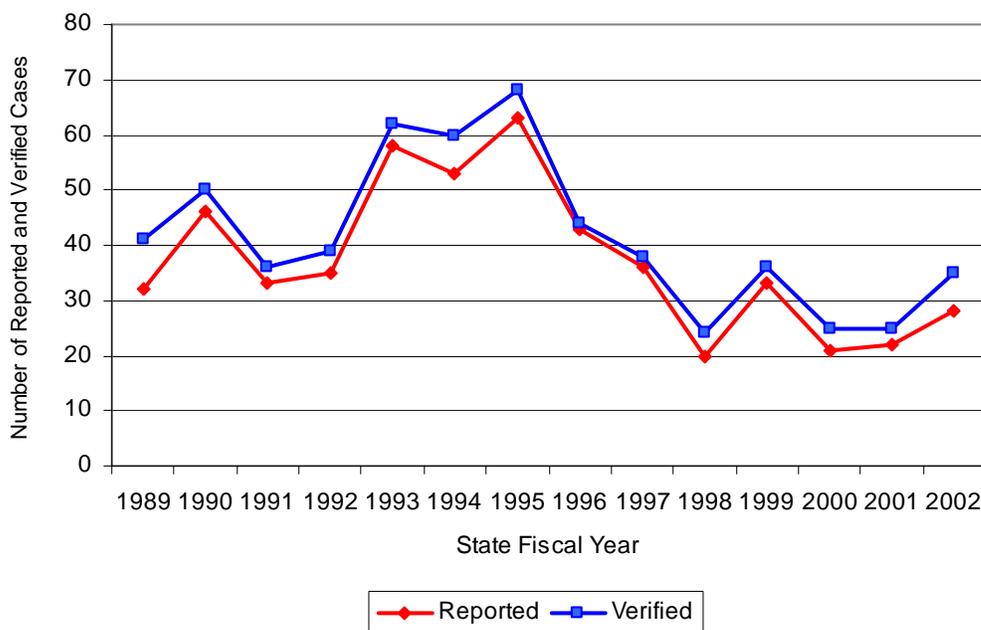
VIII. Trends in Substance-Exposed Infants

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. These cases are then investigated by DCFS to verify the child's prenatal exposure to either alcohol or illegal substances. Between state fiscal years 1989 and 2002, 96 of Illinois' 102 counties reported at least one case of a substance-exposed infant.

Between state fiscal years 1989 and 2002, the number of substance-exposed infant cases reported in Lake County decreased 13 percent, from 41 to 35. Between state fiscal years 1989 and 2002, 523 cases, or 80 percent of all cases reported, were verified as involving prenatal drug use by a DCFS investigation. Mirroring the trend of reported cases, verified cases of substance-exposed infants in Lake County decreased from 32 in 1989 to 28 in 2002 (Figure 26).

Figure 26

Cases of Substance-Exposed Infants in Lake County



Source: Department of Children and Family Services

IX. Summary of Drug Situation

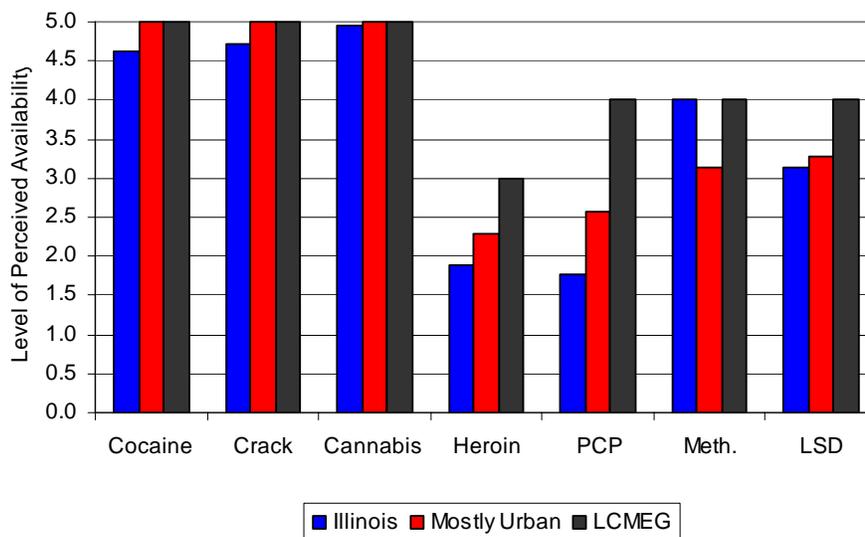
Although the distribution of illegal drugs is difficult to measure precisely, data obtained from criminal justice sources can be helpful in estimating drug availability. Information from a recent survey of Illinois drug enforcement units, as well as the most up-to-date data available on drug price, are presented as indicators of the drug supply in Illinois.

The Authority conducts a survey of each MEG and task force in Illinois (the most recent being conducted in 2000) to gauge the perceived availability of drugs in the areas they cover. Questions were asked concerning the availability of specific drugs, and results were analyzed by region of the state. MEGs and task forces are classified as being mostly urban, mostly rural, or mostly urban based upon the classification of the county(s) that each unit covers, and, for purposes of this report, are compared to the average of similar units.

According to LCMEG survey responses, cannabis, cocaine, and crack continued to be the most visible drugs on the street and were all reported to be “easily available” across all regions analyzed. With the exception of cannabis (which remained unchanged across all regions examined) and LSD (which decreased statewide and across other regions covered by mostly urban MEGs and task forces), the perceived availability of all other drug types examined increased statewide and in other MEGs and task forces in mostly urban regions, while remaining unchanged in the region covered by LCMEG. Although the perceived availability of heroin, PCP, and methamphetamine have increased across all regions since the 1998 survey, their perceived availability was most observed in the region covered by LCMEG, increasing from a low availability to moderately (heroin) and readily (PCP and methamphetamine) available. While the perceived availability of LSD has remained unchanged for the region covered by LCMEG, it continues to be more available in Lake County and available to a lesser degree across Illinois and by all MEGs and task forces in mostly urban regions (Figure 27).

Figure 27

Availability of Drugs in Illinois, 2000
1=Not Available 5=Easily Available



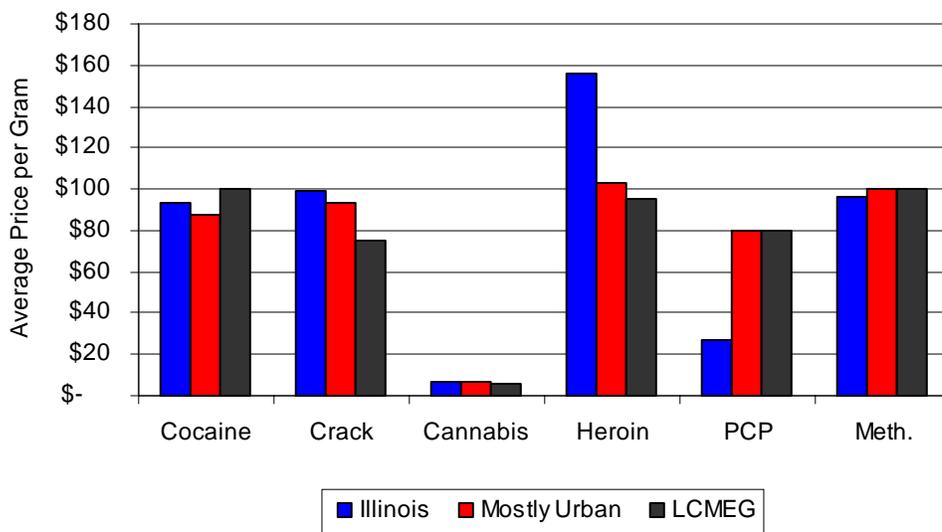
Source: Authority Survey of Illinois MEGs and task forces

Another market indicator that can be used to assess availability is drug price. Lower prices tend to suggest a sufficient supply to meet demand, while increasing prices indicate decreased availability.

Based on a statewide survey of MEG and task force units, the average price of cocaine, cannabis, and methamphetamine appear to be relatively stable across all regions surveyed in 2000, while prices for crack, heroin, and PCP appear to vary somewhat across Illinois. The average price of cannabis decreased across all regions examined between 1998 and 2000. The average price of cocaine decreased in the statewide and in the other regions covered by mostly urban MEGs and task forces, while increasing in the region covered by LCMEG. Conversely, the average price of crack increased across Illinois and in all MEGs and task forces in other mostly urban regions, while decreasing in the region covered by LCMEG. The average price of methamphetamine increased across all regions examined between 1998 and 2000. The 2000 average price of cocaine reported across Illinois was \$93 per gram, compared to the \$75 reported by LCMEG and \$88 per gram reported by all MEGs and task forces in other mostly urban regions (Figure 28). In 2000, the average price of cannabis was reported as approximately \$7 per gram in other mostly urban regions and \$6 per gram across Illinois and in the LCMEG region. Also in 2000, the average price of crack was reported as approximately \$75 per gram in the LCMEG region, \$94 per gram in other mostly urban regions, and \$100 per gram across Illinois. The average price of methamphetamine was reported at \$100 per gram in the LCMEG region and across other mostly urban regions and \$97 per gram statewide.

Figure 28

Price Per Gram in Illinois, 2000

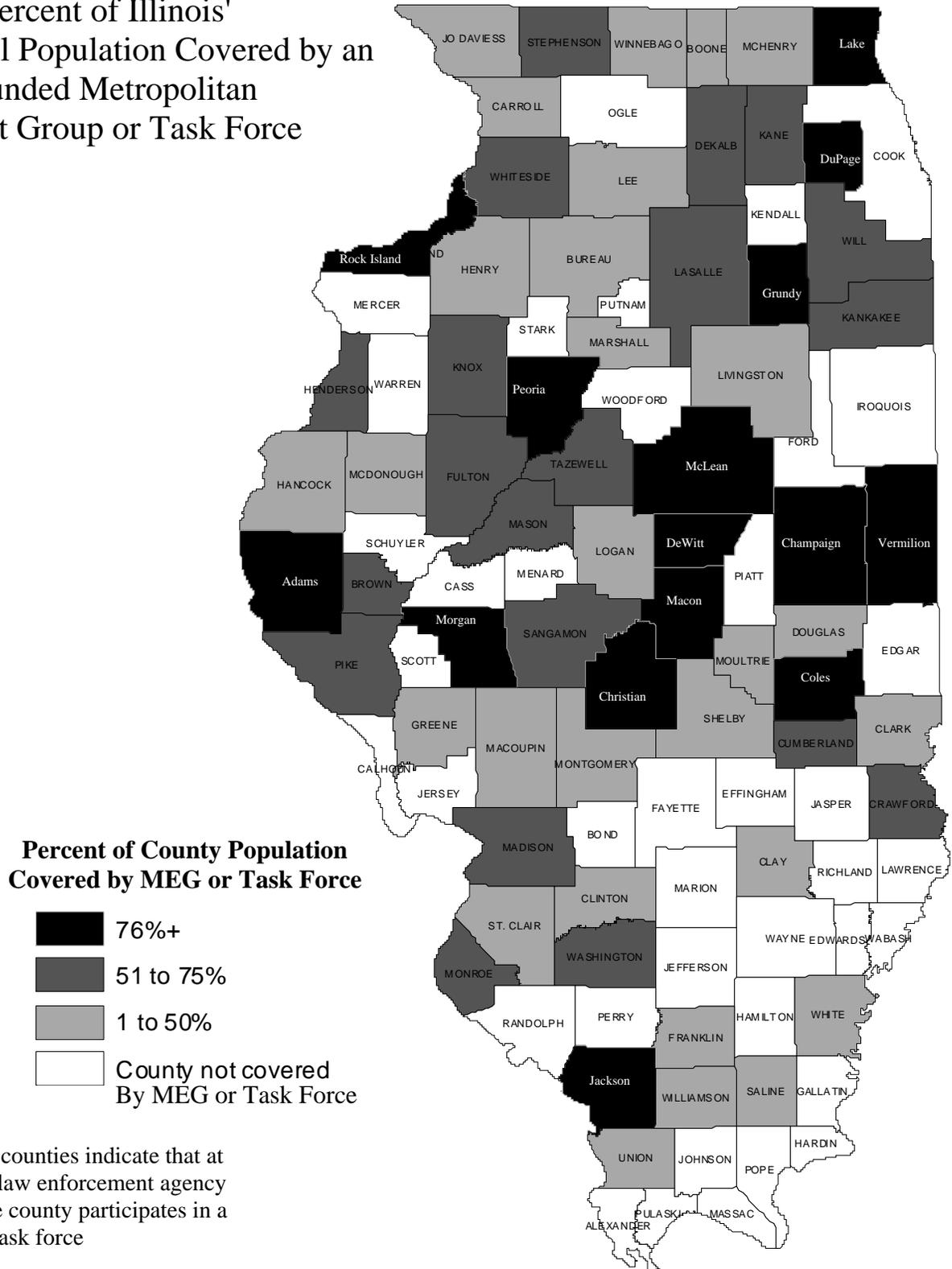


Source: Authority Survey of Illinois MEGs and task forces

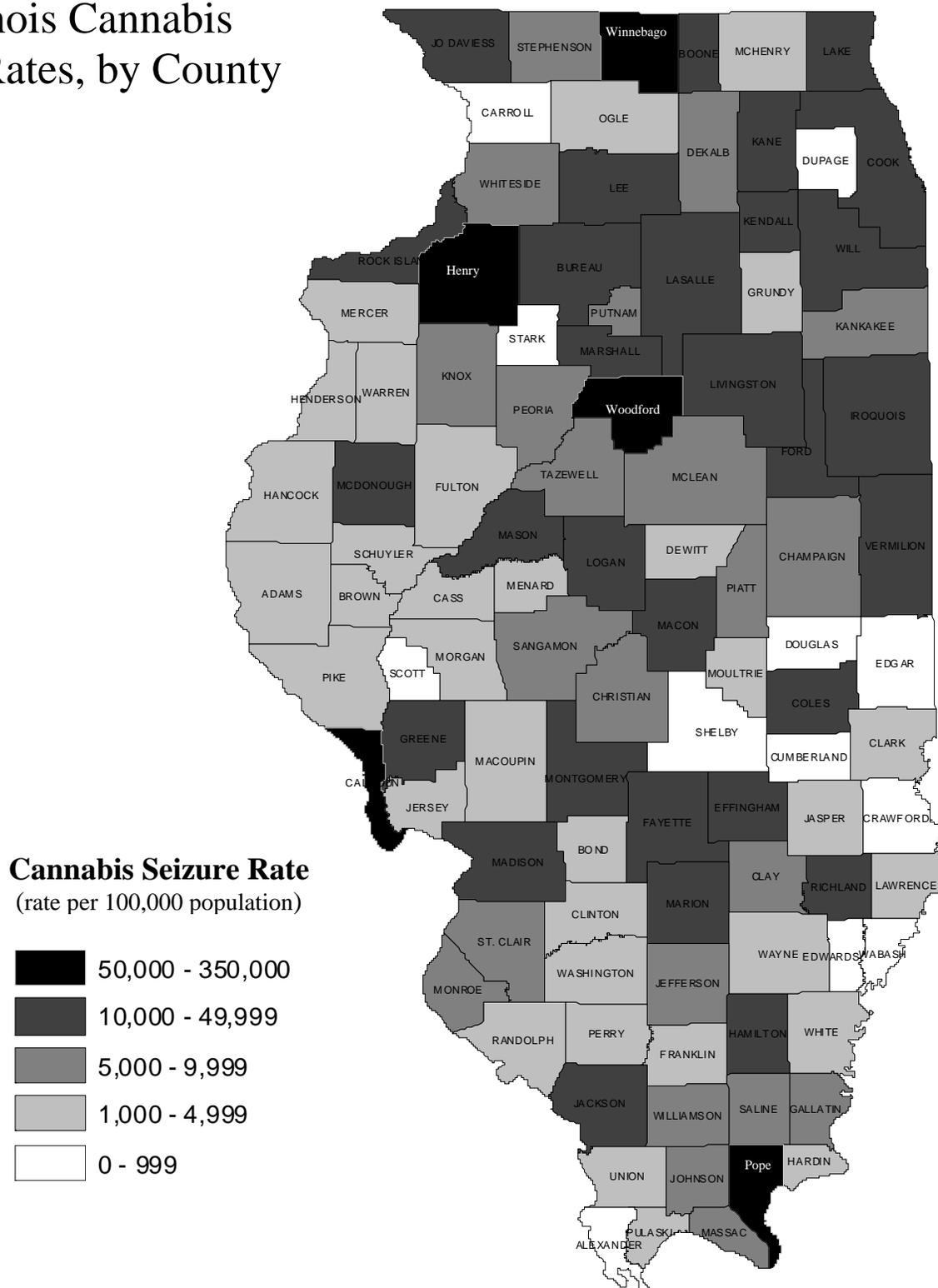
X. Appendices

Map 1

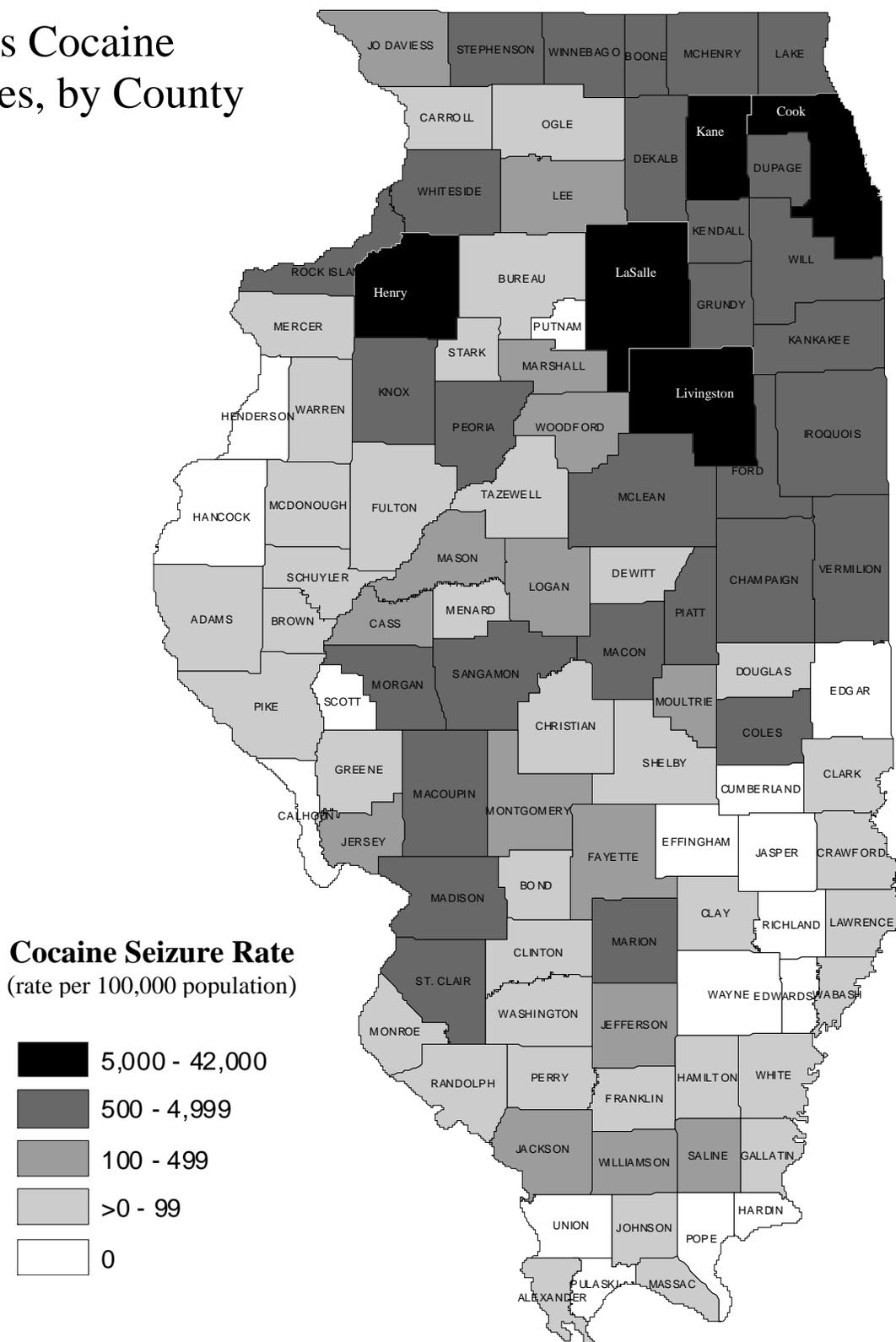
SFY 2002 Percent of Illinois' County-level Population Covered by an Authority-funded Metropolitan Enforcement Group or Task Force



2002 Illinois Cannabis Seizure Rates, by County

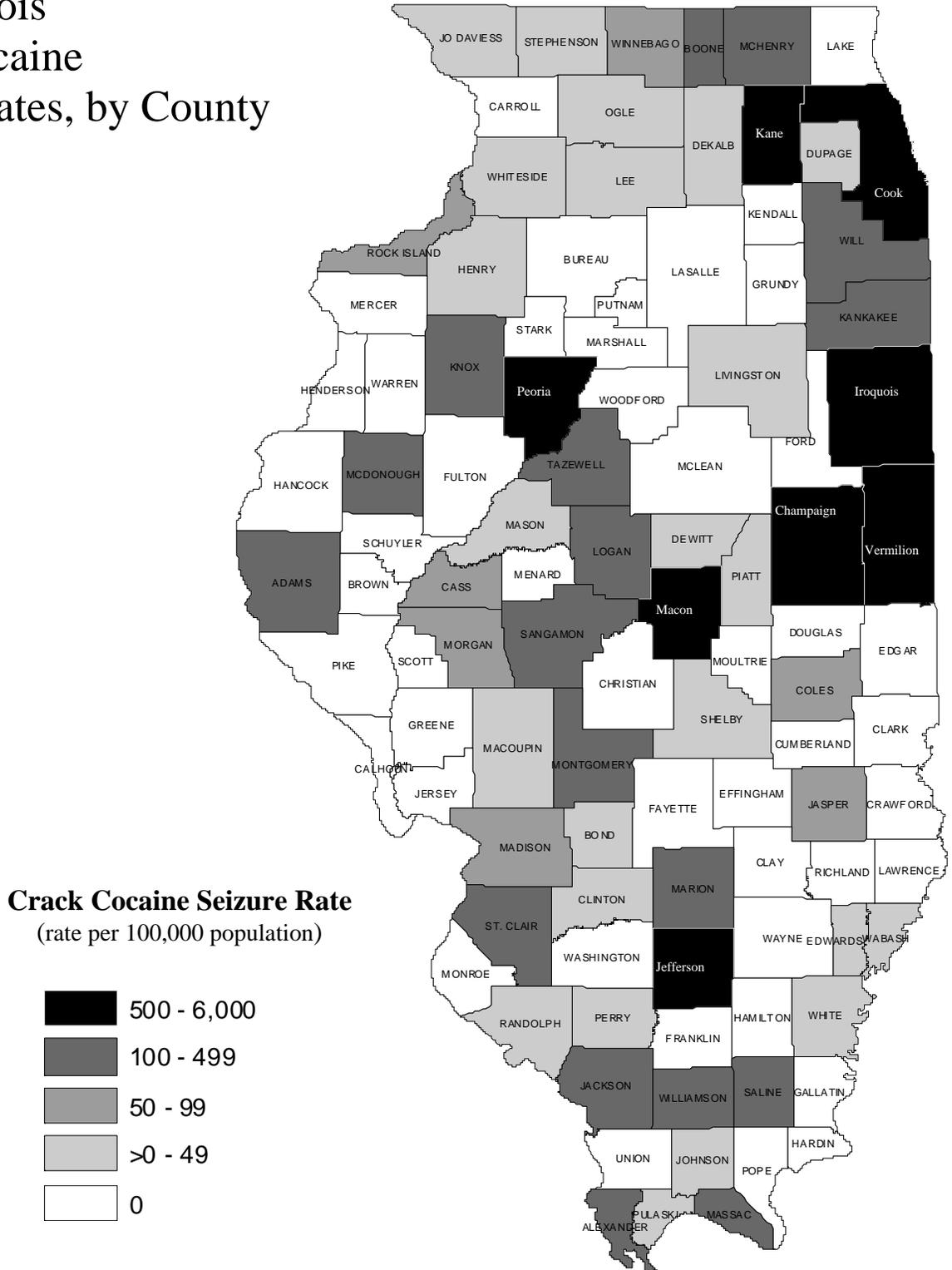


2002 Illinois Cocaine Seizure Rates, by County



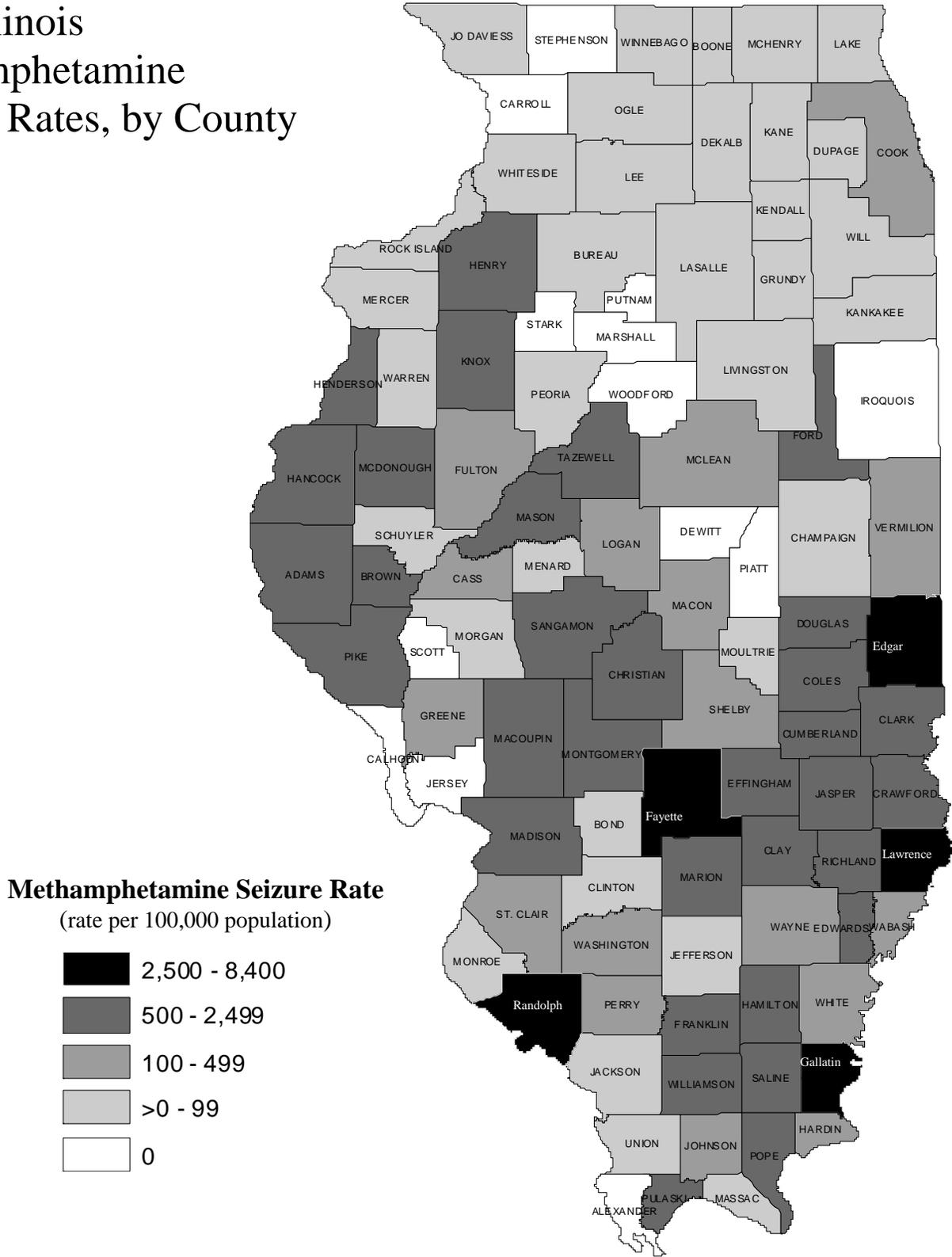
Map 4

2002 Illinois Crack Cocaine Seizure Rates, by County

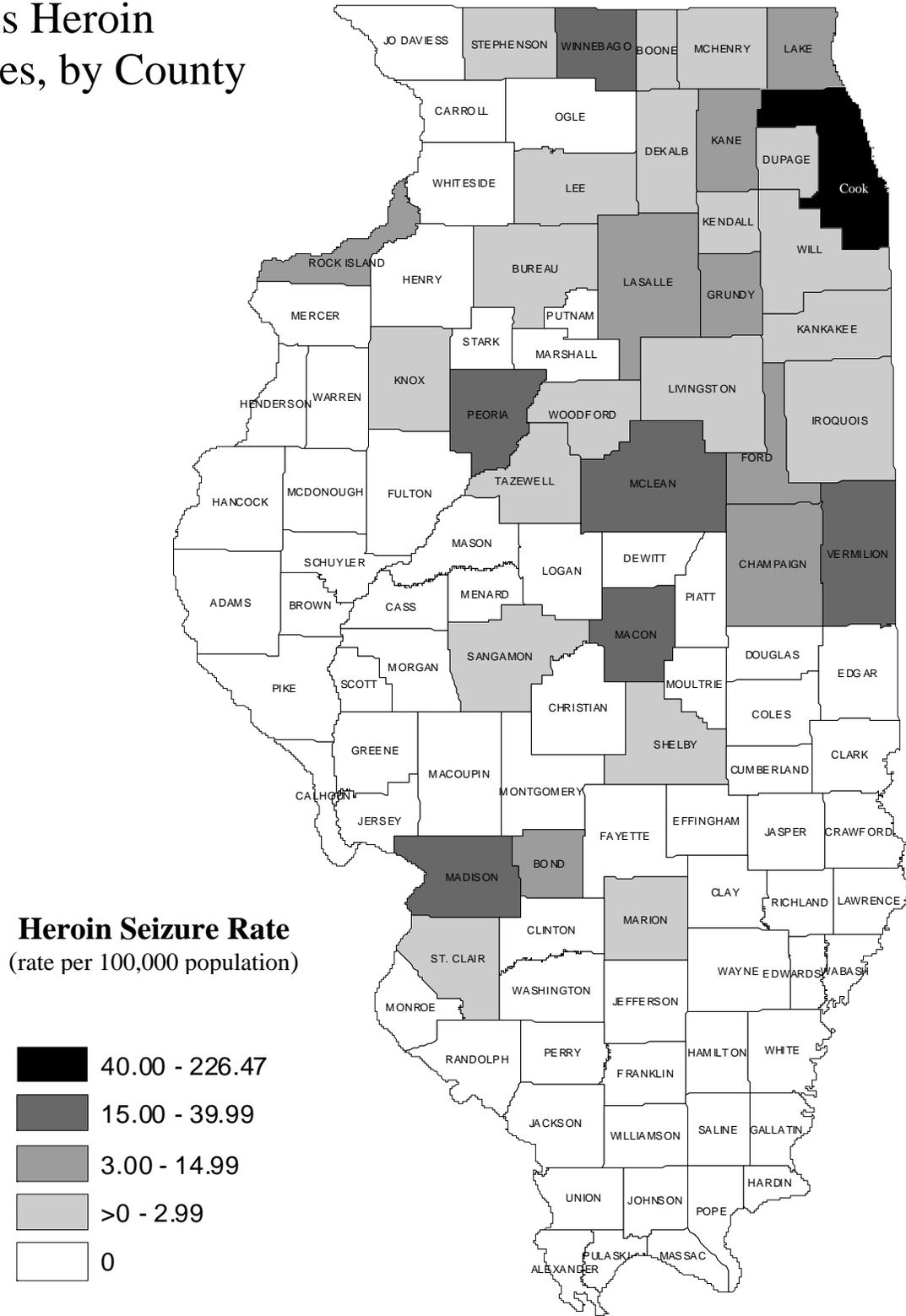


Map 5

2002 Illinois Methamphetamine Seizure Rates, by County



2002 Illinois Heroin Seizure Rates, by County



XI. Bibliography

- Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, *Annual Report to the Supreme Court of Illinois*. 1989 through 2001 reports, Springfield, Illinois.
- Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts' Probation Division, *Statewide Probation Data Report*. 1989 through 2001 reports, Springfield, Illinois.
- Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. Data provided for state fiscal years 1989 through 2002, Springfield, Illinois.
- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, *Child Abuse/Neglect Statistics Report*, 1989 through 2002 reports, Springfield, Illinois.
- Illinois Department of Corrections. Data provided for fiscal years 1989 through 2002, Springfield, Illinois.
- Illinois State Police, *Crime in Illinois*. 1993 through 2002 reports, Springfield, Illinois.
- Illinois State Police, *Drug Statistics Report*. Monthly reports, January 1989 through December 2002, Springfield, Illinois.
- Lake County Metropolitan Enforcement Group. Monthly/Quarterly reports, January 1989 through December 2002, Libertyville, Illinois.
- U.S. Bureau of the Census.



Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1016
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312-793-8550
TDD: 312-793-4170
Fax: 312-793-8422
www.icjia.state.il.us



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
Sheldon Sorosky, Chairman
Lori G. Levin, Executive Director