

Average Joe Felony Conviction Profiles

Sentencing policy is often driven by high-profile, extreme cases, but most of the individuals convicted in Illinois are not extreme. To focus the discussion on the more common cases, SPAC created these snapshots of average felony conviction in several offense categories. These “Average Joe” profiles are the typical people that flow through the State’s criminal justice system. Analysis of criminal history data shows that, out of every 100 convicted felons, 57 are sentenced to probation while 43 are sentenced to prison.

This set of profiles covers offenders *convicted* of a felony. These profiles represent the broader criminal justice system, compared to an earlier examination of people’s profiles who *were released from prison* in 2014. All offender profiles, both these broad *conviction* profiles and *prison* profiles, can be found at:

<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/spac/index.cfm?metasection=publications&metapage=researchreports>

To create these profiles, SPAC relied entirely on Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) data provided by the Illinois State Police. Disposition data from 2017 was used to get the most recent sample of felony convictions. Disposition data from 2014 was used to analyze recidivism patterns. Convictions were included when: (1) the individual was convicted of a felony and (2) the disposition occurred in 2017 (or 2014 for the recidivism analysis). SPAC pulled demographic information, criminal history information and the information about the current case to calculate a composite, average profile.

The results reflect the data as they are, including any inaccuracies or gaps. For example, out-of-state criminal records may be missing. Race (including both race and ethnicity) recorded in these analyses is either self-identified or identified by the arresting authority. The recidivism cohort does not have a reliable measure of race due to Hispanic individuals being classified as white prior to Public Act 98-528, effective January 1, 2015. Therefore, race was not included in the recidivism analyses.

In the profiles, some crimes are referred to as “other or unknown.” This categorization refers to exceptional cases that do not fit into the broad crime categories used or that are missing data, such as the class of offense, in the reporting systems. For example, driving without a license and illegal gambling are felony offenses that do not fall within other major offense categories, such as Person, Property, Sex, Drug, and Weapons. A case that is reported before the charging decision is final may be missing offense class information. Both of these cases would be categorized as other or unknown in the average offender profiles.

Joe Drug Conviction (Felony Drug Offense)

30 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were convicted of drug 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 drug offender?

Joe Drug Conviction (D.C.) is a 31-year-old, black male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 drug offenders convicted in 2017, 81 were male and 19 were female.
- 50 were black, 43 white, 6 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 45 were arrested in Cook County, 25 rural counties, 18 in urban counties, and 12 in the collar counties.
- 26 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 4 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe D.C., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe D.C.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe D.C. had 12 prior arrests, 4 felonies, 5 misdemeanors, and 4 unknown or other.

- 58 were first arrested before turning 19 years old, 1 had his first arrest after the age of 55.
- While the average is 12, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for drug offenders is 8.¹
- Those prior arrests consisted of 4 drug-related arrests, 3 property-related arrests, 3 arrests for crimes categorized as other, and 2 person-related arrests.

Those 12 prior arrests resulted in 3 convictions for Joe D.C., including 2 felonies and 1 misdemeanor.

- Joe D.C.'s prior convictions included 1 drug offense and 1 property offense.

39 drug offenders had a prior prison sentence, 50 had prior probation sentences, 25 had a prior conditional discharge disposition, and 45 had a prior jail sentence.²

For what is Joe D.C. arrested and convicted?

Joe D.C. was arrested for a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.

- 22 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of drug law violations were arrested for a Class X felony, 15 for a Class 1, 9 for a Class 2, 12 for a Class 3, 34 for a Class 4, and 9 were arrested but had no felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe the precise type or amount of controlled substance that Joe D.C. possessed.

Joe D.C. was convicted of a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.

- Of every 100 drug offenders, 6 were convicted for a Class X felony, 17 for a Class 1, 11 for a Class 2, 15 for a Class 3, and 51 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe D.C. was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given 82 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 41 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 2.5 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 28 who received fines and fees were charged \$1,620.

What will happen to Joe D.C. after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 67 of 100 drug offenders will be rearrested and 33 will have new convictions. Joe D.C. will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for another drug offense. Of drug offenders sentenced to IDOC, 67 will likely be rearrested and 33 will be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences.

Joe Property Crime Conviction (Felony Property Offense)

25 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were convicted of property 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 property offender?

Joe Property Crime (Joe P.C.) is a 30-year-old, white male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 drug offenders convicted in 2017, 74 were male and 26 were female.
- 49 were white, 43 black, 7 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 34 were arrested in Cook County, 27 in urban counties, 22 in rural counties, and 16 in the collar counties.
- 30 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 4 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe P.C., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe P.C.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe P.C. had 12 prior arrests, 4 felonies, 5 misdemeanors, and 3 unknown or other.

- While the average is 12, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for property offenders is 7.¹
- 55 were first arrested before turning 19 years old, 1 had his first arrest after the age of 55.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 5 property-related arrests, 2 drug-related arrests, 2 person-related arrests, and 3 arrests for crimes categorized as other.

Those 12 prior arrests resulted in 4 convictions for Joe P.C., including 2 felonies and 1 misdemeanor.

- Joe P.C.'s prior convictions included 2 property offenses, 1 person offense, and 1 drug offense.

39 had prior prison sentences, 53 had prior probation sentences, 28 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 48 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Joe P.C. arrested and convicted?

Joe P.C. was arrested for a Class 3, retail theft offense.

- 14 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of property crimes were arrested for a Class 1 felony, 22 for a Class 2, 26 for a Class 3, 24 for a Class 4, and 13 did not have a felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe details of each individual offense.

Joe P.C. was convicted of a Class 3 retail theft offense.

- Of every 100 property offenders, 9 were convicted for a Class 1 felony, 25 for a Class 2, 35 for a Class 3, and 31 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe P.C. was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given 74 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 35 of 100 received a prison sentence, typically 3 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 48 who received fines were charged \$867.

What will happen to Joe P.C. after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 71 of 100 property offenders will likely be rearrested and 40 will have new convictions. Joe P.C. will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for another property offense. Of property offenders sentenced to IDOC, 75 are likely to be rearrested and 42 will be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Joe Retail Theft Conviction (Felony Retail Theft Offense)

6 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were retail theft convictions.

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 retail theft offender?

Joe Retail Theft Conviction (R.T.C.) is a 36-year-old, white male, who was arrested a county with an urban center.

- For every 100 retail theft offenders convicted in 2017, 64 were male and 36 were female.
- 50 were white, 45 black, 4 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 35 in urban counties, 27 were arrested in Cook County, 22 in the collar counties, and 17 in rural counties.
- 15 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 8 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe R.T.C., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe R.T.C.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe R.T.C. had 18 prior arrests, 6 felonies, 8 misdemeanors, and 5 unknown or other.

- While the average is 18, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for drug offenders is 12.¹
- 50 were first arrested before turning 19 years old.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 10 property-related offenses, 3 person-related offenses, 2 drug-related offenses, and 3 other arrests.

Those 18 prior arrests resulted in 6 convictions for Joe R.T.C., including 3 felonies and 2 misdemeanors.

- Joe R.T.C.'s prior convictions included 4 property offenses, 1 person offense, and 1 drug offense.

55 retail theft offenders had prior prison sentences, 72 had prior probation sentences, 41 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 68 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Joe R.T.C. arrested and convicted?

Joe R.T.C. was arrested for a Class 4, retail theft offense.

- 2 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of retail theft were arrested for a Class 1 felony, 5 for a Class 2, 32 for a Class 3, 43 for a Class 4 offense, and 18 were arrested but had no felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe precise details of the case against Joe R.T.C., including the dollar amount of the property stolen.

Joe R.T.C. was convicted of a Class 4, retail theft offense.

- Of every 100 retail theft offenders, 1 was convicted for a Class 2 felony, 37 for a Class 3, and 62 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe R.T.C. was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given 54 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 35 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 2 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 50 who received fines were charged \$597.

What will happen to Joe R.T.C. after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 88 of 100 retail theft offenders will likely be rearrested and 52 will have new convictions. Joe R.T.C. will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for another property offense. Of retail theft offenders sentenced to IDOC, 80 will likely be rearrested and 51 will be reconvicted of a new crime within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

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.

Joe Weapon Conviction (Felony Weapon Offense)

8 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were convicted of weapon offenses.

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 weapon offender?

Joe Weapon Conviction (Joe W.C.) is a 24-year-old, black male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 weapon offenders convicted in 2017, 97 were male and 3 were female.
- 75 were black, 14 white, 11 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 69 were arrested in Cook County, 15 in urban counties, 8 in rural counties, and 8 in the collar counties.
- 55 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 1 was over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe W.C., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe W.C.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe W.C. had 9 prior arrests, 3 felonies, 4 misdemeanors and 2 unknown or other.

- While the average is 9, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for weapon offenders is 6.¹
- 77 were first arrested before turning 19 years old.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 2 drug arrests, 2 property arrests, 2 person arrests, and 3 arrests for crimes categorized as other.

Those 9 prior arrests resulted in 2 convictions for Joe W.C., including 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor.

- Joe W.C.'s prior convictions included 1 drug offense.

38 weapon offenders had prior prison sentences, 37 had prior probation sentences, 14 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 28 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Joe W.C. arrested and convicted?

Joe W.C. was arrested for Class 4, unlawful use of a weapon.

- 9 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of weapon offense violations were arrested for a Class X felony, 4 for a Class 1, 22 for a Class 2, 28 for a Class 3 offense, 33 for a Class 4, and 4 were arrested but had no felony charge in the data.

Joe W.C. was convicted of a Class 4, unlawful use of a weapon.

- Of every 100 weapon offenders, 12 were convicted for a Class X felony, 1 for a Class 1, 32 for a Class 2, 17 for a Class 3, and 39 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe W.C. was sentenced to 3 years of prison and given 174 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 22 of 100 were sentenced to probation, typically for 2 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 16 who received fines were charged \$686.

What will happen to Joe W.C. after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 69 of 100 weapon offenders will likely be rearrested and 32 will have new convictions. Joe W.C. will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for another offense categorized as other, possibly another weapons offense. Of weapon offenders sentenced to IDOC, 77 will likely be rearrested and 31 will likely be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Jane Conviction (Female Felony Offender)

17 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were women.

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 woman offender?

Jane Conviction (C.) is a 32-year-old, white woman, who was arrested in Cook County.

- 58 were white, 36 black, 5 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 31 were arrested in Cook County, 29 in rural counties, 25 in urban counties, and 14 in the collar counties.
- 22 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 3 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Jane C., making it impossible to describe her education, employment, and other important aspects of her life.

What is Jane C.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Jane C. had 8 prior arrests, 2 felonies, 4 misdemeanors, and 2 unknown or other.

- While the average is 8, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for women offenders is 5.¹
- 37 were first arrested before turning 19 years old, 1 had her first arrest after the age of 55.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 3 property-related offenses, 2 other arrests, 1 person-related offense, and 1 drug-related arrest.

Those 8 prior arrests resulted in 2 convictions for Jane C., including 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor.

- 22 women offenders had prior prison sentences, 47 had prior probation sentences, 26 had a prior conditional discharge disposition, and 40 had a jail sentence.²

For what is Jane C. arrested and convicted?

Jane C. was arrested for either retail theft or possession of a controlled substance, both Class 4 felonies.

- 8 of 100 women arrested and convicted were arrested for a Class X felony, 9 for a Class 1, 14 for a Class 2, 23 for a Class 3, 30 for a Class 4, and 14 were arrested but had no felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not include the precise type or amount of controlled substance. The data also do not describe the dollar value of stolen property.

Jane C. was convicted of either possession of a controlled substance or retail theft, both Class 4 felonies.

- As the cases progressed through the system, retail theft charges were slightly less likely to result in conviction than possession of a controlled substance.
- Of every 100 women offenders, 2 were convicted for Murder or a Class X felony, 7 for a Class 1, 18 for a Class 2, 30 for Class 3, and 43 for a Class 4 felony.

What is her sentence?

Jane C. was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given 44 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 22 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 2.5 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 43 who received fines were charged \$1,207.

What will happen to Jane C. after her conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 61 of 100 women offenders will likely be rearrested and 29 will likely have new convictions. Jane C. will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for a property offense. Of women offenders sentenced to IDOC, 61 will likely be rearrested and 22 will be reconvicted of a new crime within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Joe Non-Cook Conviction (Non-Cook County Felony Offender)

55 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were outside of Cook County.

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 offender outside of Cook County?

Joe N.C. is a 30-year-old, white male, who was arrested in a county with an urban center.

- For every 100 non-Cook offenders convicted in 2017, 79 were male and 21 were female.
- 62 were white, 32 black, 4 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 39 were arrested in urban counties, 37 in rural counties, and 24 in the collar counties.
- 24 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 4 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe N.C., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe N.C.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe N.C. had 9 prior arrests, 3 felonies, 4 misdemeanors, and 2 unknown or other.

- While the average is 9, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for property offenders is 6.¹
- 52 were first arrested before turning 19 years old, 1 had his first arrest after the age of 55.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 2 property-related arrests, 2 person-related arrests, 1 drug-related arrest, and 2 arrests for other crimes.

Those 9 prior arrests resulted in 3 convictions for Joe N.C., including 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor.

- Joe N.C.'s prior convictions included 1 property offense, 1 person offense, and 1 drug offense.

31 had prior prison sentences, 51 had prior probation sentences, 32 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 48 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Joe N.C. arrested and convicted?

Joe N.C. was arrested for a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.

- 8 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of crimes outside of Cook were arrested for a Class X felony, 11 for a Class 1, 16 for a Class 2 offense, 19 for a Class 3, 27 for a Class 4, and 19 were arrested but had no felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not include the precise type or amount of controlled substance that Joe N.C. possessed.

Joe N.C. was convicted of a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.

- Of every 100 non-Cook offenders, 3 were convicted for a Class X felony, 8 for a Class 1, 20 for Class 2, 26 for a Class 3, and 43 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe N.C. was sentenced to 2 years of probation, and given 53 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 32 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 3 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 57 who received fines were charged \$1,157.

What will happen to Joe N.C. after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 67 of 100 non-Cook offenders will likely be rearrested and 38 will have new convictions. Rearrests and reconvictions show no clear trends in the type of recidivism event. Of non-Cook offenders sentenced to IDOC, 64 are likely to be rearrested and 36 will be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Joe Young Adult Conviction (Felony Offender, 25 years old or younger)

33 of every 100 adults convicted of felonies in 2017 were 25 or younger.

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 young adult offender?

Joe Young Adult (Joe Y.) is a 21-year-old, black male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 young offenders convicted in 2017, 87 were male and 13 were female.
- 55 were black, 34 were white, 10 were Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 47 were arrested in Cook County, 21 in urban counties, 19 in rural counties, and 13 in the collar counties.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe Y., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe Y.'s criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe Y. had 6 prior arrests, 2 felonies, 3 misdemeanors, and 1 unknown or other.

- While the average is 6, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for young offenders is 4.¹
- 20 were first arrested before turning 19.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 2 property offenses, 1 drug offenses, 1 person offenses and 2 other arrests.

Those 6 prior arrests resulted in 1 conviction for Joe Y., typically a felony.

- 23 had prior prison sentences, 33 had prior probation sentences, 12 had a prior conditional discharge disposition, and 26 had a prior jail sentence.²

For what is Joe Y. arrested and convicted?

Joe Y. was arrested for a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.

- 1 of 100 young individuals arrested and convicted were arrested for Murder, 13 were arrested for a Class X felony, 12 for a Class 1, 19 for a Class 2, 18 for a Class 3, 28 for a Class 4, and 10 did not have a felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe precisely the amount of type of controlled substance.

Joe Y. was convicted of a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.

- Of every 100 young offenders, 1 was convicted for Murder, 8 for a Class X, 13 for Class 1, 25 for a Class 2, 18 for Class 3, and 29 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe Y. was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given credit for serving 106 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 43 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 3 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 33 who received fines were charged \$1,162.

What will happen to Joe Y. after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 78 of 100 young offenders will be rearrested and 42 will have new convictions. Joe Y. will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for a property offense. Of young felons sentenced to IDOC, 81 are likely to be rearrested, and 44 will be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Older Joe Conviction (Felony Offenders Aged 60 and Over)

2 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were over 60.

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 older offender?

Older Joe is a 63-year-old, black male, who was arrested in a county with an urban center.

- For every 100 older offenders convicted in 2017, 88 were male and 12 were female.
- 53 were black, 39 white, and 7 Hispanic.
- 36 were arrested in urban counties, 27 in Cook County, 19 in rural counties, and 18 in the collar counties.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Older Joe, making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Older Joe's criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Older Joe had 18 prior arrests, 4 felonies, 5 misdemeanors, and 9 unknown or other.

- While the average is 18, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for older offenders is 11.¹
- 21 were first arrested before turning 19, 17 had their first arrest after the age of 55.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 8 property-related offenses, 3 person-related offenses, 3 drug-related offenses, and 3 other arrests.

Those 18 prior arrests resulted in 5 convictions for Older Joe, including 2 felonies, 2 unknown or other, and 1 misdemeanor.

- Older Joe's prior convictions included 3 property offenses and 1 drug offense.

48 older offenders had prior prison sentences, 55 had prior probation sentences, 24 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 43 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Older Joe arrested and convicted?

Older Joe was arrested for either DUI or possession of a controlled substance, both Class 4 felonies.

- 13 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted were arrested for a Class X felony, 10 for a Class 1, 16 for a Class 2, 15 for a Class 3, 32 for a Class 4, and 14 did not have any felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not include the precise type or amount of controlled substance. The data also do not describe the dollar value of stolen property.

Older Joe was convicted of either possession of a controlled substance or DUI, both Class 4 felonies.

- As the cases progress through the system, DUI charges were slightly less likely to result in a conviction than possession of a controlled substance.
- Of every 100 older offenders, 6 were convicted for a Class X felony, 10 were convicted for a Class 1 felony, 23 for a Class 2, 18 for a Class 3, and 43 were convicted for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Older Joe was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given 94 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 38 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 3 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 27 who received fines and fees were charged \$1,157.

What will happen to Older Joe after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 39 of 100 older offenders will likely be rearrested and 15 will have new convictions. Older Joe will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for an offense categorized as other. Of older offenders sentenced to IDOC, 47 will likely be rearrested and 20 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 with many prior arrests, leading to a high average number of prior arrests.

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Joe Sex Offense Conviction (Felony Sex Offense)

3 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were convicted of sex 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 sex offender?

Joe Sex Offense Conviction (Joe SOC) is a 34-year-old, white male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 sex offenders convicted in 2017, 96 were male and 4 were female.
- 56 were white, 27 black, 14 Hispanic, and 2 identified as another race.
- 42 were arrested in Cook County, 24 in rural counties, 20 in urban counties, and 14 in the collar counties.
- 22 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 9 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe SOC, making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe SOC's criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe SOC had 5 prior arrests, 1 felony, 2 misdemeanors, and 1 unknown or other.

- While the average is 5, the median or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for sex offenders is 2.¹
- 68 were first arrested before turning 19 years old.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 1 property offense, 1 person-related offense, 1 drug-related offense, and 1 other offense.

Those 5 prior arrests resulted in 1 conviction for Joe SOC.

- Joe SOC's prior convictions showed no clear trends.

20 sex offenders had prior prison sentences, 29 had prior probation sentences, 14 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 23 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Joe SOC arrested and convicted?

Joe SOC was arrested for predatory criminal sexual assault, a Class X felony, or an offense categorized as other sex offense.

- 35 of 100 individuals convicted of sex offenses were arrested for a Class X felony, 18 for a Class 1, 23 for a Class 2, 5 for a Class 3, 12 for a Class 4, and 7 did not have a felony charge in the data.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe details of the case against Joe SOC.

Joe SOC was convicted of either a different Class X sex offense or predatory criminal sexual assault.

- Of every 100 sex offenders, 32 were convicted for a Class X felony, 13 for a Class 1, 31 for a Class 2, 5 for a Class 3, and 18 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe SOC was sentenced to 6 years in prison and given 194 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 36 of 100 were sentenced to probation, typically for 2 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 32 who received fines were charged \$1,215.

What will happen to Joe SOC after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 69 of 100 sex offenders will likely be rearrested and 25 will likely have new convictions. Joe SOC will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for an offense categorized as other, possibly a registration violation. Of sex offenders who were sentenced to IDOC, 59 will likely be rearrested and 23 will be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.

Joe DUI (Felony Conviction of Driving Under the Influence)

6 of every 100 individuals convicted of felonies in 2017 were convicted of DUI 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 DUI offender?

Joe DUI is a 37-year-old, white male, who was arrested in Cook County.

- For every 100 DUI offenders convicted in 2017, 86 were male and 14 were female.
- 45 were white, 30 black, 24 Hispanic, and 2 identified as another race.
- 50 were arrested in Cook County, 18 in the collar counties, 18 from urban counties, and 14 from rural counties.
- 10 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 7 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe DUI, making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe DUI's criminal history prior to this case?

Before this arrest, Joe DUI had 9 prior arrests, 2 felonies, 5 misdemeanors, and 2 unknown or other.

- While the average is 9, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for DUI offenders is 5.¹
- 39 were first arrested before turning 19 years old, 1 had his first arrest after the age of 55.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 2 person-related arrests, 2 property-related arrests, 1 drug-related arrest, and 4 arrests categorized as other.

Those 9 prior arrests resulted in 2 convictions for Joe DUI, including 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor.

- Joe DUI's prior convictions included 1 property and 1 DUI offense.

25 DUI offenders had prior prison sentences, 44 had prior probation sentences, 28 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 39 had prior jail sentences.²

For what is Joe DUI arrested and convicted?

Joe DUI was arrested for a Class 4, driving under the influence offense.

- 1 of 100 individuals arrested and convicted of DUI violations were arrested for a Class 1 felony, 12 for a Class 2, 2 for a Class 3, 58 for a Class 4, and 27 were arrested but have no felony charge in the data.

Joe DUI was convicted of a Class 4, driving under the influence offense.

- Of every 100 DUI offenders, 1 was convicted for a Class X felony, 2 for a Class 1, 34 for a Class 2, and 62 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?

Joe DUI was sentenced to 2 years of probation and given 51 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.

- 33 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 2.5 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 22 who received fines were charged \$1,906.

What will happen to Joe DUI after his conviction?

Past trends show that by December 2020, 3 years after the guilty disposition, 46 of 100 DUI offenders will likely be rearrested and 16 will have new convictions. Joe DUI will most likely be rearrested and reconvicted for another offense categorized as other, such as a DUI or driving offense. Of DUI offenders sentenced to IDOC, 50 will likely be rearrested and 22 will be reconvicted within three years of exiting prison.

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

² Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.