

ILLINOIS SENTENCING POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL



Adult Felony Trends in Illinois 2010-2022

June 21, 2024

Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council

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Adult Felony Trends in Illinois, 2010-2022

SPAC's first general trends report showing a broad look at felony arrests, guilty dispositions, sentences, and prison usage

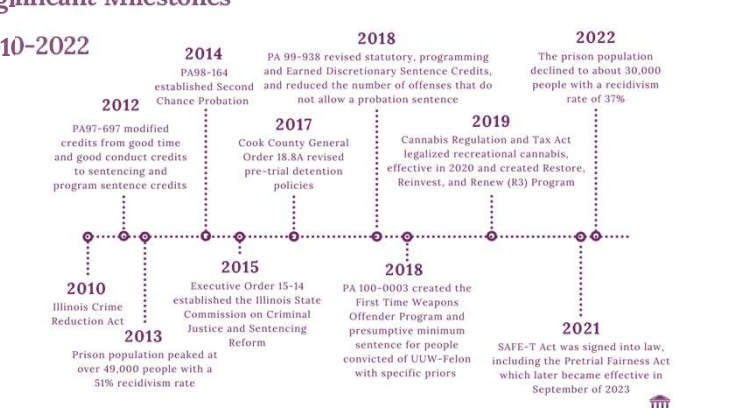
- Data sources
 - Criminal History Record Information (CHRI)
 - Automated Disposition Reporting (ADR) extracts
 - Circuit Clerk electronic data
 - IDOC admissions, population, and exit data
- Timeline of significant events
- Data presented as both raw numbers and percentages in the report in graphs and tables with some narrative description

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Significant Milestones 2010-2022



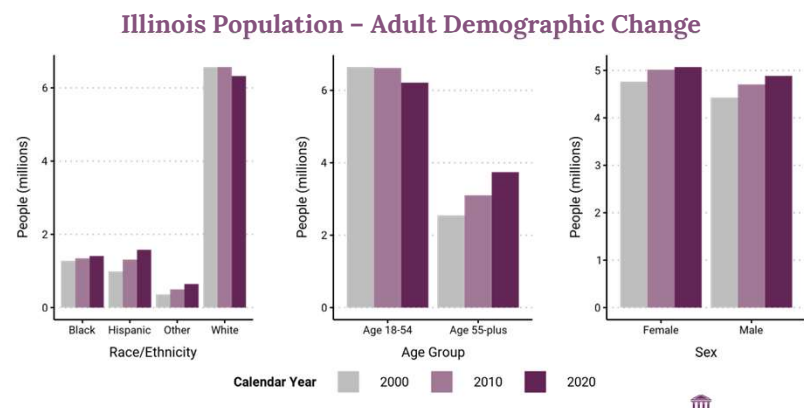
- 2010** Illinois Crime Reduction Act
- 2010** Prison population peaked at over 49,000 people with a 51% recidivism rate
- 2012** PA97-697 modified credits from good time and good conduct credits to sentencing and program sentence credits
- 2013** Executive Order 15-14 established the Illinois State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform
- 2014** PA98-164 established Second Chance Probation
- 2015** PA 100-0003 created the First Time Weapons Offender Program and presumptive minimum sentence for people convicted of UUV-Felon with specific priors
- 2017** Cook County General Order 18.3A revised pre-trial detention policies
- 2018** PA 99-938 revised statutory, programming and Earned Discretionary Sentence Credits, and reduced the number of offenses that do not allow a probation sentence
- 2018** Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act legalized recreational cannabis, effective in 2020 and created Restore, Reinvest, and Renew (R3) Program
- 2018** SAFE-T Act was signed into law, including the Pretrial Fairness Act which later became effective in September of 2023
- 2021** The prison population declined to about 30,000 people with a recidivism rate of 37%
- 2022**

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Illinois Population – Adult Demographic Change



Race/Ethnicity	2000	2010	2020
Black	~1.5	~1.6	~1.7
Hispanic	~1.0	~1.2	~1.4
Other	~0.5	~0.6	~0.7
White	~6.5	~6.3	~6.1

Age Group	2000	2010	2020
Age 18-54	~6.5	~6.3	~6.1
Age 55-plus	~2.5	~3.0	~3.5

Sex	2000	2010	2020
Female	~4.8	~5.0	~5.1
Male	~4.5	~4.7	~4.8

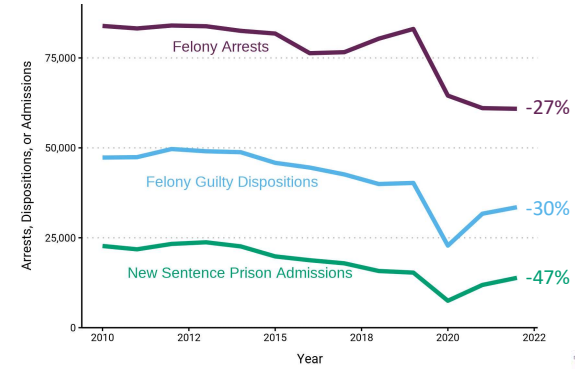
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Units of Analyses

- Arrests
 - CHRI data
 - Hierarchy - most severe felony class charge and offense type
- Guilty Dispositions and Sentences
 - CHRI, ADR, and Cook Circuit Clerk Data
 - Convictions and Withheld Judgements
 - Convictions - finding of guilt and judgement entered
 - Withheld Judgements - finding of guilt but judgement is not entered if court requirements are satisfied
 - Same hierarchy as arrests
- Prison admissions, population, and exits
 - IDOC Planning and Research Extract Data
 - IDOC establishes holding offense which is the sentence that has the longest period of incarceration

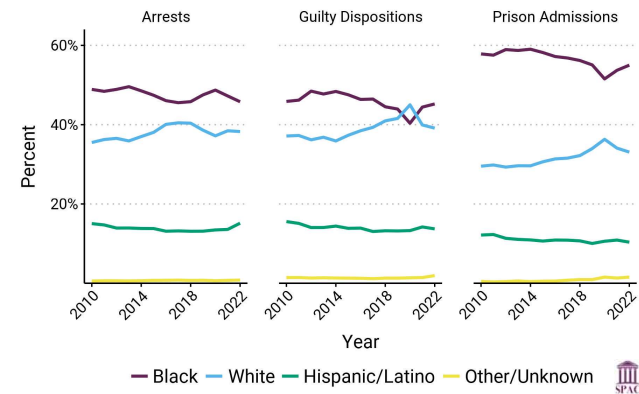
Arrests, Dispositions, and Prison Admissions Trends

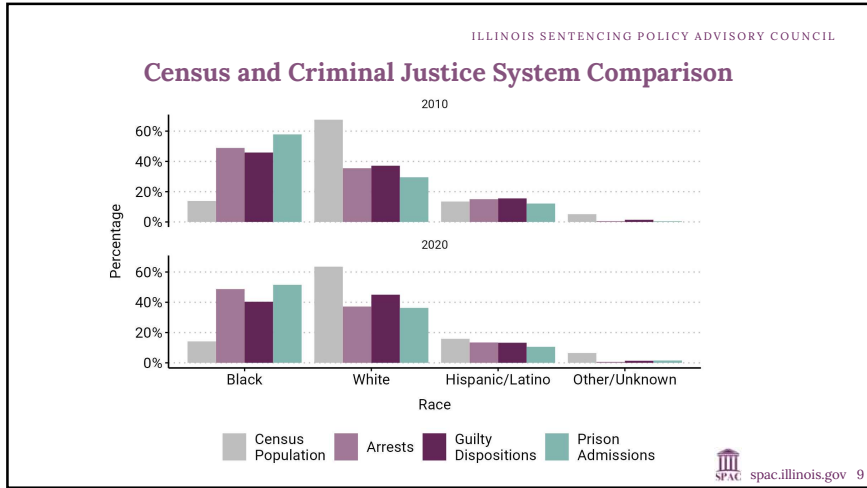


Race/Ethnicity Adjustments

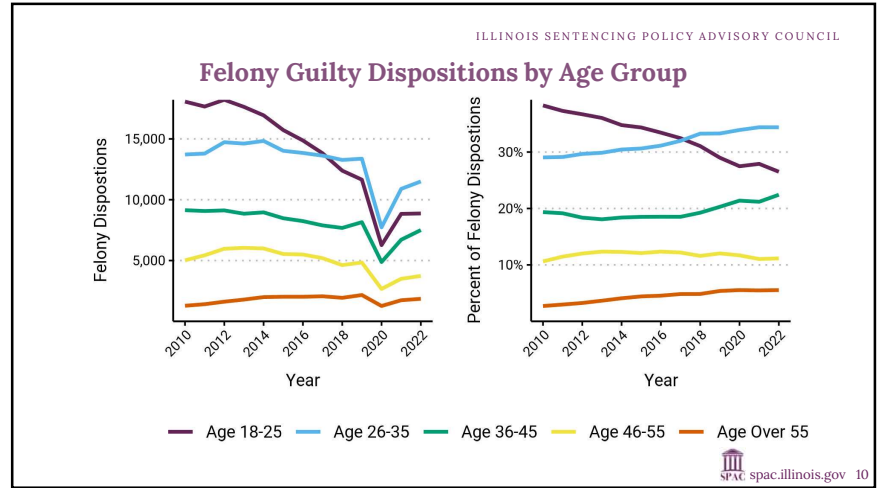
- IDOC race is self-reported and allowed Hispanic as a race category through entire timeframe of the report
- Hispanic added as a race option to CHRI in the mid-2010s
- SPAC used a technique called Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding (BISG) to apply corrections to race in the non-IDOC data
 - Use race from IDOC if a match existed
 - Otherwise, use BISG to estimate the most probable race/ethnicity from an individual based on combination of surname and county of arrest and the demographic makeup of the surname within the county.
- SPAC's ability to implement this in the future will depend on availability of PII information in our CHRI data access

Race/Ethnicity for Felonies

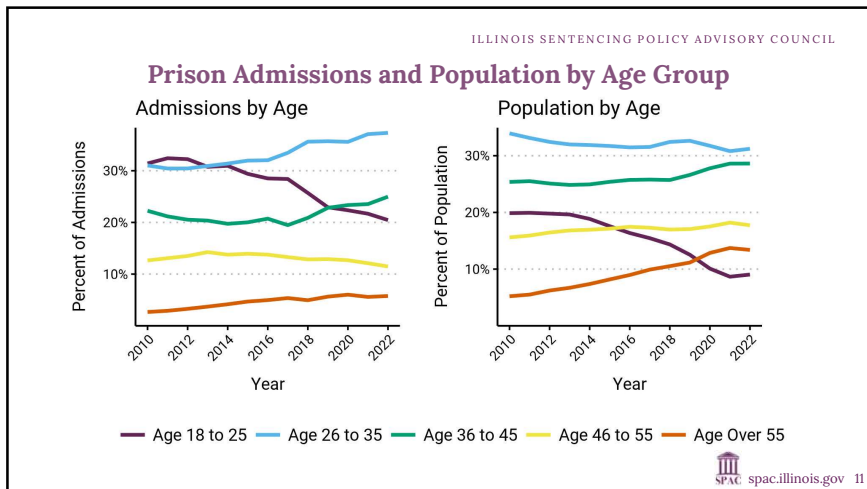




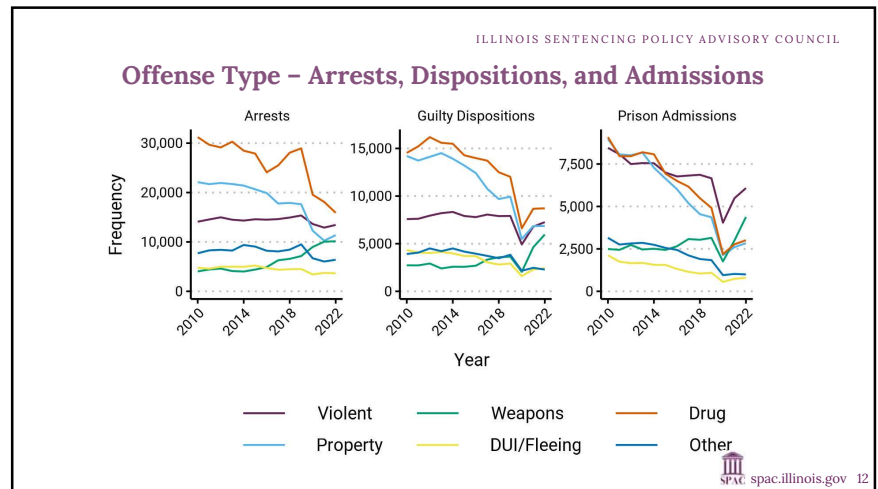
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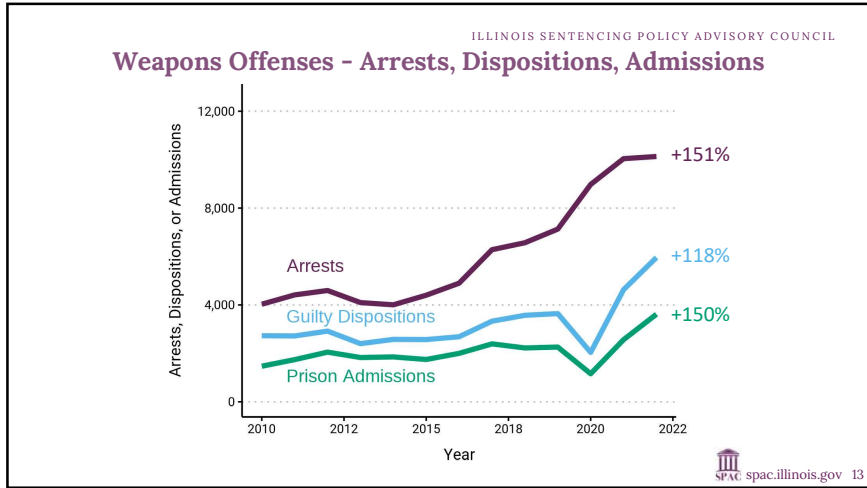
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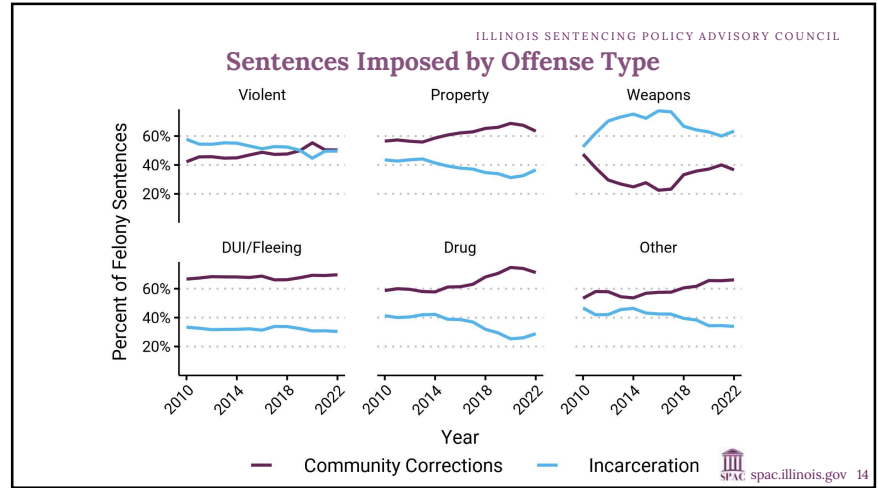
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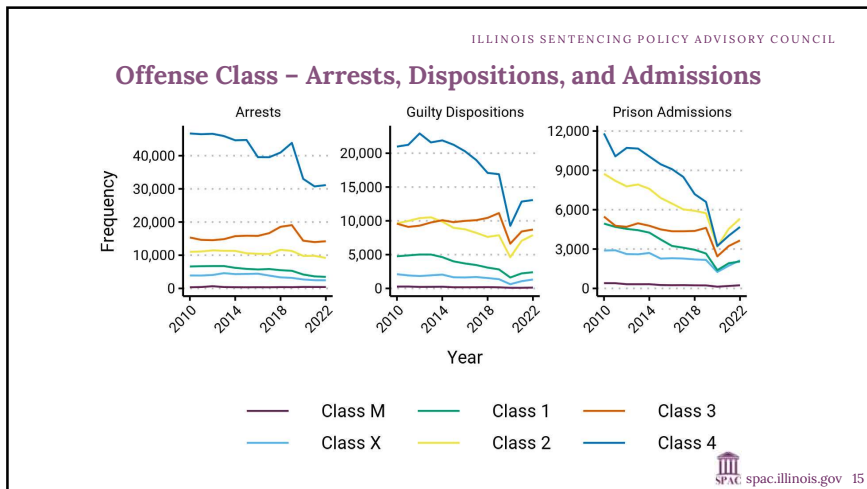
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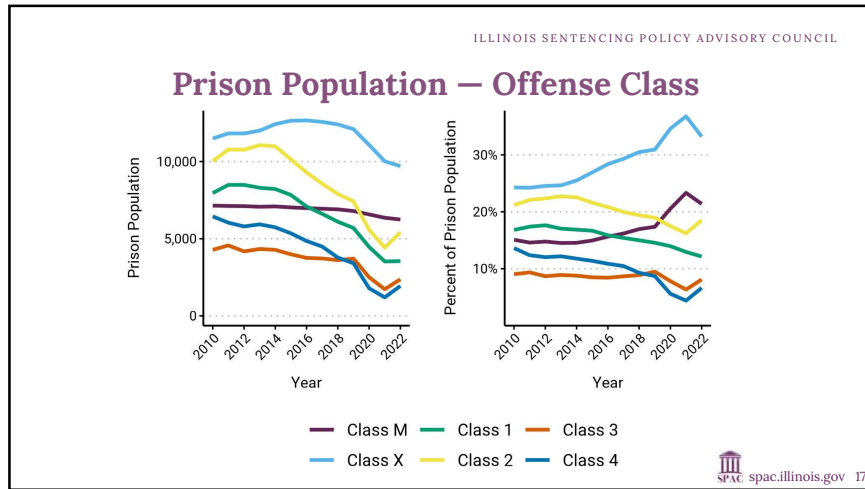
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Prison Admissions Median Sentence Length

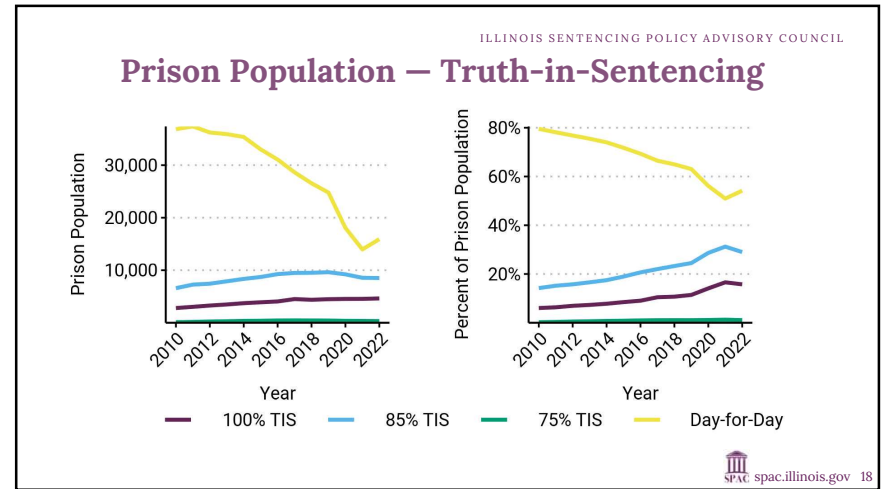
Median Sentence Length (Years) by Class						
Admission Year	M	X	1	2	3	4
2010	32.0	9.0	5.0	4.0	2.5	1.5
2015	45.0	10.0	5.0	3.8	2.5	1.5
2020	35.0	10.0	6.0	4.0	2.5	1.5
2022	37.0	10.0	6.0	4.0	2.5	1.5

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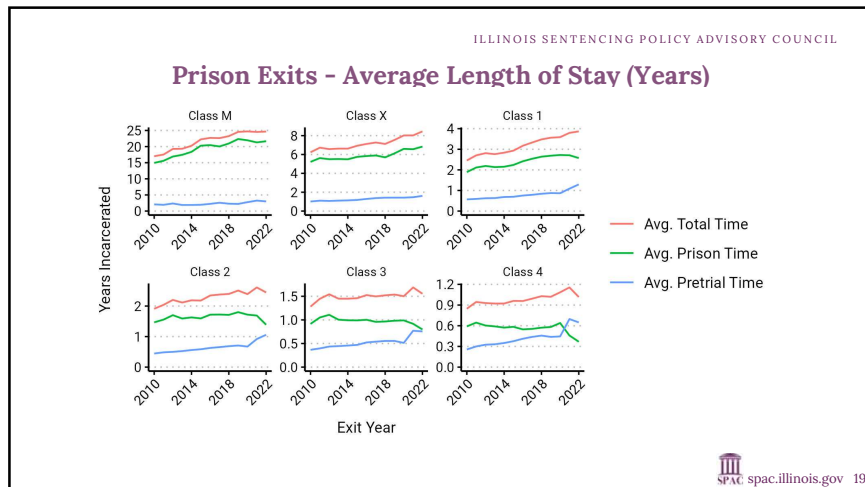
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Future Plans and Questions?

- Intention is to provide similar updated report every 4-5 years
- In the interim, produce less-broad and more specific smaller reports
- Data landscape will alter what SPAC can do
- Questions?

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