

Joe Person Conviction (Felony Offense Against a Person)

17 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were convicted of person crimes.

Who is the typical offender? To promote discussion of the common rather than the extreme case, SPAC analyzed the most common characteristics of people convicted of a felony offense in 2017. SPAC looked at convictions to capture a more accurate depiction of the average offender, most of whom (57%) did not get sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Who is the average person offender?

Joe Person (“Joe Pers”) is a 28-year-old, black male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 person offenders convicted in 2017, 88 were male and 12 were female.
- 52 were black, 37 white, 9 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 41 were arrested in Cook County, 27 in urban counties, 19 rural counties, and 13 in the collar counties.
- 36 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 2 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe Pers, making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe Pers criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe Pers had 11 prior arrests, 3 felonies, 5 misdemeanors, and 3 unknown/other.

- While the average is 11, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for person offenders is 7.¹
- 64 were first arrested before turning 19.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 3 person-related arrests, 3 property-related arrests, 1 drug-related arrest, and 3 arrests for crimes categorized as other.

Those 11 prior arrests resulted in 3 convictions for Joe Pers, including 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor.

- Joe Pers prior convictions included 1 person offense and 1 property offense.

35 person offenders had prior prison sentences, 47 had prior probation sentences, 27 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 44 had prior jail sentences.²

For what was Joe Pers arrested and convicted?

Joe Pers was arrested for a Class 2, aggravated battery offense.

- 20 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of a person offense were arrested for a Class X felony, 9 for Class 1, 25 for a Class 2, 17 for a Class 3, 12 for a Class 4, and 16 did not have a felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe precise details of the case against Joe Pers.

Joe Pers was convicted of a Class 2, aggravated battery offense.

- Of every 100 person offenders, 24 were convicted for a Class X felony, 8 for a Class 1, 31 for a Class 2, 19 for a Class 3, and 18 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe Pers was sentenced to 4 years in prison and given 113 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 46 of 100 were sentenced to probation, typically for 2 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 33 who received fines were charged \$919.

What will happen to Joe Pers after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 69 of 100 person offenders will be rearrested and 35 will have new convictions. Joe Pers will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for another person offense. Of person offenders sentenced to IDOC, 62 will likely be rearrested and 48 will be reconvicted of a new offense within three years of exiting prison.

¹ The average number of prior arrests is influenced heavily by a small percentage of offenders having a high number of prior arrests, leading to an inflated number of average prior arrests.

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed on their recidivism event.