



ILLINOIS
Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force

Final Report
Appendices

Submitted to the Illinois General Assembly
December 2012

Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Final Report

Appendix A

- Enabling Legislation (Public Act 97-0433)

AN ACT concerning State government.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Act.

Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to determine a practical method for the standardized collection and analysis of data on the racial and ethnic identity of arrestees by State and local law enforcement agencies. The method shall be usable not only for the collection and analysis of data on the racial and ethnic identity of arrestees under current law, but also in predicting the likely racial and ethnic identity of arrestees under proposed changes to the Criminal Code of 1961, the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963, and the Unified Code of Corrections.

Section 10. Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force. There is created the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force, composed of the following members:

- (1) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Senate President, one of whom the President shall designate to serve as co-chair, and 2 members of the Senate appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(2) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom the Speaker shall designate to serve as co-chair, and 2 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(3) The following persons or their designees:

(A) the Attorney General,

(B) the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County,

(C) the Director of State Police,

(D) the Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department,

(E) the Sheriff of Cook County,

(F) the State Appellate Defender,

(G) the Cook County Public Defender,

(H) the Director of the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor,

(I) the Cook County State's Attorney,

(J) the Executive Director of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority,

(K) the Director of Corrections,

(L) the Director of Juvenile Justice, and

(M) the Executive Director of the Illinois African-American Family Commission.

(4) The co-chairs may name up to 8 persons,

representing minority communities within Illinois, groups involved in the improvement of the administration of justice, behavioral health, criminal justice, law enforcement, and the rehabilitation of former inmates, community groups, and other interested parties.

Section 15. Compensation; support. The members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred as a result of their duties as members of the Task Force from funds appropriated by the General Assembly for that purpose. The Center for Excellence in Criminal Justice at the Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center at Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago shall provide staff and administrative support services to the Task Force.

Section 20. Meetings; report. The Task Force shall hold one or more public hearings, at which public testimony shall be heard. The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before July 1, 2012. The recommendations shall include, but are not limited to:

- (1) identifying a practical method for the standardized collection and analysis of data on the racial and ethnic identity of arrestees by State and local law enforcement agencies; and

(2) providing proposed legislation, drafted with the assistance of the Legislative Reference Bureau, and using the identified practical method for the standardized collection and analysis of data on the racial and ethnic identity of arrestees by State and local law enforcement agencies, to create a Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement providing an analysis of the likely racial and ethnic identity of arrestees under proposed changes to the Criminal Code of 1961, the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963, and the Unified Code of Corrections.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.

Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Final Report

Appendix B

- Schedule of Task Force Meetings, Public Hearings

Illinois Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force

Appendix B: Schedule of Task Force Meetings, Public Hearings

Task Force Meetings

1. October 14, 2011
2. January 20, 2012
3. June 25, 2012

Public Hearings

1. April 30, 2012 – Chicago
2. May 7, 2012 – Springfield

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Appendix C

- Documents Disseminated at January 2012 Task Force Meeting

Ethnicity Utilization in the Criminal History Record Information Database Discussion
Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Meeting
Illinois State Police, Bureau of Identification
January 20, 2012

The Bureau of Identification (BOI)	Criminal History Record Information (CHRI)	Criminal Activity	Electronic Fingerprint Submission Specification (EFSS)
<p>The BOI is the state central repository for collection, maintenance and dissemination of Illinois criminal history record information (CHRI).</p>	<p>CHRI is data identifiable to an individual consisting of Arrest, States Attorney Filing Decisions, Final/Interim Court Dispositions, Custodial receipts and statuses. The Current CHRI database size is 5.7 million subjects. Specific CHRI is mandated to be reported to ISP per the Illinois Criminal Identification Act 20 ILCS 2630/5. (www.ilga.gov)</p>	<p>Arrest: The Arrest fingerprint card contains both required and non-mandatory demographic data as well as the subject's fingerprints. The Arrest fingerprint card can be reported manually via the ink and roll method or electronically via live scan. Calendar Year 2011 the BOI received 490,000 arrest fingerprint cards of which 92% were submitted electronically.</p>	<p>The FBI has developed standards for the submission of arrest records to the FBI. These standards are referred to as ANSI/NIST. Illinois has adopted these standards and have implemented them as part of the Electronic Fingerprint Submission Specification (EFSS) document. The EFSS document contains both mandatory and non-mandatory field reporting requirements for all demographic data as well as fingerprint reporting requirements at the state level.</p>

Ethnicity Utilization in the Criminal History Record Information Database Discussion
 Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Meeting
 Illinois State Police, Bureau of Identification
 January 20, 2012

Conceptually	Questions/Concern
<p>Conceptually, the collection of an "Ethnicity Field" is possible within the CHRI database. There are many questions and issues to be taken into consideration in making this decision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a significant cost to the State to include an "ethnicity field" as part of the CHRI database. • Will the collection of this field be mandated? If not mandated will the collection of this data be reliable? • Should the collection of this field be limited to arrest only or should it be expanded to other mandated criminal activity such as a custodial receipt data, court disposition's etc. • Would the collection of this data include both manual and electronic formats? • There will be a cost associated with the modification to the existing manual arrest fingerprint card and the ordering of all new forms. • There will be a cost associated with the addition of the "Ethnicity Field" to the electronic format; the EFSS document will need to be modified, approved and distributed, and the live scan device vendors must update 900 + live scan devices at a cost to the Criminal Justice Agencies owning these devices. • Once collected, how will the data be utilized? • This field would not be able to be forwarded to the FBI. The FBI does not collect this information.

Illinois State Police, Bureau of Identification

Electronic Fingerprint Submission Specifications

Version 5.0

Federal agencies will determine their own priority schemes. No additional validation of priorities will be provided. CJIS will not interrupt searches in progress upon receipt of higher priority searches.

PTD 2.063 – Person Type Designator. <ebts:PersonTypeDesignatorCode>

This field is used in the submittal of comparison fingerprints, and it indicates that the fingerprints belong to a victim, suspect, individual with legitimate access to the object, or other individuals involved in the latent case. The following codes will be used.

Code	Designation
S	Suspect
V	Victim
E	Elimination
O	Other

PTY 2.2009 – Photo Type. <ansi-nist:ImageCategoryCode> (Future Capability)

This optional field is used in conjunction with a subject photo request (TOT = CPR) (see Appendix K) to define the type of photo being requested (*i.e.*, face, scar, mark, tattoo). The values of PTY correspond to the Type-10 field IMT (10.003). If not provided, the default value will be “FACE,” and the most recent frontal facial photo will be returned.

QDD 2.004 – Query Depth of Detail. <ebts:TransactionQueryDepthCode>

This field is used to define the scope of the Latent Queue Management Query. The defined levels can be at the state level (S), at the ORI level (O), or at the Case level (C).

Note: As the design of NGI takes over the Latent Processing, the LSMQ & LSMR transactions will not be included as the increased response times will make it impossible to receive an accurate report. Therefore in the next version of this standard, this field will be retired.

RAC 2.025 – Race. <nc:PersonRaceCode>

This field is used to indicate the race of the subject. Use the predominant race code from the following table:

If Subject Is	Enter Code
Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Polynesian, Indian, Indonesian, Asian Indian, Samoan, or any other Pacific Islander	A
A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa	B
American Indian, Eskimo, or Alaskan native, or a person having origins in any of the 48 contiguous states of the United States or Alaska who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition	I
Of indeterminable race	U
Caucasian, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South	W

APPENDIX D

**TYPE 2 RECORD FORMAT
FOR
ARREST**

Req'd	Field Number	Name-Reference	Type	Size Min	Size Max	Occ Max
Yes	2.001	Logical Record Length - FBI EBTS LEN	N	2	6	1
Yes	2.002	Image Designation Character - FBI EBTS IDC	N	2	2	1
No	2.006	Attention Indicator - FBI EBTS ATN	ANS	3	30	1
No	2.007	Send Copy To - FBI EBTS SCO	AN	9	19	9
No	2.014	FBI Number - FBI EBTS FBI	AN	1	9	5
No	2.015	State Identification Number - FBI EBTS SID	AN	3	10	5
No	2.016	Social Security Number - FBI EBTS SOC	N	9	10	4
No	2.017	Miscellaneous Identification Number - FBI EBTS MNU	ANS	4	15	4
Yes	2.018	Name - FBI EBTS NAM	AS	3	30	1
No	2.019	Aliases - FBI EBTS AKA	AS	3	30	10
Yes	2.020	Place of Birth - FBI EBTS POB	A	2	2	1
No	2.021	Country of Citizenship - FBI EBTS CTZ	A	2	2	1
Yes	2.025	Race - FBI EBTS RAC	A	1	1	1
No	2.026	Scars, Marks, and Tattoos - FBI EBTS SMT	AS	3	10	10
Yes	2.027	Height - FBI EBTS HGT	AN	2	3	1

Req'd	Field Number	Name-Reference	Type	Size Min	Size Max	Occ Max
Yes	2.029	Weight - FBI EBTS WGT	N	3	3	1
Yes	2.031	Color Eyes - FBI EBTS EYE	A	3	3	1
Yes	2.032	Hair Color - FBI EBTS HAI	A	3	3	1
No	2.035	Palm Prints Available Indicator - FBI EBTS PPA	A	1	1	1
No	2.036	Photo Available Indicator - FBI EBTS PHT	A	1	1	1
Yes	2.038	Date Printed - FBI EBTS DPR	N	8	8	1
No	2.040	Occupation - FBI EBTS OCP	ANS	1	50	1
Yes	2.045	Date of Arrest - FBI EBTS DOA	N	8	8	1
No	2.067	Image Capture Equipment Set - FBI EBTS IMA	AN	12	97	1
No	2.070	Request for (FBI) Electronic Rap Sheet - FBI EBTS RAP	A	1	1	1
No	2.073	Controlling Agency Identifier - FBI EBTS CRI	AN	9	9	1
No	2.084	Amputated or Bandaged Set - FBI EBTS AMP				10
		Finger Number (FGN) - FBI EBTS AMP	N	2	2	
		Amputated or Bandaged Code (AMPCD) - FBI EBTS AMP	A	2	2	
No	2.310	Input Source ID - ISP Appendix L	AN	8	8	1
Yes	2.311	Record Format Source Code - ISP Appendix L	AN	4	4	1
Yes	2.312	Submission Type Code - ISP Appendix L	A	2	5	1
Yes	2.313	Transaction Action Code - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1

Req'd	Field Number	Name-Reference	Type	Size Min	Size Max	Occ Max
Yes	2.314	Document Control Number - ISP Appendix L	AN	9	9	1
Yes	2.315	Agency NCIC Number - ISP Appendix L	AN	9	9	1
Yes	2.319	Date of Birth - ISP Appendix L	N	8	8	2
Yes	2.320	Sex - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
Yes	2.331	Agency Case Number (unique) - ISP Appendix L	AN	1	12	1
No	2.332	Agency Case Number/Indictment Number (non -unique) - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	12	1
No	2.334	Disposition of Arrestee Under 18 - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
No	2.337	Arrestee Armed With Segment - ISP Appendix L	AN			2
No		Weapon Type	N	2	2	2
No		Automatic Weapon	A	1	1	2
No	2.341	Skin Tone Code - ISP Appendix L	A	3	3	1
No	2.342	Driver's License Number - ISP Appendix L	AN	1	20	1
No	2.343	State Issuing Driver's License - ISP Appendix L	A	2	2	1
Yes	2.344	Arrest Charge Segment - ISP Appendix L				999
Yes		Charge Number - ISP Appendix L	N	1	4	1
Yes		Charge Statute Citation - ISP Appendix L (either this field or AOIC Offense Code Number is required)	ANS		40	1

Req'd	Field Number	Name-Reference	Type	Size Min	Size Max	Occ Max
Yes		AOIC Offense Code Number - ISP Appendix L (either this field or Charge Statute Citation is required)	AN	7	7	1
Yes		Inchoate Offense Code - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
Yes		Charge Penalty Class - ISP Appendix L	AN	1	1	1
Yes		Domestic Violence Indicator - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
No		Date of Offense - ISP Appendix L	N	8	8	1
No		Arrest Type - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
No		County Issuing Warrant - ISP Appendix L	N	3	3	1
No		Court Case No. - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	18	1
No	2.346	Chicago IR Number - ISP Appendix L	AN	3	9	1
No	2.347	IDOC Number - ISP Appendix L	AN	1	12	1
No	2.348	County of Prosecution - ISP Appendix L	N	3	3	1
No	2.349	Minor by Court Order - ISP Appendix L	N	1	1	1
No	2.350	Post Sentence Fingerprints - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
No	2.353	Basis for Caution - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	20	1
Yes	2.354	FBI Response Needed - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1
No	2.355	Send ISP Rap Sheet to NCIC Number - ISP Appendix L	AN	9	9	1

Req'd	Field Number	Name-Reference	Type	Size Min	Size Max	Occ Max
No	2.366	Employer and Address Segment - ISP Appendix L				1
No		Employer Name - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	40	1
No		Street Address - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	60	1
No		City - ISP Appendix L	A	1	40	1
No		State - ISP Appendix L	A	2	2	1
No		Zip Code - ISP Appendix L	N	5	9	1
No	2.367	Residence of Person Fingerprinted Segment - ISP Appendix L				1
No		Street Address - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	60	1
No		City - ISP Appendix L	A	1	40	1
No		State - ISP Appendix L	A	2	2	1
No		Zip Code - ISP Appendix L	N	5	9	1
No	2.368	FOID Number - ISP Appendix L	N	8	8	1
No	2.369	Arresting Officer Badge Number - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	10	1
No	2.370	Date of Bond - ISP Appendix L	N	8	8	1
No	2.371	Bond Receipt Number - ISP Appendix L	ANS	1	7	1
No	2.372	Bond Amount - ISP Appendix L	N	1	9	1
No	2.373	Cash Bond Deposited - ISP Appendix L	N	1	9	1
No	2.374	Bond Type Posted - ISP Appendix L	AN	2	2	7
No	2.375	Released Without Charging Indicator - ISP Appendix L	A	1	1	1

Transaction Control Number

ALL FIELDS MARKED IN BOLD ARE MANDATORY

ARREST CARD



FRM0130L66064766

Document Control Number Ref. DCN

Arresting Agency ORI - NCIC

L66064766

IL

Subjects Last Name

First Name

Middle Name/Suffix

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

State Identification Number

Chicago IR #

FBI #

Sex

Race

Height

Weight

Hair

Eye

Skin

Social Security Number

Drivers License Number

DL State

Photo Available

Palm Prints

FOID #

Y

N

Y

N

Basis For Caution:

Alias Last Name

Alias First Name

Alias Middle Name/Suffix

Alias Date of Birth

Scars, Marks, Tattoos

Occupation

Employer

Employer Address

Residence of Person Fingerprinted

Agency Case Number

Indictment Case Number

Date of Arrest

Officer Badge #

Co. of Pros.

Adult By Court Order Yes

Arrestee Armed With (Code Table on Back)

Choose Maximum of two

Auto Weapon

1

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Y

N

Released w/o charging Yes

Bond Date

Receipt Number

Bond Amount

Cash Amount

Bond Type (Check Box)

No Bond

Driv. Lic

Recognizance

DUI

Cash

Other

Date Fingerprinted

Post Sentence Fingerprints

Yes

C
S
A
O
D

C
L
A
S
S

Warrant
County

Case
Number

State Use
Only

Count

Statute Citation/AOIC Code

Offense Description

001

001

001

Date of Offense

Domestic Violence (Please Check)

Yes

No

Arrest Type
(Back)

002

002

002

Date of Offense

Domestic Violence (Please Check)

Yes

No

Arrest Type
(Back)

003

003

003

Date of Offense

Domestic Violence (Please Check)

Yes

No

Arrest Type
(Back)

Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Final Report

Appendix D

- Public Hearing Witness Lists, Notes, Testimony

The Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force

Public Hearing: Chicago, IL

April 30, 2012

Task Force Members in Attendance

Rep. La Shawn Ford (co-chair), Illinois House of Representatives, 8th District
Arthur Bishop, Director, Illinois Dept. of Juvenile Justice
Pat Coughlin, Office of the Cook County State's Attorney
Parul Desai, Office of the Cook County Public Defender
Harold Goodson, Office of the Clerk of the Cook County Courts
Rep. Greg Harris, Illinois House of Representatives, 13th District
John Konrad, Cook County Sheriff's Department
Greg Mueller, Illinois State Police
Mark Myrent, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Grady Norwood, Jr., Franklin Williams Enterprises, Inc.
Diane Phillips, Governors State University
Michael Rodriguez, Director of Violence Prevention, Enlace Chicago
Cara Smith, Office of the Illinois Attorney General
Terry Solomon, Illinois African-American Family Commission
Layla Suleiman Gonzalez, Illinois Latino Family Commission
Lynn Todman, Institute on Social Exclusion, Adler School of Professional Psychology
Patricia Unsinn, Office of the State Appellate Defender
Eugene Williams, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Rep. Harris & Rep. Ford: Welcome and brief overview of background and goals of REI Task Force and the public hearing.

WITNESSES:

Candice Jones

Executive Director of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission

(Written testimony attached.)

Question & Answer

Rep. Greg Harris: The State has created a "lock 'em up" mentality for low-level offenders, which needs to be addressed and reassessed. Incarcerating young people is not usually the answer to producing effective members of society. What is the answer?

A: At the end of the day we want safe communities and effective members of society. What point do we begin to adjust the prosecution process? In analyzing the data, just looking at the disproportionality information is not enough.

Arthur Bishop: (comment) We are at the lowest number of recorded participants in the history of the juvenile justice system with 979 total juveniles in the State system. Although the numbers are down, in respect to DMC, the percentage remains the same.

Mike Rodriguez: I appreciate comments on subjective decision making. Are there any best practices that you've seen implemented in other states?

A: There are ways to accurately track race and ethnicity data in the Latino community. Many institutions have implemented the use of a two-prong question, which has had tremendous impact on accurately counting number of Latino community members. For example, in Pennsylvania communities are balancing funds and resources by moving funds from facilities that may not need them, back into the community. In Jefferson County, Louisiana, they are implementing a similar

intervention model by closing pods in detention centers and redirecting resources to front-end services. Race and ethnicity collection tools have been established to collect data at different intervention points within the justice system.

Mark Myrent: I'm interested in the comments you made regarding the Burns Institute data collection tool. Does this tool come with challenges involving understanding data already collected, especially at the State level? How can we include or determine race and ethnicity information in data already collected?

A: We need to figure out ways to funnel data through a data collection program that can accurately analyze information already collected in terms of race and ethnicity.

Rep. Greg Harris: Two Task Force members here are already in charge of collecting this kind of data. What kind of changes do you think we, as a Task Force and community, can make?

Greg Mueller: (comment) We are currently prohibited to ask for race and ethnicity information. We are forced to make a judgment call. Changing that protocol would be most important.

Rep. Greg Harris: (comment) At the federal level, individuals of mid-eastern decent are currently reported as white – that cannot be an effective way of reporting race and ethnicity.

Mark Myrent: (comment) Those of mid-eastern decent often times claim their race to be white. They are more than welcome to claim themselves as “other” but we can't force them to do so.

Greg Mueller: (comment) The federal government doesn't collect race or ethnic data.

Rep. Greg Harris: (comment) All levels of government are collecting different information at different contact points, which is ineffective.

Melissa Williams

Wiley Resource Center, NFP (Legal Support Program), Chicago Westside NAACP

(Written testimony attached.)

Question & Answer

Grady Norwood, Jr.: Does your organization collect data on the racial/ethnic identity of adults or juveniles involved in the criminal justice system or other public systems, or use these data for research management purposes?

A: Yes, we have been mandated by the NAACP national board to show impact throughout the State that the current justice system is having on the community, both in the juvenile justice system and the adult criminal justice system.

Terry Solomon: How do you assess the baselessness of an arrest?

A: We have a number of individuals that are routinely stopped by the police without any justification. Probable cause determinations are often made, and guilty pleas are accepted just so they can go home. In the public schools, students are sent to the juvenile justice system instead of diverted appropriately. If the cases are thrown out of court, then we can assess the baselessness of the arrest.

Diane Phillips: (comment) I would first like to say congratulations to Attorney Williams for her hard work and dedication to DMC in Cook County. Relative to the NAACP, I was on the Westside on Palm Sunday. I was struck by the amount of violence. We need to step up and speak up about the problems these communities are facing.

Michael Rodriguez: Have you had a chance to look at new information regarding data collection through the Criminal Justice Information Authority?

A: No, I am newly appointed as the chair of the committee. One thing we are really interested in (working with Rep. Ford) is a piece of legislation that will assist in getting cases sealed. The Criminal Justice Information Authority has information we can dig through. We want to be able to look online for this information, and we would like it to become more readily available and user-friendly.

Mark Myrent: (comment) In regards to the issues with deficiencies within in the system, we are not really getting true transparency. Plea bargaining may be the weakest area of data in the State of Illinois. There is a lot of reluctance in sharing this information statewide. I do agree with Ms. Williams in creating a statewide accessible site to access this information.

Melissa Williams: The NAACP is more than happy to help ICJIA in any way possible in order to improve accessibility to statewide data.

Rep. La Shawn Ford: We are trying to pass HB5723, the Seal Bill. We need to get the NAACP here to convince people to support this bill. If you could make a single recommendation, what would it be?

A: The best recommendation we can make is to work with a single organization be the repository – and we recommend the Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Rep. La Shawn Ford: Is the Wiley Resource Center a legal-focused organization?

A: Yes, we meet once a month with the community to discuss expungement, sealing and pardons.

Luis Carrizales
Enlace Chicago
(Oral testimony only.)

Summary of Oral Testimony

Enlace Chicago is an organization with strong advocates in restorative justice in public schools and leading the community conversation regarding race/ethnicity data collection. Through a partnership with the MacArthur Foundation, Enlace Chicago took an interest in race/ethnicity data collection. Often involved in DMC conversations, Enlace developed concerns about where this fell within the Latino community. Enlace, in cooperation with the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change Initiative, created a report entitled "Guidelines for Collecting and Recording Race and Ethnicity of Youth in Illinois' Juvenile Justice System," which identified best practices in data collection. Enlace Chicago works with La Raza, and coauthored a white paper called "Counting Latino Youth in the Illinois Juvenile Justice System."

The reality is that the Latino community is growing in Illinois. Current processes and procedures of data collection within the Latino community are inadequate, which ultimately leads to disproportionate contact within this community.

Recommendations made through the report are that Illinois should collect data at each contact point of the justice system using the two-pronged ethnicity question method. Creating a uniform process throughout each diversion or intervention point in the judicial process would help solidify the processes and procedures regarding data collection. Illinois should also create universal changes to paper work/data collection tools to reflect race/ethnicity information.

Question & Answer

Grady Norwood, Jr.: There are State and federal guidelines in collecting race/ethnicity information, can you explain?

A: Currently, this data is collected from the census, or self-reported data. What should be asked is an ethnicity question, then race question, self-identification questions. The first question will help to better identify ethnic origins. This process must be very intentional, and can be adjusted by each form, but this is a simple way to better understand self-reporting data.

Rep. La Shawn Ford: What questions do you recommend should be added to forms?

A: The race question should be a follow-up to the question of whether an individual is Hispanic or not.

Terry Solomon: Why is it important to separate the ethnicity portion of a questionnaire out with the two separate questions? How do you see this recommendation being used for other ethnic groups?

A: There are different challenges facing each and every group. How will we know if we have enough translators, etc., if there isn't an accurate count of each racial/ethnic group? This is a real concrete example of meeting needs and providing resources as long as we have proper data collection.

Greg Mueller: What if a person answers one of the race/ethnicity questions with a ridiculous answer (e.g. Mickey Mouse) at one point in the process? Is it okay to leave that answer blank, or would you prefer that the data collector make a guess?

A: This is only a starting point to start transforming the data collection process. There are further changes that can be made to try to better make educated guesses about race/ethnicity. There has to be more than one point in the process for a person to have the opportunity to self-identify. An individual might prefer to fill out the form as opposed to answering a question face-to-face. We are here to make simple recommendations; we will run into problems throughout the process.

Rep. Greg Harris: If someone is unwilling to respond, what does the data collector do?

A: We need to start with simple recommendations, then face these concerns as they come up and develop policies and procedures at that point.

Mark Myrent: (comment) This is really getting to the basis of some of the difficulties we're all having in collecting data. I would implore this Task Force to answer the question regarding what we are actually using this data for. Skin color has always been the proxy for race. When we talk about the more complex question of ethnicity, we need to further explore what we are using this information for and what we plan to do with it.

A: When we are looking at the system, we need to figure out how to ensure fairness with all processes within the justice system. Latino populations are growing in the State, and we need to do what we can to make sure those populations are being counted appropriately. What is in our capacity to do right now to ensure all people are being counted accurately?

Mark Myrent: Where is the training for officers to make a determination on ethnicity if a client remains silent? Do we look at language, appearance, etc? We need to know how to collect this information, and how to train officers to do so.

Michael Rodriguez: Latinos make up 16 percent of the population in Illinois, and one-third of babies are born Latino. The population is growing. The census has a best practice – the gold standard in reporting this information. At the very least we need to improve our data collection systems.

Diane Phillips: Questions often received when teaching at Chicago State – how do they count us? How do they count our races/ethnicities? I request a copy of your report. Students would join the discussion to learn how you are going to change the paradigm.

Terry Solomon: Questions that I think the Task Force needs to address throughout this process: Do I ever get a chance to change my earlier response regarding race/ethnicity somewhere during the continuum? Is there racial equity between black Hispanics/white Hispanics?

Luis Carrizales: (closing statement) I appreciate the Task Force's dedication to this issue.

Stephanie Schmitz

Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy, Institute on Metropolitan Affairs, Roosevelt University

(Written testimony attached.)

Question & Answer

Michael Rodriguez: Do you have ample access to current criminal justice files?

A: We have some access to information as we were doing a study of case files within the justice system. We had research assistants look at publically available records to see if we could try to identify if there were individuals living in Cicero/Berwyn that had been coded as white, when they were in fact Latino. We acknowledge that our process was not scientific, however the results suggested an undercounting of Latinos in that many individuals counted as "white" had traditionally Hispanic/Latino-sounding last names.

Michael Rodriguez: Do you think the current system is flawed?

A: Yes, most definitely. We need to address how to gather the information before we can address what we do with it.

Rep. La Shawn Ford: (comment) Self-reporting can account for fixing a huge part of the problem we are currently discussing.

Layla Suleiman Gonzalez

Illinois Latino Family Commission

(Oral testimony only.)

Summary of Oral Testimony

Illinois Latino Family Commission held its first meeting in February 2010. Two million Latinos currently reside in Illinois, which accounts for the fifth largest Latino population in the country. The median age of Latinos in Illinois is 26. Latinos represent one quarter of the kids in the State. The Commission works on legislation, community involvement, and policy. I want to applaud the work of the Task Force, as you all have been able to shine a spotlight on this huge issue. Data collection issues do not stop in corrections, it's in public health and communities as well. There is a huge lack of data today. Latinos are invisible within the justice system, which leads to DMC. Many Latinos classify as white if that is the only race category available. The first step in eradicating disparity is accurately collecting data. We want to make sure this is a joint venture between the justice system and the community, as we do not want to extend a fear of persecution solely based on race. Asking the question of ethnicity can strike individuals as intrusive and intimidating, which we want to avoid through capacity-building techniques. We need to build systems that ensure steadfast policies and procedures that create comfort within communities.

Political will needs to be a strong force in moving this initiative forward. We want to advocate for self-identification of data. We have a very different social construction than has been previously represented in the U.S. It doesn't fit the standard. We need to figure out how to make room for the "mixed" races and complicated ethnic backgrounds. The first time of contact is a key time to collect race/ethnicity data. However, we need to ensure this info is being collected at every possible point of contact within the justice system. We advocate for the two-pronged question process to collect data. The State is moving very aggressively in combining databases to better collect/analyze data. They are trying to create a

framework for a database that can work closely with juvenile justice department. We have to have a script to explain to all parties regarding why we are collecting this data. We need to train all parties to recognize how and why we are collecting the data.

Question & Answer

Diane Phillips: – I would like to congratulate you on testifying today. Are you getting any pushback here in Illinois regarding immigration?

A: Absolutely, although it may not really be apparent inside the city. Once you get out of the city, there is a widespread fear of deportation and fear as minorities feel as though they are under siege. We need to ensure we have linguistically appropriate services when dealing with this issue.

Gwenn Troyer

John Howard Association

(Written testimony attached.)

Question & Answer

No questions or comments.

Revin Fellows

Green Acres Consulting Company

(Oral testimony only.)

Summary of Oral Testimony

Boots on the Ground – A 22-year-old girl was killed by an off-duty detective. The court decision came back justified, even though she had no weapons. The detective is still working, while an officer charged with killing his dog was suspended from his job. This is a disparity.

We seem to always be able to count the African-American population, but we can't get the counts for any other populations. These numbers need to be counted, but how do we determine where these numbers go and what we do with them? I'm leery of numbers when they are used in ways that don't lead to resources in our communities. How are we at the bottom for jobs and service allocations? This is a disparity.

The President of the United States has a racial profiling bill he is working on. This bill should be continually studied and addressed.

We need training on every level in justice system to address the problem of white/black officers treating individuals differently. Black officers are sometimes not serving the interests of our communities.

The media paints a specific picture of African Americans and Latinos, and that needs to be addressed.

We should take a look at census data and where individuals reside, outside of the prisons, so that tax dollars can be appropriately distributed.

Question & Answer

No questions or comments.

Hon. Earlean Collins, Cook County Commissioner

(Oral testimony only.)

Summary of Oral Testimony

The Cook County Board has passed legislation that is making Cook County more of a safe haven for the Latino population. My concern lies within data collection and use in regards to the mentally ill and underserved populations. Until we address the data collection problem, we will continue to see increases in crime and floods of people in streets that we cannot serve. The State of Illinois, unlike the federal government mandate, is supposed to have community programming available for deinstitutionalized mentally ill individuals. Cook County Jail is the biggest mental health institution in the country. We need adequate resources to meet the need, or crime will get worse. State and local law enforcement have made remarkable progress. For example, if people are off their meds, data systems can find people.

You can't allow the State to close institutions and leave those in need without adequate resources. As you look at data and work with organizations and government, look at how that info is going to help us make the right decisions and solve problems.

Question & Answer

Rep. La Shawn Ford: Thank you so much, Commissioner, for taking the time to join us this morning.

Lajunna Lemkins

Mother of man killed by Calumet City Police

(Oral testimony only.)

Summary of Oral Testimony

I apologize for being late. I had to go to probate court to open an estate for my son, wrongfully killed in by a police officer. I came to testify today as a parent that has lost a son, killed by a Chicago officer. I was in prison, released in January of this year. My son was killed in Calumet City in January of 2010. My son never had criminal record, and he graduated college. My son developed bipolar around 2007. On January 4, 2010, my son went into Thornton Fractional North High School after something happened to his phone and he got lost. He went into the building and asked to use a phone. The receptionist called the police reporting a suspicious person. My son never threatened the receptionist. He left the building, walked away and soon after was approached by a female officer. The officer called for a medic, as she thought this may be a mental health case. The female officer testified that no violence happened between the two individuals. Another officer arrived, and was informed that this may be a mental health situation. One minute elapsed while the officer came got out of his car. Two officers tased my son, and then my son was shot in the leg and in stomach. The recording of the killing does not match up with time explained in both officers' testimony. I am looking for a lawyer to help with her case, as my lawyer has quit the case, not wanting to fight the Police Department.

Question & Answer

Diane Phillips: I want to congratulate you on your courage. Did you say Calumet City? There is currently a movement lead by Bishop Lance Davis from the New Zion Christian Fellowship Church in Dalton. There is a 4:00 p.m. press conference this afternoon to speak to the violence in the south suburbs/Chicago/ Illinois/all over the nation. In Bishop Davis' group they have lawyers that are working to fight the violence by the Calumet City Police. You should try to make it there if you can, and see if someone in that group can help you.

Rep. La Shawn Ford: Thanks to all the participated this morning.

Rep. Ford adjourned the public hearing.

[Mr. Jesse Caver submitted written testimony but was not able to stay to provide oral testimony. Written testimony attached.]

April 30, 2012

REI Taskforce Testimony
Chicago, IL

Re: Overrepresentation of Minorities in the Illinois Juvenile Justice System

- I. Thanks to all the commissioners for taking the time to focus on this important issue. Many states are beginning to assess their criminal justice systems and a critical part of that analysis is whether that system is fundamentally fair.
 - A. That fairness ensures citizens can predict, with some certainty, that there will be swift and certain sanctions for crimes. It also ensures those sanctions will apply to all citizens equally.
- II. My name is Candice Jones and I am the **Executive Director of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission**. I also spent four years at that MacArthur Foundation managing a national juvenile justice initiative.
- III. The initiation of this task force is a tremendous stride for the State of Illinois, but the state has a way to go to ensure that its criminal justice system is fundamentally fair. There are several things the state can do to improve its system's functioning:
 - A. Improve race and ethnicity data collection.
 1. We cannot begin to address disproportionality until we have an accurate assessment of what system points drive disproportionality.
 - a) arrest discretion
 - b) charging discretion
 - c) diversion decisions
 - B. Provide interventions that reduce systemic subjectivity
 1. States across the country are implementing policies and practices that target disproportionality by reducing subjective decision-making and increasing reliance on objective tools that have been evaluated for their effectiveness.
 2. Increasing the continuum of alternative services available in impacted communities, usually minority communities, can also impact disproportionality.
 - C. Continued analysis of data to ensure disproportionality reductions
 1. It is important to continue to analyzing data to ensure objective tools and targeted interventions are having the desired impact.
- IV. We did not create this system of disparate impact over night and we are not going to dismantle it overnight. There are ways we can improve disproportionality but we must be deliberate about what the data tells us and rely on those tools and interventions that are promising and/or proven effective.

Thank you

Candice C. Jones



**Testimony of Melissa L. Williams
On Behalf of NAACP Illinois State Conference
&**

**Chicago Westside Branch NAACP
To Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force
April 30, 2012**

George P. Mitchell, President
NAACP Illinois State Conference
of Branches

NAACP Chicago Westside Branch
NAACP Chicago Southside Branch
NAACP Evanston/North Shore Branch
NAACP Rockford Branch
NAACP Kankakee Branch
NAACP Bloomington-Normal Branch
NAACP Champaign County Branch
NAACP Springfield Branch
NAACP Rock Island County Branch
NAACP Lake County Branch
NAACP Chicago Far South Suburban Branch
NAACP Peoria Branch
NAACP Freeport Branch
NAACP DuPage County Branch
NAACP Joliet Branch

My name is Melissa L. Williams. I am an attorney and serve as the Founding Executive Director of the Wiley Resource Center – Legal Support Program, where we have hosted the Expungement, Sealing, and Pardon (or ESP) Initiative on Chicago’s Westside since 2008.

I am here today in my capacity as the Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee for the Chicago Westside Branch of the NAACP; I am also representing the NAACP Illinois State Conference, which is comprised of multiple Branches throughout the State.

As a civil rights organization, the NAACP is designed to look out for the best interests of persons of color both nationally and internationally; and is very much concerned with the treatment of minorities in the American criminal justice system. In 2010, the National Board of Directors of the NAACP adopted a resolution regarding the establishment of Criminal Justice Committees throughout the country at the local branch and state conference levels. The uniform purpose of these Committees is to promote alliances, research, legislation, and initiatives that will reform criminal justice policies and advocate for public safety as a civil right. Therefore, we are very much interested in the collection of data on the racial/ethnic identity of adults and juveniles involved in the criminal justice system; and applaud the State of Illinois for the creation of this Task Force.

The NAACP often uses U.S. Census data related to race and ethnicity categories to make recommendations regarding various issues concerning our communities throughout the country, and plans to upgrade how this information is used as we make specific recommendations related to programming and policy in the area of criminal justice in the State of Illinois.

We are convinced that there is a direct correlation between crime, color, and lack of opportunities in our communities, and are looking to the statistics to back up these theories

as we seek to address these issues by influencing legislation and policy, and are concerned about the disparate treatment of people of color throughout the various stages of the criminal justice process. Namely, the NAACP has noted the recent tendency of our government bodies, at various levels, to utilize the limited funds they possess for the purpose of mass incarceration versus education or prevention, treatment, and re-entry services. This is especially true as our budgets have become increasingly tightened in the State of Illinois. This has had a direct impact on minority communities; thus, we are concerned with gathering current statistics to establish exactly which communities in the State exhibit the most need for programs so that our limited dollars can be directed to those areas; and we are concerned with being able to gather data about offenders so that policies can be adopted to effectively address the needs of the times we live in (such as creating and enforcing legislation that can fairly ensure ex offenders are able to return to the workforce; have access to safe, decent, affordable housing stock; and take part in educational programs as most of them return to the communities they came from).

Furthermore, we are gravely concerned with the strained relations between law enforcement and residents in communities of color which are so often the same as those with limited resources and opportunities, as well as with excessive use of force by police that has become more frequent than ever in the State of Illinois, along with baseless arrests, particularly of black males, in these neighborhoods. We are interested in gathering data that will allow us to more closely monitor and effectively address this phenomenon.

We are also concerned with the number of arrests of minority juveniles made in our public schools and communities and youth adjudications which merely serve to strengthen the school to prison pipeline, rather than the use of diversion and restorative justice programs that are utilized in more affluent communities where there are fewer minorities. Additionally, we are concerned with the numbers of adult prosecutions of minorities that lead to convictions, versus the use of supervisions and special probations that prosecutors have at their discretion, which would provide offenders opportunities to expunge their records after the successful completion of their sentences, thereby allowing more productive re-entries into the community.

Finally, we are concerned with the disproportionality in the severity of sentences handed to black and brown offenders versus others for the same offenses, as well as disproportionate minority confinement since this issue grows increasingly worse rather than better, particularly with the development of the prison system as an industry in our State.

It is our recommendation that this information be gathered and that access to such information be made readily accessible (perhaps by placement on a public website) through an office (such as the Criminal Justice Information Authority) so that organizations can conduct timely analysis in order to shape sound and effective policy proposals without the need to seek out legislative resolutions to conduct lengthy studies on issues such as these.

Testimony of Stephanie J. Schmitz
Associate Director
Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy at Roosevelt University

Before the Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force
Monday, April 30, 2012

Introduction

Good morning, members of the REI Research Task Force. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak at this hearing to discuss the importance of collecting race and ethnicity data in the criminal justice system. As a drug policy research institute, we rely on criminal justice system information to gain a clearer understanding of the individuals arrested, detained and incarcerated for drug offenses in Illinois. Unfortunately, the thoroughness of our examination of the criminal justice population is significantly limited by the lack of ethnicity data in the criminal justice datasets and publicly available case files.

I would like to provide an example of this issue as it arose during the course of one study using criminal record data from a Cook County dataset. Our goal had been to examine the characteristics of arrests for drug offenses in Cook County. We were able to identify three groupings in the data: "Black" and "White" and "Latino/Hispanic". However, the number of Latinos seemed very low, less than what we would expect given the composition of the region. We believed that more Latino individuals were most certainly included in the data set, but they were lost to poor classification. Wanting to examine this further, we pulled a very small, random sample of cases (n=35) of individuals residing in Berwyn and Cicero, two areas in Cook County with significant Latino population. Using the Institutional Record number, research assistants retrieved the publicly available criminal record information from the sample, including the individual's name and recorded race/ethnicity. In about one half of these cases the individual, who had been marked as a "White" by the person recording or entering the data, had a traditionally Latino first and last name. It is absolutely true that this is a very poor manner of determining ethnicity – no better than the eyeball assessment or any other method that does not directly ask an individual to self-identify their race or ethnicity. But it did provide the research team a small measure of evidence that Latinos may be underrepresented in the Cook County criminal justice data.

Consortium Support

As such, the Consortium supports the recommendation made by the National Council of La Raza and the groups participating in the MacArthur Models for Change initiative to begin collecting ethnicity data in a more standardized manner. This information will allow researchers to more accurately describe who is in the criminal justice system and the outcomes for these individuals.

Aside from the obvious benefit of being able to more comprehensively evaluate criminal justice system population trends, there are a number of benefits for individuals and communities as well. (1) This information will assist in the development of institutional and re-entry services and programming that is culturally sensitive to the needs of a diverse Latino population. (2) This will provide essential information about the numbers of Latinos in correctional settings to assist communities in holding the criminal justice system accountable and responsible to their concerns and expectations.

Concerns and Recommendations

Having managed research projects for several years now, and having been a member of many “on the ground” survey or interviewing team, I would like to draw your attention to a few concerns in need of consideration should more comprehensive race and ethnicity data begin to be collected at the local, county and state levels.

- A. The first concern is with the data collection itself. With the enhanced ethnicity/race question, it will ask a person to first identify if they are Hispanic/Latino. It will then ask the person to identify their race.
- **Concern:** People are generally unclear regarding the differences between “race” and “ethnicity.” Both are social constructs, with race identifying a shared biological group and ethnicity identifying a shared cultural group. These distinctions are not easily understood by most people and they can struggle with answering this two-part question. Further, some people may wish to identify only by their ethnicity OR race and not both.
 - **Recommendations:**
 1. The data recorder can talk the person through their uncertainty, but this requires guidance for the data recorder. There should be some training around the new two-part ethnicity and race question so that they can help the individual correctly identify their ethnicity and then race.
 2. Should the individual report Latino ethnicity, there should be an option for the individual to respond “unknown” or “refused” for the race category.
- B. The second concern is with the data analysis. When we examine population trends in the criminal justice system, we generally do so through group comparisons. This is in part because we want to be able to compare the outcomes for one group against the others to see if there is an important disparity between the groups. Further, should policy or programmatic changes be made at the systems level, we want to ensure that these changes are not positively or negatively impacting one of the groups in a disparate manner.

When a researcher is working with data, they need to be concerned with the issue of “statistical power.” This statistical power increases the chance that the researcher will correctly identify an important difference between groups. For group comparisons, the number of people in a group matters. If we have too few people in a group, we cannot compare those groups. It will affect the statistical power and our ability to determine that a difference between groups is statistically significant based on the statistical tests we have run on the data.

Since this is a taskforce charged with examining issues of ethnicity *and* race in criminal justice system data, let me present an issue that often faces researchers analyzing data sets.

- **Concern:** Ethnic and racial diversity is a celebrated facet of American life and we welcome the varied ways in which people choose to describe themselves. This diversity poses analysis issues in the quantitative data set, however. If we want to make group comparisons regarding a certain outcome, the researchers’ inclination will be to split the sample into as few demographic groups as possible for greater statistical power. When we collect enhanced ethnicity and race data, it becomes challenging for the researcher to determine the appropriate groupings for comparison.

[PLEASE REFER TO HANDOUTS]

- **Example:** Please see the example I have provided on the handouts. I will walk you through the concern in greater detail, using these completely fictitious numbers to illustrate my point. Let's say that we have 6,000 individuals that entered jail last year for heroin possession. **Table 1** will show you the ethnic and racial breakouts of these individuals from information gathered using the two-part ethnicity/race questions. We have, from this data, race information on most individuals and ethnicity data on only about a third of the individuals.

Here is where the data analysis begins to get complicated. For my group comparisons, I am going to want to reduce my number of groups down to the smallest number possible to enhance my statistical power. If I do not do this, I will end up with a confusing chart like the one you see labeled **Chart 1**. Aside from the eyepain experienced from the abundance of data, it would be difficult to run group comparisons with all of these different groups with very unequal numbers of cases.

As a result, I will look at my dataset and I will consider a few grouping options that will allow me to make comparisons. The choices and concerns are as follows:

1. I can treat ethnicity as a racial variable and compare four groups as: White, Black, Latino and Other. Please see **Chart 2**. This allows us to see the composition of a smaller number of groups and will allow for group comparisons. However, we will disregard all the race data provided by Latinos, instead treating their ethnicity as their race.
2. I can take the race data supplied by the Latino individual and compare three groups as: Black, White, Other. Please see **Chart 3**. This allows us to see the racial breakouts of individuals in the criminal justice system, but we will lose the Latino ethnicity categorization. The Latinos will be represented by their race and not their ethnicity. Also, those Latinos that marked "unknown" or "refused" would be dropped from the racial breakdown analysis.
3. I can set a comparison of two groups: "Hispanic/Latino" or "Not Hispanic/Latino." Please see **Chart 4**. This ignores all race information and presents the data as a comparison between ethnicities. Since we do not have ethnicity data for all subjects, however, it will only represent the Latino ethnicity and all others will be grouped under the Non-Latino ethnicity.
4. I can set a comparison of two groups: "Nonminority" or "Minority." This can be achieved in two ways. **First, please see Chart 5**. I can treat Latino as a racial variable and include Black, Latino and Others as the Minority and White as the Nonminority. This will disregard the race data provided by Latinos. **Now, please see Chart 6**. I can also use the race data provided by Latinos, but this will artificially inflate the White group and potentially make any Nonminority/Minority disparity seem smaller. It will also remove those Latinos that marked "unknown" or "refused" for race.

Also note that in each of these different charts, the arrestees' demographic profile changes with each possible grouping. Depending on how I analyze and present my data, my sample will look more White/less White, more Minority/less Minority , etc.

As you can see, there are issues with all these options. Most likely, the researcher will treat the ethnicity and race data as synonymous, though this goes against current efforts to distinguish the two as sociologically and culturally distinct categories. Further, ignoring the Latino ethnicity information in favor of the race information does not really address the spirit of the concern, which is the accurate counting of Latinos in the criminal justice system.

The question then, is an issue of primacy. Knowing that I will need to keep my groupings in as few a number as possible, which category takes primacy during a researcher's data analysis, the ethnicity or the race? As a researcher, this is a question that I struggle with when I am using these enhanced data sets.

- **Recommendation:** It would be helpful to provide for researchers some guidance on the use of enhanced ethnicity and race data in data analysis, highlighting the taskforce's primary criminal justice research concerns and the recommended prioritized ethnicity/race groupings for outcome comparisons and population trend analyses.

Again, I thank you very much for the opportunity to address these concerns with the REI Task Force. I am encouraged by this work and believe it is important. The challenges mentioned here are not insurmountable and when resolved, can provide us with a crucially important piece of information in the criminal justice system datasets.

DATA ANALYSIS EXAMPLE

Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force

Monday, April 30, 2012

TABLE 1: Data Table with Ethnicity and Race

Race	Total	Not Hispanic	Hispanic
American Indian/Alaska Native	125	75	50
Asian	125	25	100
Black	2300	1900	400
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	35	25	10
White	3000	1750	1250
Unknown/Other	415	225	190
Total	6000	4000	2000

**** This data is fictional and was created for example purposes only.**

CHART 1: (Hispanic and NonHispanic by Race)

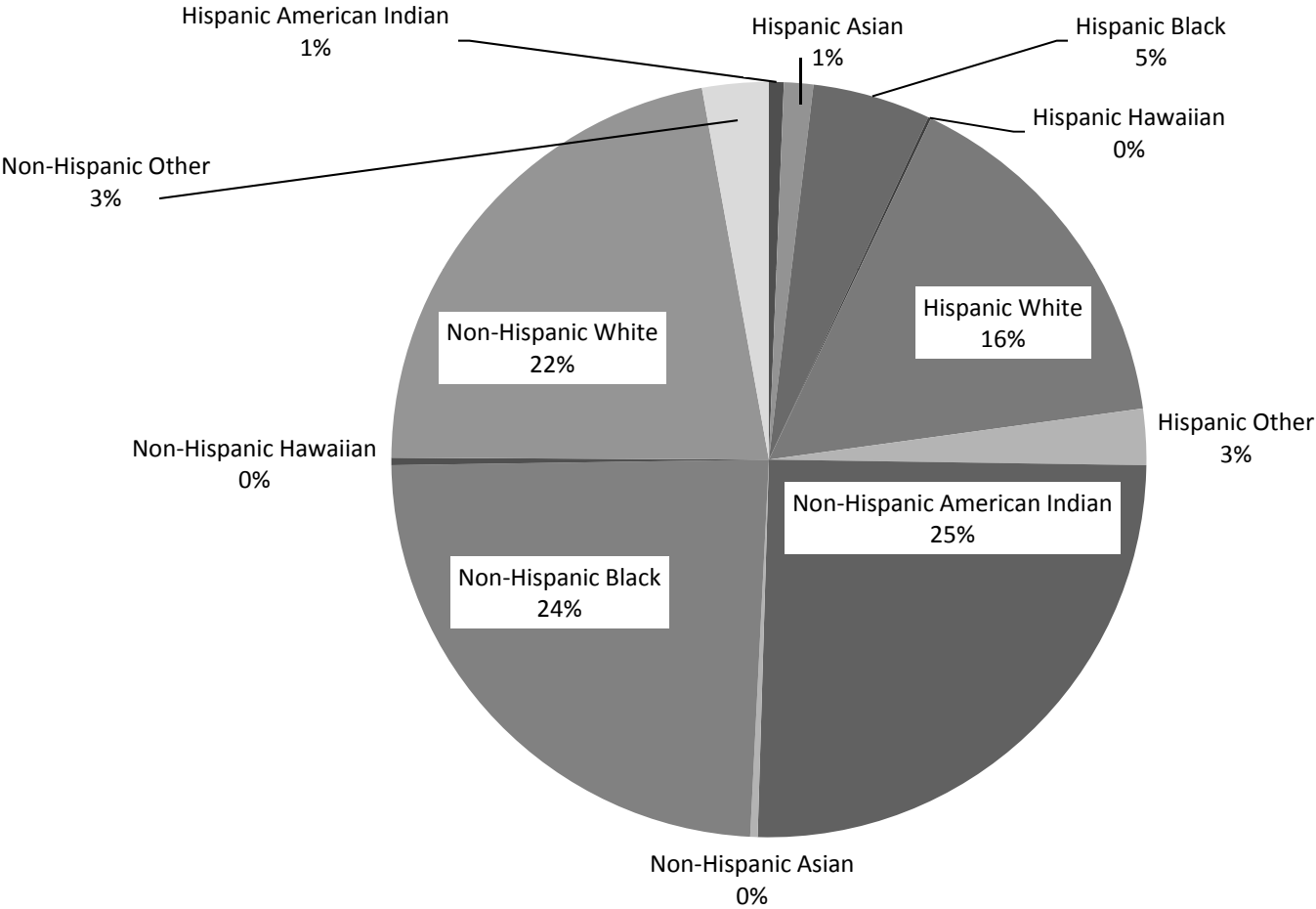


CHART 2: Hispanic/Latino as Race Category

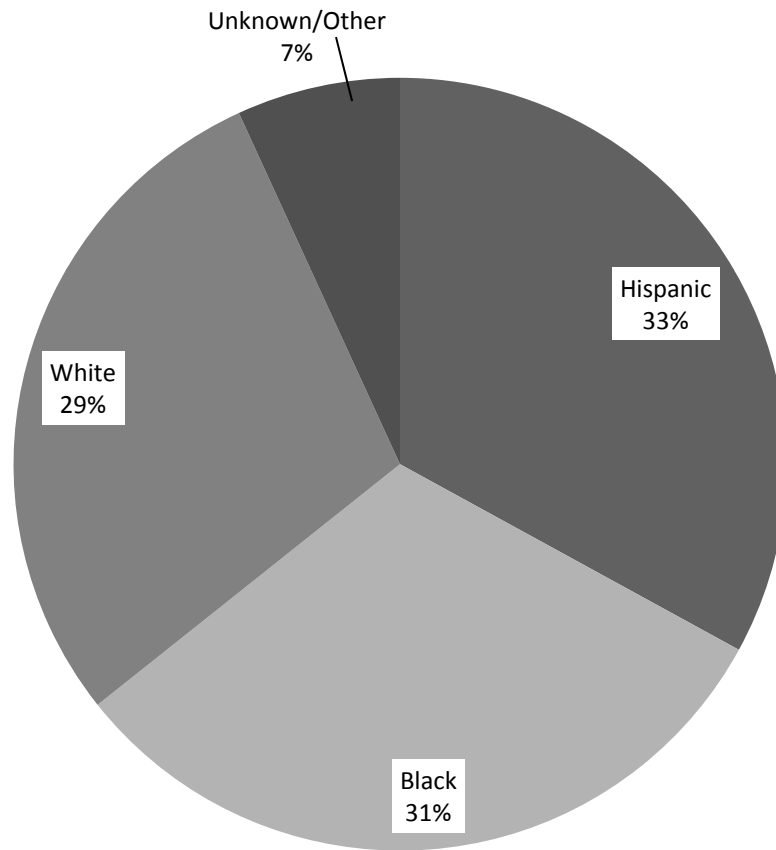


CHART 3: All Races with No Ethnicity Data

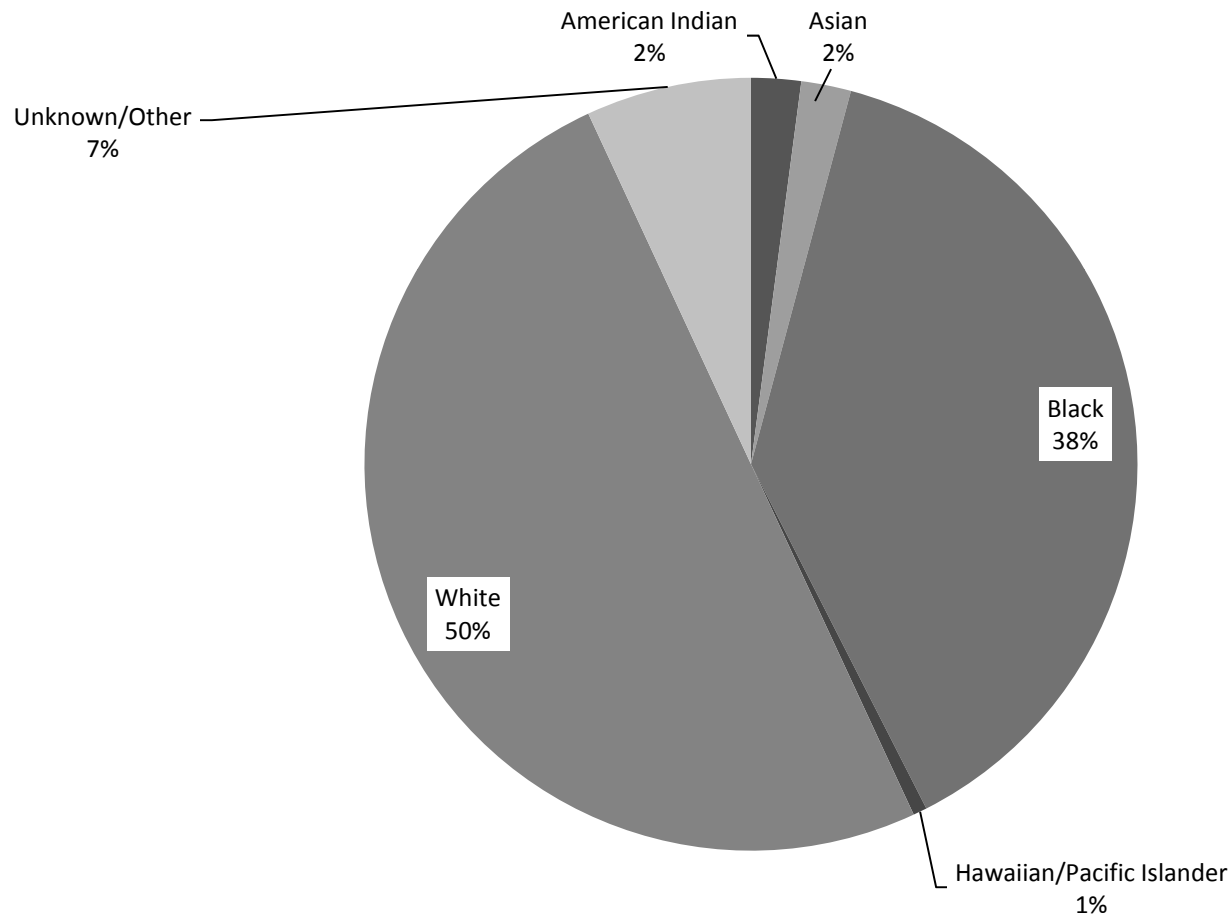


CHART 4: Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity with No Race Data

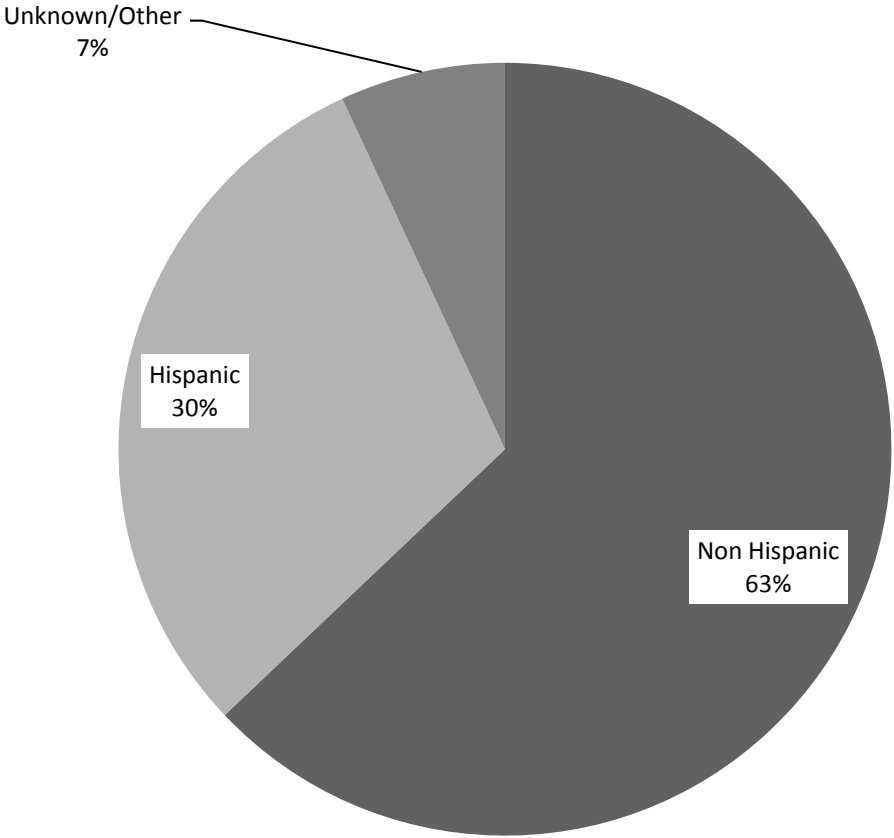


CHART 5: Nonminority and Minority with Hispanic/Latino as a Race Category

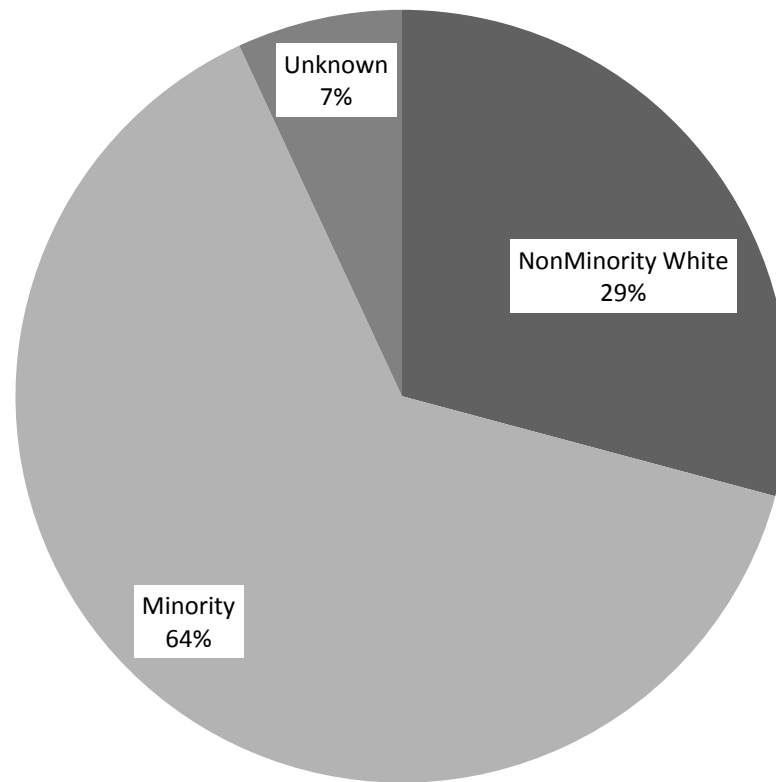
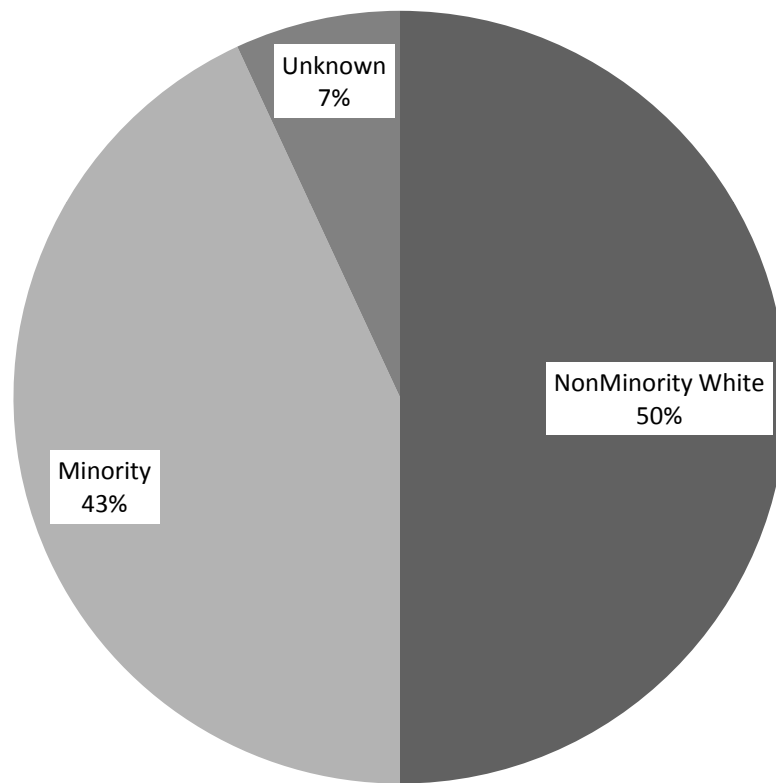


CHART 6: Nonminority and Minority without Ethnicity Data





John Howard Association of Illinois

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Testimony of the John Howard Association of Illinois to the Illinois Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force

Presented by Gwyneth M. Troyer

John Howard Association (JHA) is Illinois' oldest prison reform organization, and the only independent group that monitors the state's juvenile and adult correctional systems. While we are non-partisan, our work is mission driven: we believe that cost-effective prison reform and the humane treatment of inmates is a powerful tool to promote public safety.

Based on this mission, JHA teams interview correctional staff and inmates and use that research to issue fact-based reports to the public and policy makers aimed at forging policies that ensure public safety, create opportunities for rehabilitation and make the most prudent use of tax dollars.¹ We review legislative activity and regularly provide testimony and information on sentencing and correctional policies. JHA also responds to thousands of letters from inmates and their families that seek redress of a variety of issues they experience due to their confinement.

The first issue we were asked to address today is the information JHA collects regarding the racial/ethnic identity of adults or juveniles involved in the criminal justice system. For the past few years JHA has collected population information at a facility level from the Illinois Department of Corrections (DOC) and Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). This information is published in our reports. The data consists of the number and percentage Black, White, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian and Unknown. Having demographic information on a facility level permits racial make-up comparisons between different security level facilities or geographic areas. Additionally we recently obtained information regarding DJJ institutional admissions for the past two years, including court admissions and parole violators, broken out by these categories. JHA anticipates using this information in a forthcoming report to increase public awareness of DJJ demographics. We track letters from inmates in our database, which also contains IDOC inmate race information.

JHA believes that collecting information so as to identify trends is a useful practice. There is probably no information involving correctional populations that we would not be interested in having access to.

However, JHA is foremost concerned with conditions in correctional facilities. The stark reality is correctional facilities house more than 70% Black and Hispanic inmates, and these groups and their communities undeniably bare the brunt of all correctional decision-making.

JHA hears complaints of racial disparate treatment from inmates every time we visit a facility. We have no way to know whether their complaints are true. However, given what has been demonstrated regarding discretionary decision-making in prosecution and sentencing it seems credible that disparate impacts—

¹ These reports are available at: thejha.org/publications.

intentional and unintentional—carry over into the correctional aspect of the justice system. In addition to complaints about staff use of racial slurs or racial elements involved in assault allegations, JHA hears from inmates that racial bias plays into every part of prison life in less overt ways. Within correctional facilities there are a myriad of discretionary individual decisions made regarding treatment of inmates – for shorthand we can think of these as pluses and minuses. Pluses include things like access to programming, services, religious exercise, counseling, work and educational opportunities, preferred housing, medical care, appropriate mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, consideration of dietary preferences, Good Time credits, having grievances addressed, parole, etc. Minuses include denials of any of the things listed above, as well as, disciplinary tickets, targeting for shakedowns or strip-searches, sentence adjustments, segregation use, unwanted housing and classification reassignments, parole denial, being identified as Security Threat Group member, etc. JHA commonly hears that minority inmates are subject to more of the negatives and have more limited access to the positives. Currently, there is no way to substantiate these claims but such data could be captured and tracked.

It would additionally be useful to have information about disparate impact for parole eligibility, parole being granted and parole revocation, including information about required parole program availability. Lastly it would be useful to have information about disproportionality in recidivism rates.

JHA believes a significant benefit that could come through investigating disparate impacts within correctional facilities would be to encourage inmate sentiment that the system is fair. We as a society, as well as correctional leadership should demonstrate that we are concerned if inmates are treated unjustly through our commitment to monitoring, reporting, and addressing racial disparity. Where inmates feel that they are subject to arbitrary treatment it is very difficult for staff to gain their trust and it is detrimental to safety. It is unclear if it matters for an end result if there is a mere perception of racial tension versus actual racial tension; both are security risks. Without question, racial problems are amplified in an environment where the minority inmates, who are a vast majority of the population, perceive that they have no power and that the largely white staff have all the power.

Demonstrating disproportionate impact in correctional facilities may lead to more support for needed initiatives like correctional staff minority recruitment and advancement or cultural sensitivity training. Hopefully addressing minority inmate grievances, since they represent the vast majority of the facilities' populations, will generally improve conditions for all involved. Ideally demonstrating limited access to programming would bring awareness to the need for more programming generally. Additionally having such information might promote more transparency over currently opaque individual determinations and even help develop better policies that would govern such decisions. JHA is concerned about the dangers of unbridled discretion and encourages use and standardization of well researched and reasoned policies. For example, JHA would encourage more research-based determinations of inmate risk assessment and classification, such as ongoing gang associations, and not have such important decisions be based on mere perceptions of where you came from and the color of your skin.

JHA recommends vigilance and sensitivity regarding the racial/ethnic identity issues within the correctional setting. We should not have, nor can we afford, correctional facilities that unfairly discriminate against and further victimize minority populations through continued denial of needed services. Ultimately society will reap the benefits of a more transparent, just correctional system.

Hello

My Name is Jesse Caver, I'm writing this letter in regard to my rights as an African American man having been violated by the University of Illinois At Chicago Police Department.

On Friday January 13, 2012, this particular day I decided to walk to work for an early appointment I had scheduled with Human Resources at Rush University Medical Center. I was walking along Harrison Avenue a route that I have often traveled to work when I noticed that a U.I.C. police car had suddenly made a u-turn in my direction. Not knowing what was going on I continued on my walk to work. Within moments my path was obstructed and I was surrounded by U.I.C. officers. When I asked why I was being stopped, they asked me where I came from- as opposed to responding to my question.

Although, I had done nothing other than travel my usual route to the office I felt that something was wrong by the manner in which I was being addressed and detained. So, I explained to the officers that I was on my way to work; I also displayed my work badge. In addition to my work badge the officers asked to see my State ID which I showed them. I thought the fact that I was wearing my work uniform would have been sufficient enough- along with my work badge- if identity is what they needed to confirm.

Next, an officer took both my work badge and my State ID to the squad car. At this juncture not a single officer present had troubled to respond to my question or otherwise inform me as to why I was being detained. I had no idea what was going on, only that I was going to be late for work and I needed to leave. The officers then came back and said everything cleared but asked me more questions about the campus. Due to fact I have walked this path plenty of times all I could tell them was that I live in the South Loop area and this is the way I walk to work often.

Without warning the officers began treating me like a criminal. They seized my bags and began to search through them haphazardly. Their searched continued on my person as they searched through and poked around in the pockets of the items of clothes I was wearing. After the officers had searched my possessions and my body I was ordered to put my hands where they could see them on the squad car.

By now, I noticed a total of three U.I.C police cars surrounding me. A fourth car arrived on the scene occupying a young Caucasian lady whom at that time I had never seen before. The officers told me to turn around and face the police car obtaining the lady.

I proceeded to do what I was told by the officers, the lady looked at me and stated: 'that is him he is the black man that came out of the building around my office.' Just as soon as the young lady had made her accusation, I was handcuffed tightly and roughly shoved into one of the officer's police cars. I stated to the officer that I did not come from anywhere by U.I.C and that I was only walking down Harrison Ave to go to work.

Until the young lady falsely accused me I had no idea why I was being detained my rights were never read to me and even then I still did not know the specifics of what supposedly had been done. I was well past late for work at this point and not a single officer would respect my pleas, listen to my explanations or offer any information about what was going on and why. As a result of the felonious claim and harassment I began to find it difficult to breathe. I was suffering a panic attack due to the fact I was being subjected to abuse by the officers because I was walking and I am a black man who the lady thought she saw.

When I arrived to the U.I.C. police station one of the officers stated I should just confess to the crime. He was trying to convince me to confess to crime that I have not committed and knew no such information on what crime was committed.

Now at this point I was feeling that racial profiling was playing a part here. I asked them to call my job and they could tell them that I worked there and that I should be at work. The officers wanted to hear nothing like that, I also told them where I lived and they could check with the front desk who would tell them that I just left my building. The officers still refused and said no.

After that I was told I was being arrested for trespassing and I have to go to court the next morning. Now I was being held at U.I.C police department for several hours and then transported to Harrison and Kedzie Police department for finger printing, and held until court at 26th and California the next day were I would appear for court in front of a judge.

This incident has changed my life. My job is now in jeopardy due to a no call/ no show because I was falsely arrested on this day. I have to take time off from work to go back and forth to court for a crime I did not commit. I have suffered sleepless nights due to the abuse I was subjected to that day. I am suffering stress due to financial strains necessary to obtain legal representation regarding what has become an on-going court matter.

Sincerely

Jesse Caver



Chicago Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression

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February 15, 2012

Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares
University of Illinois at Chicago
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Gloria J. Johnson-Ester

Billie Rosman

Patricia J. Welch

Mildred Williamson

Willie Williamson

Dear Chancellor Allen-Meares,

We are writing to you regarding an incident involving what can only be described as racial profiling and racism on the part of the University of Illinois at Chicago Police.

On January 13, 2012, the civil rights of Jesse Caver, an African American man, were violated by the UIC Police Department. On that day Mr. Caver, according to his account, was walking on Harrison St. to work at Rush University Hospital from his home at Harrison and Wabash.

A passing UIC police car suddenly made a U-turn and his path was blocked. He was surrounded by U.I.C. officers. They refused to tell him why he was being stopped. He was wearing his work uniform. He explained he was on his way to work, and showed them his Rush ID badge. Mr. Caver told them that he had walked this way many times from his South Loop apartment. One of the officers took his Rush ID and state ID to the squad car. Even though he returned and said everything cleared, the officers seized Mr. Caver's backpack and bag and began to search them. They searched his person – the clothes he was wearing. He was ordered to put his hands where they could see them on the squad car. By this time a total of three UIC police cars surrounded him.

A fourth car arrived with a young white woman he had never seen before. The officers told Mr. Caver to turn and face the car with this woman. The woman looked at him and said, "That is him. He is the black man that came out of the building around my office." Mr. Caver was then handcuffed tightly and roughly shoved into one of the police cars.

They took him to the UIC police station. One of the officers told him to confess to the crime. Of course, he had no idea what they were talking about. After that he was placed under arrest for trespassing and told he would have to go to court the next morning. He was held at the UIC police station for several hours and then was taken to the CPD Police station at Harrison and Kedzie, where he was finger printed, strip searched, and held for court at 26th and California the next day.

Mr. Caver still has not been informed of the charges against him, even though he has appeared in court now twice. The complaining witness failed to appear the first time, and was so late the second time the case was continued again. His job at Rush Presbyterian Hospital is now in jeopardy due to a no call / no show stemming from his false arrest that day. He has had to take time off from work to go to court. He has suffered sleepless nights as a result of the abuse to which he was subjected. He has been forced to pay for obtain legal representation he can ill afford.

(over)

We would appreciate a reply to this letter indicating the steps that you are taking to ensure that this injustice to Mr. Caver is undone and that people of African ancestry will no longer be threatened with such disrespectful and racist behavior by your police.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Pearson

CC:

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The Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force
Public Hearing: Springfield, IL
May 7, 2012

Task Force Members in Attendance

Sen. Mattie Hunter (co-chair), Illinois Senate, Majority Caucus Whip, 3rd district
Walter Boyd, Protestants for the Common Good
Harold Goodson, Office of the Clerk of the Cook County Circuit Court
Jessica Trame, Illinois State Police
Art Mitchell, Office of the Illinois Attorney General
Grady Norwood, Jr., Franklin Williams Enterprises, Inc.
Rep. Dennis Reboletti, Illinois House of Representatives, 46th District

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Welcome, thank you and brief overview of background and goals of REI Task Force and the public hearing.

WITNESSES:

***Susan Witkin, Senior Coordinator of Research Programs & Peter Mulhall, Director
Center for Prevention Research and Development, University of Illinois***
(Written testimony attached.)

Question & Answer

Sen. Mattie Hunter: (comment) Thank you for joining us and sharing this very valuable information. We have found, similar to your findings, that law enforcement agencies are collecting this data, but not sharing it. For example, the FBI collects this data, but as we all know, they aren't sharing the data. That's why we're here today; to determine where this data is and how we can access and share the data. Of course it would be ideal to get one big super system for this data, but we have to keep in mind the financial restraints apparent today.

A: (Peter Mulhall) As part of our work with the MacArthur foundation, we did look through all data systems, but yes, there is not one big super-system. There are certain data systems, such as JMIS (Juvenile Monitoring Information System) from the Department of Human Services, which allows you to aggregate across different sets of data. Let's start thinking about it in terms that we can connect the dots between different systems and agencies. We need to move forward and think about how we can make connections among agencies, especially at different state levels. The big challenge is going down to the local jurisdictions; this creates a lot of different issues.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: (comment) Luckily, we have members from all levels of government and different agencies sitting on this Task Force, even though they might not be present today. We can make them aware of what the real issues are.

Susan Witkin: All of the detention centers have their own systems. We don't want to double all the work that everyone is doing, or have double entry, but maybe once weekly or monthly just make sure all information is updated.

Walter Boyd: In your research, as you look across the different systems, did you have any opinions about the confounding issues of how people self-report their own information, and what observations might be made by authorities? How can those observations be reconciled in a data collection system?

A: (Peter Mulhall) You've hit a tough issue. One thing we are preparing to do currently is to survey police officers; both qualitative and quantitative, trying to have a high level of participation. One of the questions we plan to ask is how they make a decision regarding race and ethnicity.

There is no doubt that it is quite subjective across the board. There is no standard protocol for the process of collecting this data.

Susan Witkin: When we do these kinds of interviews, we ask this kind of question. How do you determine an ethnicity? A lot of people respond by saying that they ask. And a follow up question is whether or not there is a protocol to asking these questions, and the common answer is no.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: (comment) We've had those kind of findings as well. Many of our Hispanic Task Force members have explained that there are so many various types of Hispanics that it would be nearly impossible to make a determination based on appearance.

Susan Witkin: When you have agencies that take ethnicity data collection very seriously, you cannot compare that data with agencies that are second guessing the data.

Jessica Trame: Thank you for your information. Do you currently have a timeline for your project, or a completion date for your final report?

A: (Susan Witkin) The end of the year.

Jessica Trame: (comment) We'd like to see some agreement for collecting data from our perspective; because our officers cannot ask, they must make a determination based on their own judgment. There may be a person that does not cooperate, and either does not answer the question, or officers at each intervention point are determining race differently. Currently, as an agency, we cannot collect ethnicity data, so that must be a program change. The data from your surveys could be helpful.

Peter Mulhall: We are still in the early part of our study, and there aren't a lot of people thinking about DMC in the way that you all are thinking about it, and there are certainly no protocols. There is a lot of education that could come from this regarding DMC.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: How is the issue of mixed race dealt with? There are people that self-identify as mixed. There are Latinos that identify as Caucasian, and others that identify as Latinos. I'm always concerned that the data we collect is subjective. How do you address those issues?

A: (Susan Witkin) Caucasian is a race, and Hispanic would be classified as an ethnicity. Therefore, you could have black Hispanics and white Hispanics. There needs to be a protocol put in place. There is a DMC report that states the correct way to ask is ethnicity first and then race. It can get confusing; the only question we ever ask is Hispanic or non-Hispanic. I would also look at the census.

A: (Peter Mulhall) There needs to be some consensus building at the federal level that has to take place in order to establish protocol.

***Khadine Bennett, on behalf of Harvey Grossman, Legal Director
ACLU of Illinois***
(Written testimony attached.)

Question & Answer

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Thank you Attorney Bennett for joining us today. Does your organization follow census guidelines in terms of race and ethnicity groups?

A: I guess I don't understand your question, we don't collect data ourselves, we just advocate for data collection in Illinois generally.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: How do you determine what projects you work on?

A: Our legal director makes the final decision based on legislation, or when individuals come to us with issues they want addressed.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: Counselor, I thought we addressed the extension of the traffic stop bill a few years back?

A: From my understanding the act was going to end in 2015.

Jessica Trame: (comment) Our understanding is that it was 2015 as well.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: With this sidewalk detention issue, do all police departments have some paperwork or report that they provide?

A: I'm not sure, but I could find that information out for you, if you'd like.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: What is the benefit of making traffic stop information permanent? If it goes to the end of 2015, then we would have many, many years of data collection. What would we gain from additional data collected if this were to become permanent?

A: If there hasn't been a change in certain groups that tend to be pulled over more, it gives us more time to evaluate information in regards to profiling. It allows agencies to be more transparent. The act doesn't cost extra money or time, but proves beneficial.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: (comment) Depending on where an officer patrols, different groups may be encountered more often, but that doesn't mean they are being profiled. It just depends on location. Just because they are writing tickets to a certain group, doesn't mean they are racially profiling that group. I'm not sure that we need to make it permanent, from my perspective.

Khadine Bennett: That's where I think it becomes a tool for a supervisor to determine if profiling is happening in an area and if this needs to be addressed or not. It's more of a management tool.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: (comment) The consent search issue is, in my opinion, more pressing currently than the traffic stop may be.

Khadine Bennett: Any work you are willing to do with us on the legislation would be helpful. Thank you.

Ruth A. Waller, Senior Supervising Attorney
Macon County State's Attorney's Office
(Oral testimony only. Referenced report attached.)

Oral Testimony Summary

I would like to thank the Task Force for the opportunity to testify today as a representative of the Macon County State's Attorney's office. We are very proud of the Macon County State's Attorney for developing the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council Community Profile. Our State's Attorney thought it was very important to get a full profile on our community as a whole, not just statistics.

Our organization collects data on the racial and ethnic identity of adults and juveniles within the justice system and other public systems. We do abide by census guidelines. We do this for the process of making changes within our communities. We do use other communities' data to compare what they are doing in regards to criminal and racial justice and the approach we are taking now in terms of how to deal with the criminal justice system as it correlates to juveniles within our community. We will continue to update our data. We do not have resources to put together the kind of information, and to collect the data that would benefit us in the ways we would like. We did use a volunteer worker to put together all of the information from all the individual agencies. This report gave us the opportunity to create a coalition of many different agencies, programs and individuals. We don't have pockets of people doing different

things in different areas; we brought all of those people together under one umbrella to collect all the data to put this report together.

I'm going to direct your attention to page 6, the quick facts section, of the report. This page explains what we've tried to do here in this report. We don't know how many communities have done something of this nature. The results are quite unflattering to us, unfortunately. However, until we collect the data, we don't know where we are going, and when we don't know where we are going, we don't know how to get there.

We want to know why the rate of incarceration is so high in our small community; it rivals much bigger cities. The development of this report has allowed us to develop many more questions to evaluate the problem, and furthermore, to develop solutions.

There is something we call "sanitization" – what happens to the number of juveniles that are brought in and how do they progress through the system. We do know for a fact that one reason why the number of African Americans is so high is because an African-American child being stopped might be put directly into the criminal justice system, while a White child's parent might get a phone call. An African-American 10- or 11-year-old that is accused of sexually assaulting a white child, that child will be committed to the justice system, while a white 10- or 11-year-old that assaults an African-American child might go unpunished. We know these kinds of things happen, but they are rarely documented. This kind of thing keeps African Americans from doing things when they are older because of their records early in life; this may not happen as frequently with non-African-American individuals.

We also took a look at teen pregnancy and infant mortality rate and even at children that have tested for lead poisoning – all were more common with the African-American population as opposed to the non-African-American population.

We need to look at all aspects of the community to see how we can make changes within the communities before the statistics get to this point.

We don't have the funds to implement some of the programs that come out of this report. We recommend that funds be made available to counties that develop these sorts of reports, instead of just putting the reports on the shelf and ignoring them.

If we're are going change the way we do things, and impact the statistics that we aren't proud of, it is going to cost us time, talent, and treasure. We are going to need to do more than what we've done in the past.

We've learned from this data collection that we don't have enough of it. We don't live in a bubble, the same things that effect people statewide affect us. We would like to have some sort of system statewide that we can tap into the information that others have around the state and that they can tap into the information that we have.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: We appreciate you coming here to testify here today, Attorney Waller. There is another commission that I am going to invite all witnesses to testify in front of. The Disparities Commission (that I co-chair with Rep. Monique Davis) is another Commission that came out of the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study. If you would all leave your business cards here, I will make sure you are all invited to testify.

Ruth Waller: I would invite you to take a look at the profile, as the information is very telling. I would be more than happy to answer any questions you have, or follow up with any information you find within the profile.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: What is the population of Decatur and Macon County?

A: The population in Decatur is declining at 79,000. We used to be the fourth largest city in Illinois. We are declining and declining fast, for all the reasons you see in our quick facts. Often

times it feels like we are a forgotten city, but when it comes to incarceration we are way up there with the bigger communities. The African-American population is around 13-15% and the Hispanic population is around 3%

Harold Goodson: In the court system we see an abundance of African-American and Hispanic juveniles. Do you think that these populations know about sealings and expungements?

A: I can tell you for a fact that they don't because I just learned about it recently. We didn't know about expungement forums going around, I only found out about those about a week ago. My State's Attorney is trying to put together some process through me; he has given me a green light. I would love to get more information about expungements to help my community. The number of African Americans that lose their license that may never get them back is extreme.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Mr. Goodson, I know your office has done a lot of trainings in expungement in Cook County, have many other communities or counties reached out to your office?

Harold Goodson: Yes, many areas reach out to us and we do a lot of expungement education. Our largest training is coming up – our Expungement Summit is on June 2.

Ruth Waller: If there was a way to bring those trainings downstate, it would be very helpful. It is difficult to get many people to go to Chicago.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Mr. Goodson, would it be possible for you or someone from your office to come down to Springfield to provide training for several counties down here?

Harold Goodson: Yes, I can suggest this to (Cook County) Clerk Dorothy Brown.

Teresa Haley [NAACP]: We did an expungement training about six years ago, at a local high school and we had several hundred people attend.

Grady Norwood, Jr.: One of the things that caught my attention was the information on page 21, and as I come to page 24, have you addressed this as a comprehensive situation?

A: We have, and we've tried to bring everyone to the table, but it's difficult since everyone has their own little pile of resources and there isn't enough money to go around, so everyone is protecting their own money. If you know you have your own money, you want to use it to make yourself look good. We don't see all these areas separately; we try to take a holistic approach. Eighty-nine percent of police officers that work in Decatur don't live there. We do not have any residency requirements for the police force. Not a lot of them look like me, or the people they are arresting.

Walter Boyd: I have to admit that you talking about those things that you aren't proud of, makes me squirm in my seat a little, too. You had to collect a lot of data to come up with your report. Did you come up with any cultural factors that might lead to DMC that aren't present in other groups? For example, in Chicago, they may say that the information isn't out in the open for all people to see.

A: I think that relates back to what I was saying when our community all things might happen out in the open, but what matters is where you are going to take that after the fact. The result of how these events are handled may be different depending on the culture. It may not be intentional, but everything is done in little pockets in different areas, that you are going to have different attitudes/results from the same behaviors. Culture matters. Race matters. No matter what anyone says. If you want something to change, you've got to do something different.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: Thank you. I see plenty of data on risk factors. Do you have any info in here on gangs, gang involvement, or gang activity?

A: I do have information, but I don't have it here.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Send that info to Laura and she'll get it out.

Rep. Dennis Reboletti: What crimes are you seeing in your area?

A: Murders, drugs. We just had a double murder, and that it was drug related. We have a lot of drug activity.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Are there many people that have relocated from Chicago?

A: There is an extraordinary amount of migration from Chicago.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Because of the Chicago Housing Authority changes?

A: That and because we were building public housing as Chicago was tearing it down. We do have a commitment to being transparent and looking at the data and going where it leads us, no matter where that is. Even if we have to apologize for the data found, we have to take responsibility and make changes.

***Teresa Haley, President & Archie Lawrence
NAACP, Springfield Branch***
(Oral testimony only.)

Oral Testimony Summary

We're speaking on behalf of the Illinois and Springfield branches of NAACP. We need accurate data collection to ensure data about offenders is correct. We are concerned with the estranged relationships between enforcement and communities of color, which are often the same as those with limited resources. We are interested in gathering data that will allow us to monitor and further investigate this phenomenon. Additionally, we are concerned about the number of convictions that lead to prison terms instead of diversion efforts that can be utilized. We are concerned by the disproportionality handed to people of color, and how this trend is growing worse and not improving. Data needs to be collected and made publically available (through ICJIA website) so that many agencies and organizations can better understand and correct these issues.

Teresa Haley: We have written testimony from members that weren't able to join in these hearings. We will distribute this info to you.

Archie Lawrence: A question needs to be asked of America, how is it that somewhere between 20-30% of our nation is comprised of minorities, but more than 90% of the prison systems is black? Justice is not blind in America, unfortunately.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Yes, this is definitely a pattern. These are the issues we've been working on with TASC and with this Task Force. We've been working to gather information about these issues to try to develop a strategy to address and fix these problems.

Archie Lawrence: Teresa Haley is the president of the Springfield NAACP, and I'd like to thank her for letting me speak here today.

Teresa Haley: We wanted to educate the African-American public about their rights when they are pulled over. I want to thank you, Sen. Hunter, and want to offer our help at the NAACP.

Jessica Trame: I appreciate the community education. The State Police department is kicking off an education initiative. I'd like to take your cards, Ms. Haney and Ms. Waller. If you all need anything from us to help advance these education initiatives, let us know.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: Thank you; I really appreciate your cooperation and last minute notice.

Sen. Mattie Hunter: I'd like to thank all of our witnesses for testifying here today, as well as our task force members for attending this public hearing. I'd also like to thank Laura for coordinating these efforts.

[Dr. Mark Driscoll from the Institute on Social Exclusion (ISE) at the Adler School of Professional Psychology submitted written testimony but was unable to attend the public hearing. Written testimony attached.]

**Testimony Provided to the
Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force
Springfield, IL
May 7, 2012**



Created by the Center for Prevention Research and Development,
Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois.
Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this
publication are those of the authors.

**Testimony Provided to the
Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force
Springfield, IL
May 7, 2012**

Good afternoon, Madam Chairperson Hunter and Mr. Chairman Ford, and all members of the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force. My name is Susan Witkin and this is Director Peter Mulhall of the Center for Prevention Research and Development, Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony today and to address issues related to juvenile justice projects related to race and ethnicity data collection and analysis, with a specific focus on Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) practices and knowledge. As you know, DMC, youth of color and disadvantage appear to be disproportionately confronted and engaged with law enforcement, which begins a series of events and processes that has been called the prison pipeline, that results in significantly greater numbers of minorities entering and progressing through the juvenile justice systems and eventually into the corrections systems. The causes and contributing factors are complex and not well understood, but our knowledge is partially limited by the quality and complexity of data that could be used to learn about DMC.

Our Center is currently working on a study for the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission designed to qualitatively analyze DMC and decision making within the Illinois juvenile justice system. We are using two methods to better understand DMC issues. One project is surveying a wide array of Illinois individuals who comprise the juvenile justice system. This is a confidential and anonymous survey that solicits information on their general demographics; their interactions with youth; their perceptions on how youth are treated; rules, procedures and decision making; and knowledge and practices of Disproportionate Minority Contact. Quantitative data on Illinois youth have shown that 98% of minorities reside in 41 counties. Our goal is to reach these counties of interest and to solicit input from across the state, as well. We are planning to roll out this survey in late summer of this year.

Another project component of our DMC research is anonymous and confidential interviews with juvenile justice Key Informants.¹ We have begun these interviews and are having rich and insightful discussions. These personal interviews solicit honest conversation and perceptions about how youth are treated; how interactions with youth are handled; how discretion is used; how decisions are made at the nine OJJDP decision points²; the DMC culture, training and knowledge within agencies; and how race and ethnicity data are defined and collected, if at all. Through the interview process, we are able to solicit deeper thought and a greater understanding of the Key Informant's experiences than we can with the online survey.

We plan to interview Key Informants from all juvenile justice agencies that intersect with the OJJDP Decision Points – as well as Key Informants in Policy Roles. Once all of the interviews are held and the interview transcripts have been analyzed, we will look for common themes, items of interest, areas of concern, and recommendations for change or review. We are also focusing on the data collection process of race and ethnicity data so we can compare processes, definitions and data variables.

One finding we know of already is that race and ethnicity data are not always captured in the same manner or by the same definitions, and sometimes not captured at all (e.g., Ethnicity is not a part of the automated fingerprint record). Without common data definitions and collection practices, it is difficult to accurately determine how many minorities enter the juvenile justice system, and even more difficult – if not impossible – to accurately determine how many minorities move deeper into and through the system.

It is our goal to have this qualitative DMC project completed and a final report delivered to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission by the end of this calendar year.

We are also completing a project that was part of the MacArthur Foundation – Models for Change Initiative. We did a “data scan” of state-wide juvenile justice data applications and how this affects the decision points that are made along the juvenile justice pipeline. We examined all state-wide juvenile

¹ Key Informants are Illinois juvenile justice staff in various roles and in different levels of authority. They are interviewed based on their key positions and their specific role, knowledge and association within the juvenile justice system.

² OJJDP Decisions Points are Arrest, Referral, Diversion, Detention, Petitions/Charges Filed, Delinquent Findings, Probation, Confinement in Secure Correctional Facilities, and Transferred to Adult Court. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (2006). *Disproportionate Minority Contact Technical Assistance Manual: Third edition*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

justice data applications, and there are many, to determine what and how the data are collected and the “reliability” of the data. These details are especially important when reporting statistics.

When studying Disproportionate Minority Contact, it is important to understand the youth’s first contact with the juvenile justice process. While some police contact data is collected throughout the state, there is no one source of Illinois data that can provide the data consumer with complete knowledge of who is being stopped by law enforcement and for what reason. This initial contact is a crucial place where data collection should be occurring to gain a better understanding of why youth are being stopped and the actions that are typically related to an arrest or other police action.

When an arrest does occur, this is typically the point where data begins to be collected; and there is a state-wide data application that manages these data. It is the Criminal History and Records Identification System (CHRI) that the Illinois State Police maintains. It is a very large and complex data collection structure. Youth are entered into CHRI when fingerprinted. By statute and severity of the crime, not all juvenile arrests require fingerprinting; therefore, not all youth arrested are entered into CHRI. When juvenile arrest statistics are provided using CHRI data, it is not a representation of all youth arrested – but of youth arrested that have been fingerprinted. In other words, the CHRI data do not tell the whole story for who is arrested and why.

As a youth continues through the juvenile justice process, the State’s Attorney’s Office (SAO) and the Court can update charge information and dispositions, as appropriate in the CHRI database. This updating often does not happen. One can assume for any given youth’s case that either the juvenile did not get far enough along in the process for their CHRI record to be further updated, or that the SAO or Court are not keeping their CHRI data current. In either event, the result is that available SAO and Court CHRI data are minimal.

For example, in 2008, there were 47,046 juvenile arrest records created, and with those there were 63,397 arrest charges in CHRI. There were 7,373 (11.6%) of SAO dispositional records and 4,070 (6.4%) of Court dispositional and sentencing records in CHRI.³ While State’s Attorney’s and Courts may have their own databases and are collecting data, that data is not shared data that is connected to other

³ Data compiled from the Criminal History Records Identification database by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority in 2010.

state-wide data applications, thus making it become very difficult to understand how the youth are moving through the system.

Nevertheless, for statewide DMC reporting purposes, CHRI data is a valuable resource. Data are available on Arrestee demographics, which include Gender and Race. However, Ethnicity is not entered, therefore, not available for arrest statistics.

As we follow a youth through the juvenile justice process, the next statewide data application that is utilized is the web-based Juvenile Monitoring Information System (JMIS). JMIS has detention data for all Illinois state detention centers and is widely used.

For statewide DMC detention data reporting, available data are gender, DOB, race, and ethnicity, and all other required reporting variables. In July 2011, Ethnicity became its own data variable, broken out from Race, enabling more detailed reporting.

As is the case with juvenile court data, there are no statewide automated juvenile probation data systems, only local ones.

When a youth is sentenced to an Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) facility, data on this youth are also entered into their Juvenile Tracking System (JTS). This application is the last state-wide data application in the juvenile justice pipeline. JTS does collect Race and Ethnicity of the youth, and much more data as well.

DATA RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

From CPRD's experience from participation in Illinois juvenile justice research, we respectfully make the following recommendations.

1. STANDARIZATION OF RACE AND ETHNICITY DATA COLLECTION

PROTOCOLS/PROCESSES/DEFINITIONS/DATA VARIABLES ACROSS ALL JUVENILE JUSTICE AGENCIES:

Standardization is key in the collection of data, especially when you want to compare across agencies.

Race and Ethnicity data variables are necessary for OJJDP and Disproportionate Minority Contact federal block grant reporting requirements, as well as important to fully understand the juvenile justice involved

youth demographics. Standardization of this process across all statewide data collection systems is sorely needed. Counties, circuits, agencies, etc., handling the same kind of data and doing the same work often have different tools, procedures and definitions. For example, Ethnicity is not captured for Arrest data - and this affects how we can look at Arrest data and make decisions about this point in the juvenile justice process. The variables for Race may differ across collection points when the U.S Census guidelines are not used. Without standardization, there can be no commonality in how Race and Ethnicity are analyzed state-wide, and it impedes the research and assessment of DMC when we can't follow the same youth through the juvenile justice process.

2. CAPTURE POLICE CONTACT DATA: While there may be a variety of data collected throughout the state that can be reported to OJJDP on the various Decision Points, much data is lacking or inconsistent. An example is the enormous variation in the way youth enter and proceed through the juvenile justice system. This variation begins in the way police officers and other authority figures (i.e., parents, teachers, school administrators, coaches, etc.) react and interact with youth when some type of offense occurs. Police officers have wide discretion as to how they handle a problem situation from providing a stern warning, to calling a parent, to taking a child home to their parents, to bringing them to the police station, and numerous other options. Not much is known about how decisions are made in these circumstances. Police Contact data are collected by a small number of counties/judicial circuits throughout the state, but these data are few and not shared to a central state system that can create the “big picture” of this decision point.

3. THE COLLECTION, SHARING AND CONNECTING OF JUVENILE JUSTICE YOUTH DATA: The Illinois juvenile justice system has seriously fragmented and disconnected data systems that allow for only the basic understanding of what occurs at the state and local level. Many of these legacy systems are old and difficult to use, and many have data and auditing issues. These issues make it even more important that needed data should be shared or coordinated among agencies. There are substantial amounts of data collected by all juvenile justice related agencies; however, these data are generally not shared, and typically accessible only by the agency that collects them. Data collection efforts are duplicated over and over again, and the data are re-asked and re-captured throughout the system. The time and cost expended in the duplication and re-capturing of juvenile data, if estimated, would be quite costly. These monies and time spent could be better served in creating a statewide data warehouse (or multiple

ones), that would be accessible to juvenile justice agencies, policy makers, researchers and other appropriate staff.

4. CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND UTILIZE DATA FOR UNDERSTANDING DISPRPORTIONATE MINORITY

CONFINEMENT (DMC) ISSUES: The sensitivity and complexity of addressing juvenile justice issues and DMC is a major policy issue, and Illinois needs high quality data and analysis to ensure those issues are driven by quantitative and qualitative information. It's likely that DMC has multiple underlying causes and contributing factors and each decision point along the pipeline needs to be studied and understood. High quality data, information, policy and professional development must be the sources and solutions for reducing and impacting DMC and juvenile justice problems.



**Written Statement of Harvey Grossman
Legal Director of the ACLU of Illinois**

Submitted to the Racial and Ethnic Impact (REI) Research Task Force

**Public Hearing on the “Data Collection of Racial/Ethnic Identity Information in the
Criminal Justice System”**

May 7, 2012

Chairwoman Hunter, Chairman Ford, and members of the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force:

On behalf of the more than 20,000 members and supporters of the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, I would like to thank you for opportunity to submit written testimony at today’s public hearing. We appreciate and support the important work that the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force is engaged in, and we especially recognize and applaud Senator Hunter and Representative Ford’s leadership in the area of racial and ethnic data-collection and its intersection with the criminal justice system.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois has long been an active proponent of racial and ethnic data collection in the context of our work on redressing the problems of racial profiling – especially as it relates to police stops and searches. From this perspective, we offer the following recommendations to the Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force.

1. Make the Illinois Traffic Stop Statistical Study Act of 2003 Permanent.

The Illinois Traffic Stop Statistical Study Act of 2003 (“the Study Act”) requires all police officers in Illinois to document all of their traffic stops, including motorist race and what happened. It also requires all police agencies in Illinois to report their stops data to the Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”). It then requires IDOT to publish an annual report about this data, with assistance from university scholars. *See* 625 ILCS 5/11-212. *See also* www.dot.state.il.us/trafficstop/results.html (presenting seven years of Study Act data).

Among other factors, passage of the Study Act was advanced by the then-recent experience in the City of Highland Park. In 2000, the ACLU of Illinois and that city entered a consent decree

requiring it to gather and analyze data about police stops and searches, to resolve racial profiling allegations by some of that city's residents. *See Ledford v. City of Highland Park*, No. 00-cv-4212 (N.D. Ill.). Highland Park found that measuring this aspect of officer performance assisted in efficient department management, and that the increased transparency advanced community trust and cooperation, without in any way diminishing public safety. In particular, Highland Park's actual experience helped to dispel the myth that data collection was too burdensome for patrol officers.

The Study Act has twice been expanded to capture additional kinds of data. In 2006, in response to Study Act data regarding racial disparity in consent searches, it was expanded to require disclosure of whether a consent search yielded contraband, and whether a motorist declined consent to search¹. *See* Public Act 94-997. In 2011, in response to Study Act data regarding racial disparity in canine sniffs, it was expanded to document whether a dog sniff occurred, whether a dog alerted, whether a dog alert caused a search by an officer, and whether contraband was discovered. *See* Public Act 97-0469.

Collection of data under the Study Act has refuted many erroneous claims. For example, opponents of the Study Act argued that it would cause police officers to disengage from the public. In fact, the number of ISP traffic stops grew by 15% from 2004 (the first year of data) to 2010 (the most recent year of data). Likewise, some commentators argued that the racial disparity in consent searches was caused by minorities granting consent more frequently than whites – until new Study Act data showed that minorities and whites grant consent at nearly the same high rates.

The Illinois Study Act is arguably the best statute of its kind in the nation. It applies to every state and local police agency, and every traffic stop. It mandates collection of rich and relevant data. It requires annual analysis by a statewide agency, and disclosure to the general public of that analysis and the underlying raw statistical data. Unfortunately, the Illinois Study Act is now scheduled to sunset in July 2015. ***The ACLU of Illinois recommends that the General Assembly make the Illinois Traffic Stop Statistical Study Act of 2003 permanent.***

¹ The Study Act data showed that ISP consent searches have a persistent and dramatic racial disparate impact against Hispanic and African American motorists. On the one hand, minority motorists are far more likely than white motorists to be subjected to ISP consent searches. Specifically, in the seven years from 2004 through 2010, Hispanic motorists were 2.7 to 4.0 times more likely to be consents searched, and African American motorists were 1.8 to 3.2 times more likely. On the other hand, white motorists subjected to ISP consent searches are far more likely than Hispanic and African American motorists to be found with contraband. For example, in 2010, white motorists were 89% more likely than Hispanic motorists to have contraband, and 26% more likely than African American motorists. According to a leading treatise, such racial disparity in hit rates implies that “a lower standard of proof was applied to searches of minorities than to searches of Caucasians.” *See* Police Executive Research Forum, *By the numbers: A guide to analyzing race data from vehicle stops* (2004) at p. 274.

2. **Expand the Illinois Study Act to include data on sidewalk detentions by police officers of pedestrians.**

One gap in the Illinois Study Act is sidewalk detentions by police officers of pedestrians: the Act only applies to traffic stops. In 2006, the Chicago Police Department (“CPD”) to some degree acted to address that gap: it required officers to document all of the reasons supporting their sidewalk detentions; it required supervisors to review whether these reasons justified the detention; and it required maintenance of this information for years. *See* CPD Special Order 03-09, Revisions of July 10 and December 29, 2006. This policy was a response to an ACLU of Illinois lawsuit on behalf of Olympic Gold Medal speed skater Shani Davis, who was subjected to an improper CPD sidewalk detention. *See Davis v. City of Chicago*, No. 03-cv-2094 (N.D. Ill.). Unfortunately, the CPD subsequently withdrew these important accountability measures. *See* CPD Special Order S04-13-09 (issued and effective Feb. 23, 2012). Yet data collection to ensure integrity and fairness in police enforcement activity is as important in the context of sidewalk detentions, as in the context of the traffic stops covered by the Study Act. *The ACLU of Illinois recommends an expansion of the Illinois Study Act to include data on sidewalk detentions by police officers of pedestrians.*

The data collection and annual analysis required by the Study Act is not only supported by the ACLU of Illinois, the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Illinois Conference), Rainbow/PUSH, and many other civil rights groups, it can also serve as useful tools for law enforcement officials. As stated in the 2008 Illinois State Police Cadet Curriculum:

"One of the ways that law enforcement agencies are addressing concerns and allegations regarding discriminatory bias based profiling is through data collection. Many administrators believe traffic stop data collection is essential in eliminating bias profiling. . . . **Data collection can improve accountability, fortify organizational values, and help operationalize the law enforcement Code of Ethics.** . . . It displays a willingness to address public concerns, both real and perceived. State wide the data provides agencies with information to evaluate current operational practices, determine levels of profiling, and identify areas where profiling exists." Illinois State Police Academy, *Prohibition of Improperly Biased Law Enforcement: Cadet Curriculum*, at 14-15 (prepared Aug. 2005, revised Apr. 2008).

* * *

I would like to end by thanking you for giving the ACLU of Illinois the opportunity share our recommendations with the task force.

My name is Mark Driscoll. I hold a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. As a psychologist, I have been involved with the Institute on Social Exclusion's (ISE) ongoing Mental Health Impact Assessment (MHIA) at the Adler School of Professional Psychology for the past 8 months. During this time, my role has been to function as a primary member of the research team to investigate the potential influence of arrest history on the mental health and well-being of residents of Englewood. Englewood is a predominantly low-income community located in the Western region of the city of Chicago. Most Englewood residents are African American. The primary aim of my testimony is to share with you some of our recent findings on the adverse influence of arrest rates on the mental health and well-being of African American adults.

Section about general purpose of MHIA here.

To assist in the evaluation of the potential influence of this policy decision on the mental health of Englewood residents, the ISE research team has collected data from multiple sources that provide information on the nature of the relationship between arrest and psychological adjustment. Of note, we have attempted to inform our investigation through the utilization of data drawn from publically available sources such as the Census, from data drawn from organizations such as the Chicago Police Department (CPD), and from our own data collection from a sample of self-identified Englewood residents.

As context for arrest rates in the Englewood community, between the years of 2006 and 2010, over 64,000 arrests were recorded in the Englewood community. Overwhelmingly, the majority individuals who were arrested during this period were African American. Of these arrests, the most frequent charge for arrest was for drug abuse violations. Moreover, relative to other city of Chicago neighborhoods, within the last year Englewood has recorded the fourth highest number of arrests for violent crime, exceeded only by the neighborhoods of West Englewood, South Shore, and Austin.

To further examine the relationship of arrests to the psychological adjustment of individuals, the ISE research team has collected survey data from over 250 adults who self-identified as Englewood residents. In particular, our research has emphasized two different components. First, we have examined whether broad group differences exist between individuals who do and do not have an arrest history so that we can further clarify whether there are associations between arrest records and broad categories of mental health, well-being, and social conditions. Second, we have sought to identify whether there are particular mechanisms or pathways by which arrest records influence psychological adjustment and mental health. Specifically, we have focused on the roles of discrimination and racism-based stress, subjective connection to one's ethnocultural background, individuals' subjective connection to and engagement with their community, depression symptom severity, psychological distress, substance abuse symptoms, general health and well-being, and satisfaction with life.

Among our sample of 250 Englewood residents, 101 reported that they had been arrested at least once. This corresponds to 40% of our sample. However, of the sample that reported having been arrested at least once, only 40% -- less than half -- reported that their arrest had ultimately led to a conviction. The disparity between the portion of our sample reporting an arrest history and the portion reporting a resultant conviction is suggestive of a disproportionately high arrest rate in the Englewood community. With regard to the influence of arrest records on mental health, we have found several notable differences between individuals who have and have not been arrested. Specifically, we have found that those who have been arrested report greater rates psychological distress, substance abuse symptoms, racism-based

stress, report more frequent discrimination, have lower life satisfaction, and have lower connection to and engagement with their community. Importantly, none of these differences were evident when we compared individuals who had and had not been convicted for their arrest.

How does arrest history confer an influence on African American's mental health? Answering this question allows our research to move beyond simple group comparisons to investigate possible pathways by which one's arrest history may influence psychological adjustment. This is, if broad group differences exist between African American individuals who have and have not been arrested on critical mental health outcomes, it is important to identify potentially how and why differences exist. The results of our research suggest that having a greater number of arrests is significantly associated with greater racism-based stress and discrimination, as well as greater household financial difficulty, as that these in turn are associated with worse mental health outcomes, including greater depression and greater psychological distress.

Two aspects of these findings have implications of particular note for this task force. First, among African American communities that experience a disproportionately high number of arrests, higher arrests are associated with a greater number of additional events and stressors that confer an influence on the mental health and well-being of African Americans. Our findings support group differences such that those who have been arrested report worse mental health outcomes relative to those who have never been arrested. Furthermore, having been arrested is significantly associated with greater levels of risk factors that contribute to adverse mental health outcomes. For communities such as Englewood that experience a significantly high number of arrests, this presents an area of significant concern for the mental health and well-being of a substantial number of individuals.

A second potential implication of our research for communities of color, and African American communities in particular, is the need to continue to work to reduce racism and experiences of discrimination. If African American individuals who have been arrested more frequently attribute these events to racism and discrimination, this may contribute to elevated feelings of depression, hopelessness, and powerlessness.

Macon County Juvenile Justice Council

Community Profile



2011

Written and compiled by Alli Williams, AmeriCorps VISTA Member, Cra-Wa-La Volunteers in Probation and the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council

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And the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council and MCJJC Community Profile sub-committee

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Macon County Juvenile Justice Council

Community Profile

In order to address the most pressing issues in Macon County, the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council believes we must first take stock of what is happening in our community. To do this we have compiled the recent statistical data on our youth population. We have also collected information about the agencies and organizations in Macon County that serve youth involved with the justice system. By putting together this community profile, we hope to be able to identify and address gaps in services.

The format of this profile was inspired by a similar profile compiled by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) in March 2003.¹ We have updated and condensed the information presented in that publication, as well as adding data that we believed is an important part of the “big picture.” Much of our data comes from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority’s yearly publication *Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data*. The statistics in this publication are from many different sources. The ones cited in this profile are from: U.S. Census Bureau, Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Child and Family Services, Illinois State Board of Education, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, Juvenile Monitoring Information System, Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) System, and Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice

The profile created by the ICJIA included data up to 2000; therefore we decided to look at trends since 2000. Not only are we looking at the trends in Macon County, but there is also comparative data. We have two sets of comparative data for each graph. We compare Macon County to its bordering counties: Dewitt, Piatt, Moultrie, Shelby, Christian, Sangamon and Logan. However, these counties, for the most part, have very different populations than Macon County. Most of these counties have smaller populations and smaller minority populations. Therefore, in order to compare our standing with similar populations, we chose to look at Sangamon, McLean, Champaign, Kankakee, Peoria, Winnebago and Rock Island Counties. All of these counties are small-to-medium metro areas (100,000-300,000 people) with significant minority populations (13-23% minority).

The first section of this document examines the juvenile justice system. The second section looks at risk factors in the community. We have also included sections on school data, community resources and Macon County Juvenile Justice Council member agency information. The Community Profile Subcommittee of the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council decided which subjects would be broached in this profile. All of the data presented can be interpreted in many ways. It is important to keep in mind that each set of data can be affected by a variety of factors. All of this data represents human activity and therefore, we must account for the *human factor*, or the influence of human interactions. The data may be skewed by changing standards of reporting standards (or a misinterpretation of reporting standards) or changing community environment, but also outside factors such as the economic recession, which we can observe particularly in the poverty and unemployment rates in all counties.

¹ Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, A Profile of Juvenile Justice System Activities and Juvenile Delinquency Risk Factors in Macon County.

QUICK FACTS

- Macon County's population as a whole is declining, however, the percentage of the population accounted for by minorities is slowly increasing. See pages 8-10.
- Macon County has relatively high rates of delinquency petitions compared to its similar and bordering counties; however, adjudication rates have been very low from 2004-2008. See pages 12-13.
- Macon County has higher rates of cases continued under supervision than all other bordering and similar counties; however, use of probation is similar to these same counties. See pages 14-15.
- In Macon County, rates of admission to both secure detention and the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice have decreased and stabilized. There have been several programs and initiatives in the past few years to decrease these numbers. See pages 16-17.
- Like many other counties with significant minority populations, as well as the state and nation as a whole, Macon County has disproportionate contact with minority youth at all points of contact in the juvenile justice system. See pages 18-20.
- Macon County has higher levels of youth living in poverty and higher unemployment rates than its bordering and similar counties. See pages 24,28-30.
- Teen pregnancy is a growing concern for Macon County, which has a higher percentage of teen births than all of its bordering and similar counties. See page 33.
- Two health concerns for Macon County include infant mortality and obesity. In 2008, Macon County had a higher rate of infant mortality than all of its similar counties. In 2008, Macon County was ranked as number one among all counties in Illinois with regards to obesity rates. See pages 36, 39.
- Macon County tests children for lead poisoning at higher rates than all other bordering and similar counties. The number of children who test positive for lead poisoning declines every year. See pages 37-38.
- The Violent Index Offense Rate in Macon County is higher than the average of its bordering counties. Conversely, Macon County's Violent Index Offense Rate was actually *lower* than that of its similar counties from 2000-2007. See page 45.
- The Macon County Juvenile Justice Council is very concerned with chronic truancy. Macon County has a large number of truants and recent policy changes will soon affect these numbers. See pages 48 for more school information.
- We tend to lose sight of the *good things* happening in Macon County. See pages 59 for some information on community facilities.

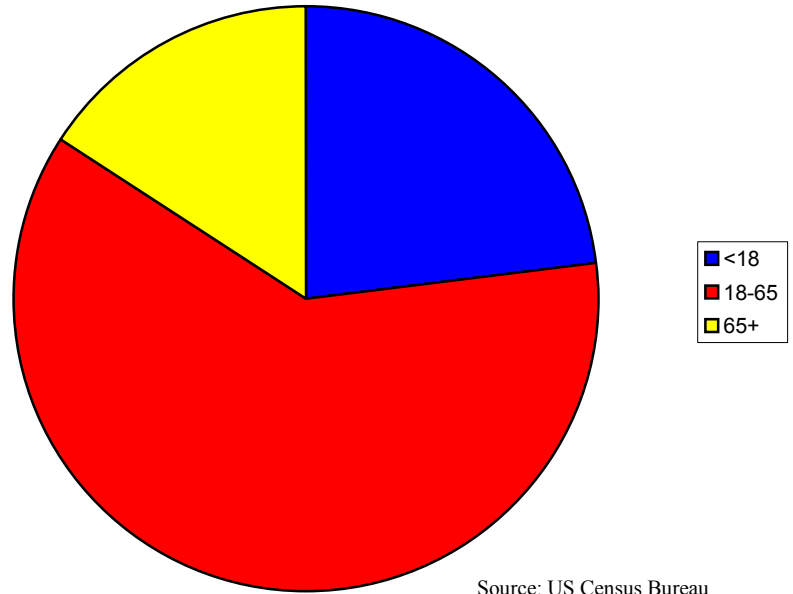
POPULATION

This Section provides data on the population of Macon County.

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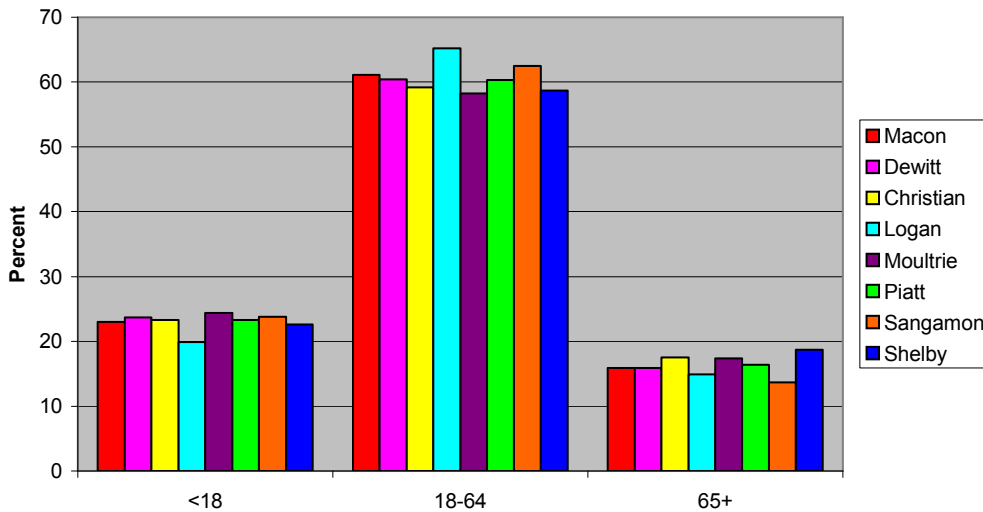
Macon County Population by Age

In Macon County, there are 25,020 youth under 18 in 2009, 6,903 of which are under 5 year old. In the same year, there were 17,346 seniors age 65 years and older. The largest age group (10 year span) is the 45- to 54- year-olds, which makes up 15.1 percent of the total population.



Source: US Census Bureau

**Population by Age
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

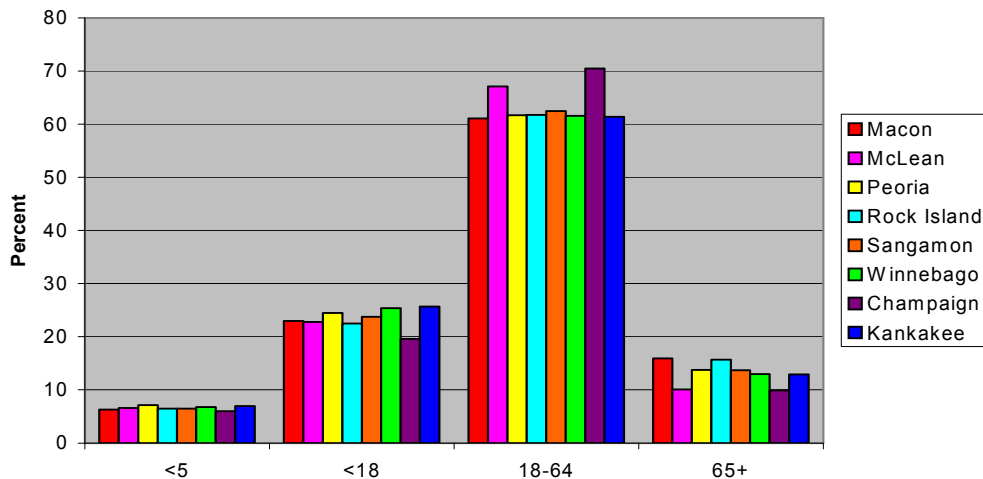


Source: US Census Bureau

Macon County has average numbers of youth under 18.

Several of the bordering counties have a higher percentage of the population made up by seniors over 65 years of age. On the other hand, Macon County has a slightly older population than most similar counties, as well as the total populations of both Illinois and the United States.

**Population by Age
Macon County and Similar Counties**

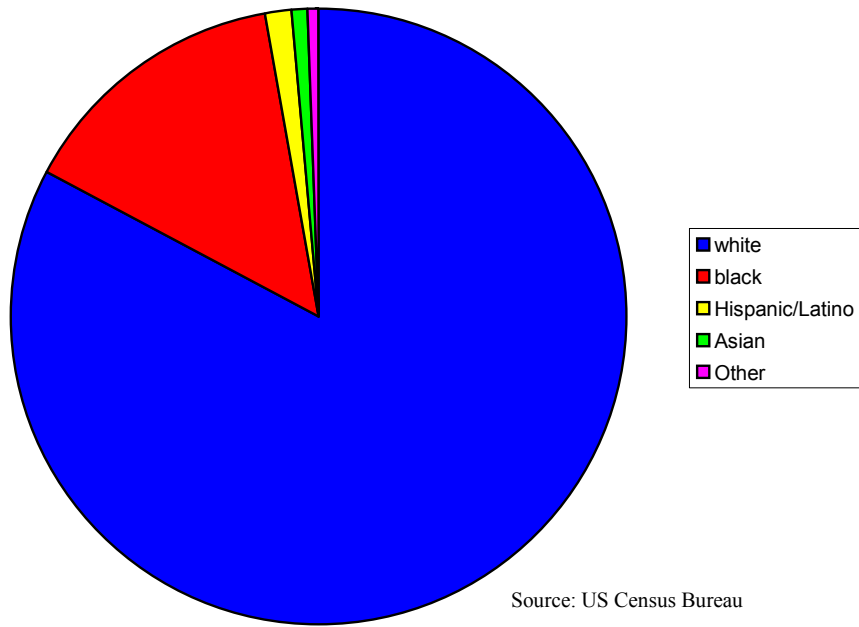


Source: US Census Bureau

In terms of percentage, 15.9 percent of Macon County's population is comprised of seniors over 65. This is a larger percentage than *all* similar counties. Illinois and the United States have rates of population over 65 of 12.1 percent and 12.6 percent, respectively.

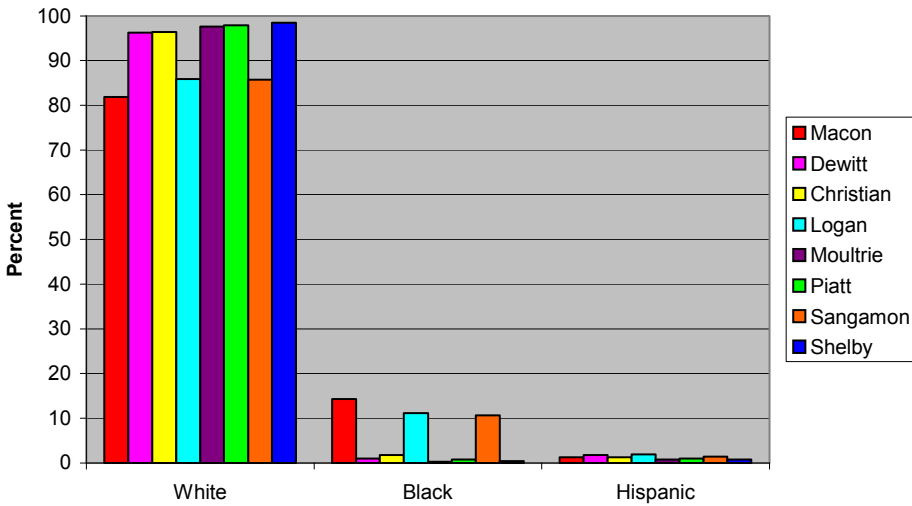
In terms of median age, Macon County is still older than its similar counties, as well as the State of Illinois and the United States. The median age in Macon County is 39.7. The median age in Illinois is 35.9 and 36.5 for the entire United States.

Macon County Total Population by Race



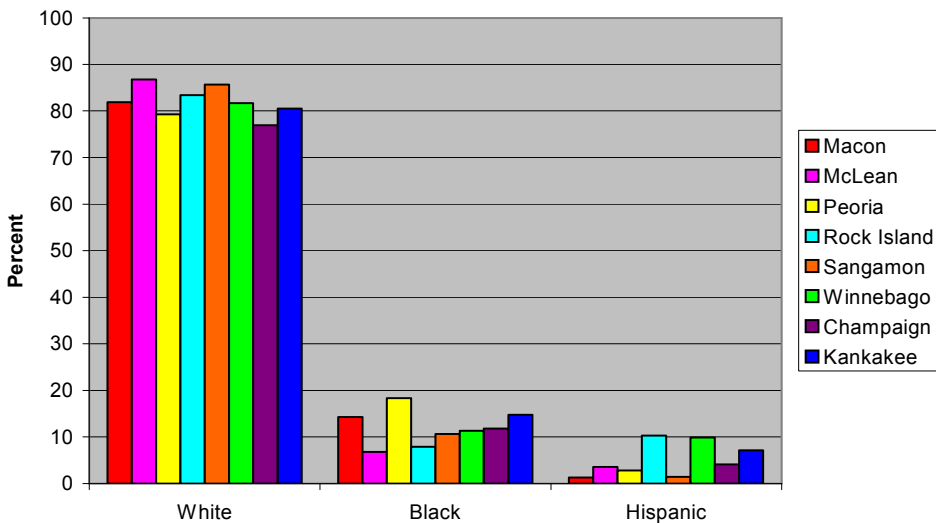
Source: US Census Bureau

Total Population by Race Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: US Census Bureau

Total Population by Race Macon County and Similar Counties

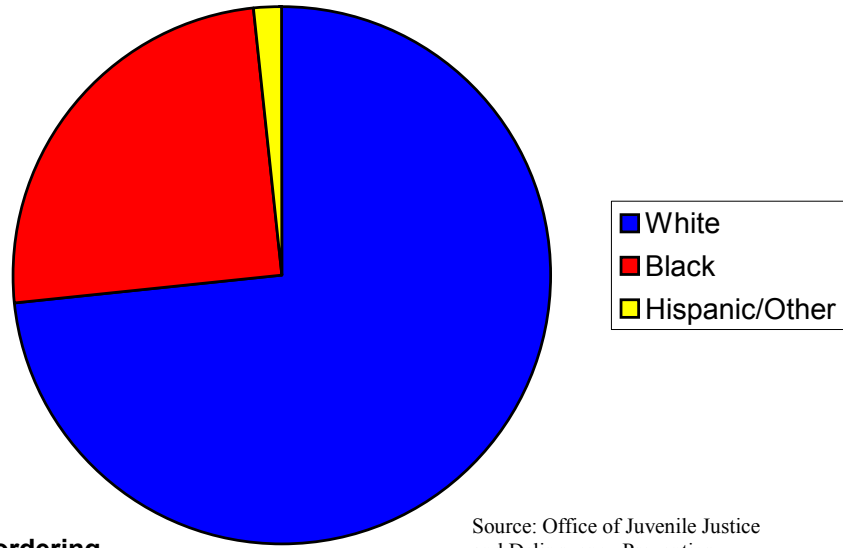


Source: US Census Bureau

County's approximate minority population was 19,659 in 2009, which makes up about

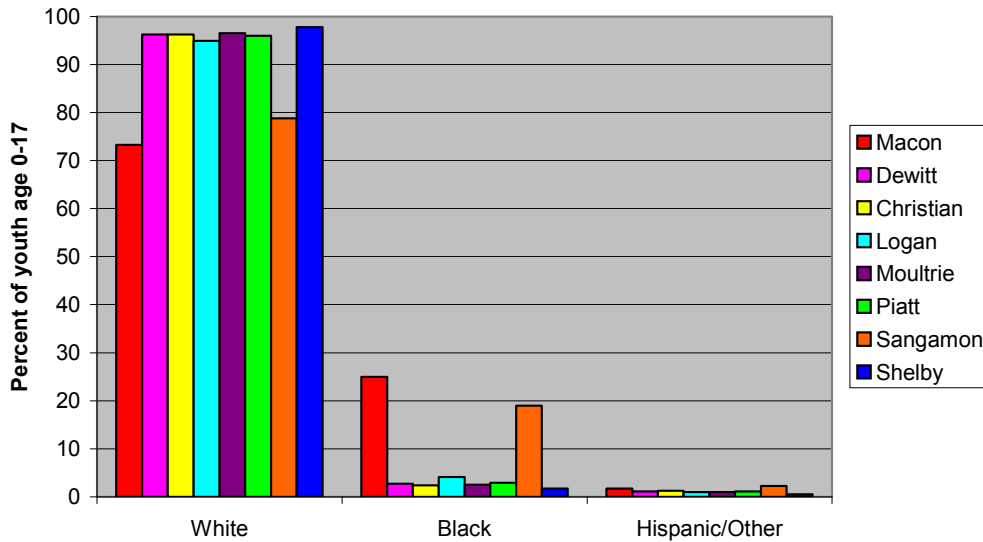
Macon County Youth Population by Race

In 2009, more than 25% of the youth population is made up by minorities- a higher proportion than in the total make up of the county. There is a very small Hispanic population; therefore most of the youth minority population is made up of African American youth.



Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

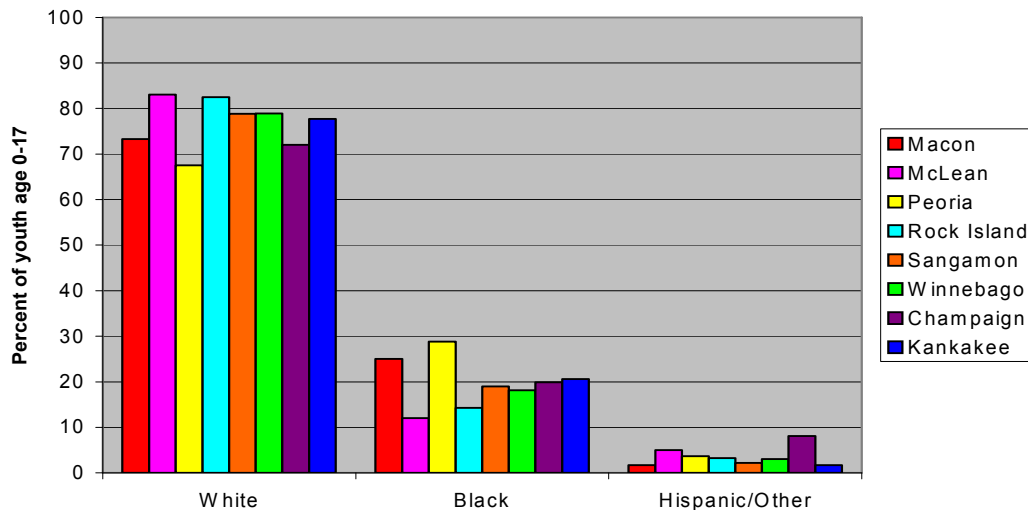
Youth Population by Race Macon County and Bordering Counties



Macon County's bordering counties' youth populations do not differ much from the total population. Both the total population of the smaller bordering counties consists of well over 90% Caucasian youth and adults.

Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Youth Population by Race Macon County and Similar Counties



Many of Macon County's similar counties follow the same trend as Macon County- the youth population of these counties has a greater proportion of minorities than the general population.

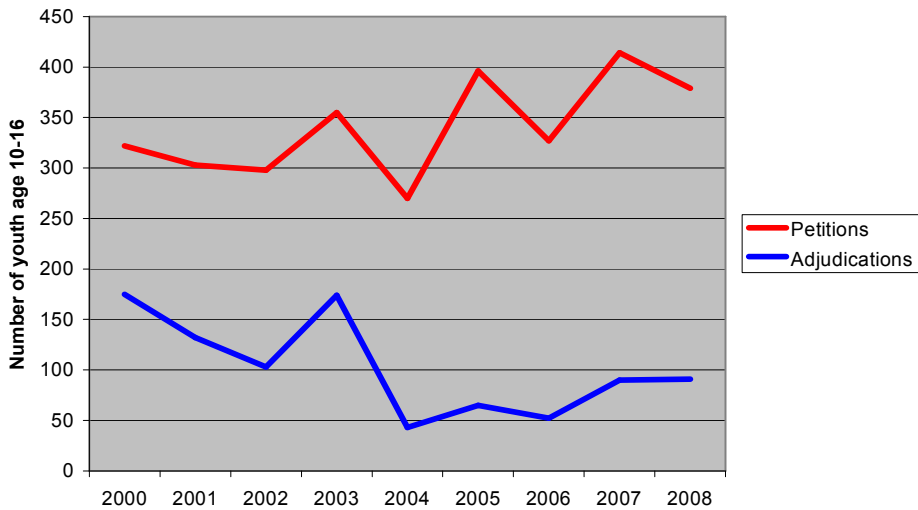
Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

This section provides information on trends in the Juvenile Justice System from 2000 to 2008.

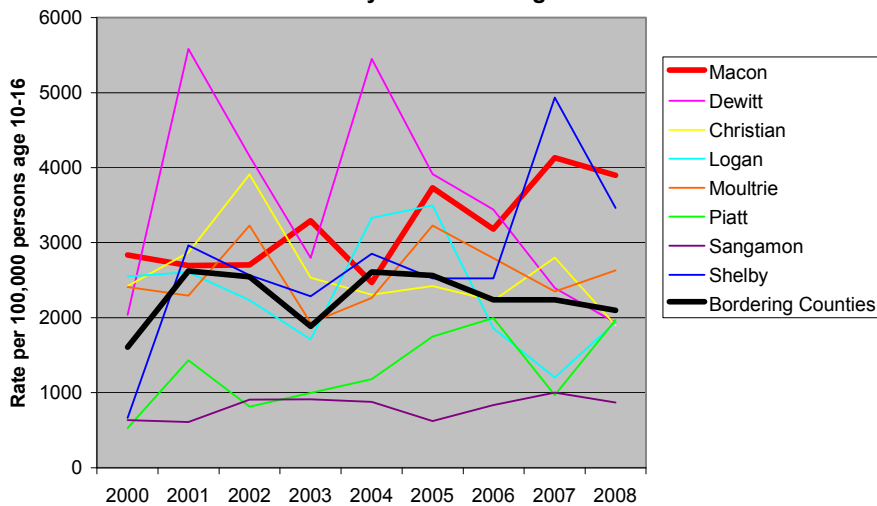
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Delinquency Petition and Adjudication Rates for Macon County



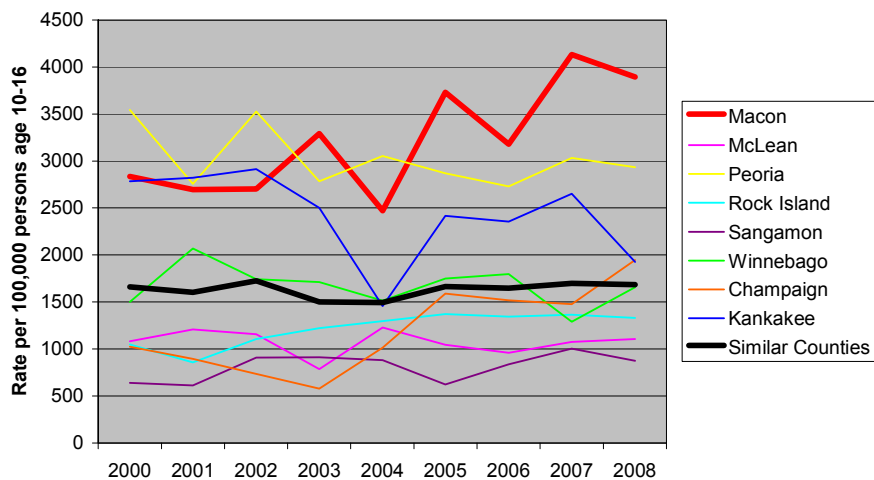
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Delinquency Petitions Filed Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Delinquency Petitions Filed Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

A delinquency petition is a formal request to prosecute. Delinquency petitions are not automatically filed for every crime committed. There are several diversion programs in Macon County such as station adjustments and Teen Court that are the first points of contact with a juvenile before a delinquency petition is filed. Many cases never reach the delinquency petition phase, and most never see adjudication.

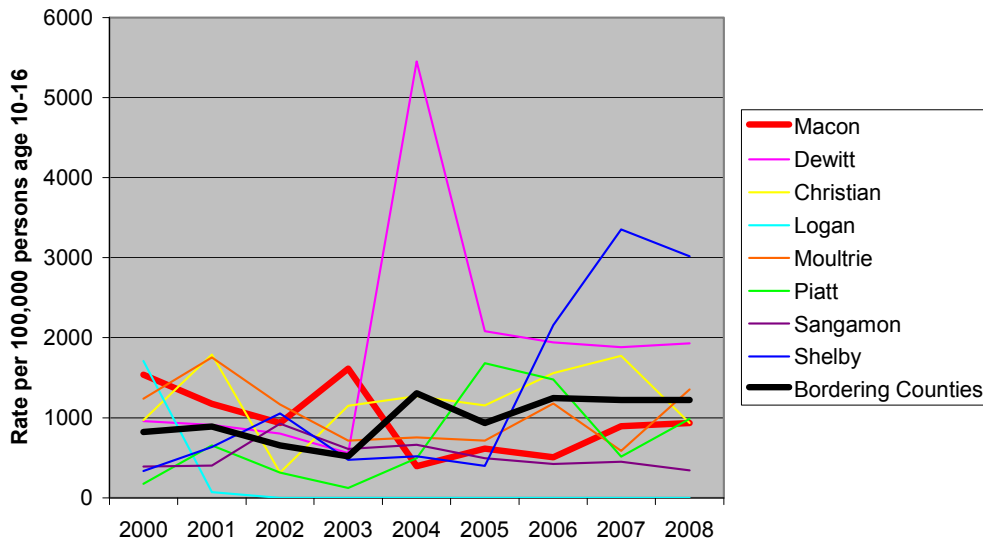
Delinquency petitions have been on the rise in Macon County. Since 2005, Macon County has had consistently higher rates of delinquency petitions than bordering counties. Macon County has surpassed other similar counties consistently since 2000. Since 2005, Macon County has had the highest delinquency petition rates of any of its similar counties.

There are many factors that could affect delinquency petition rates. Personnel changes, including a new State's Attorney, new judges, new attorneys and new juvenile police officers could affect the number of cases coming to court. There are also environmental factors, such as school, local and state policies, which may affect petition rates.

The Delinquency Petition rate should have gone down with the implementation of Teen Court in 2004, however, rates have actually increased. This is where we must look for other factors, which have negatively affected petition rates. The overall crime rate could be higher and therefore would affect the delinquency petition rate.

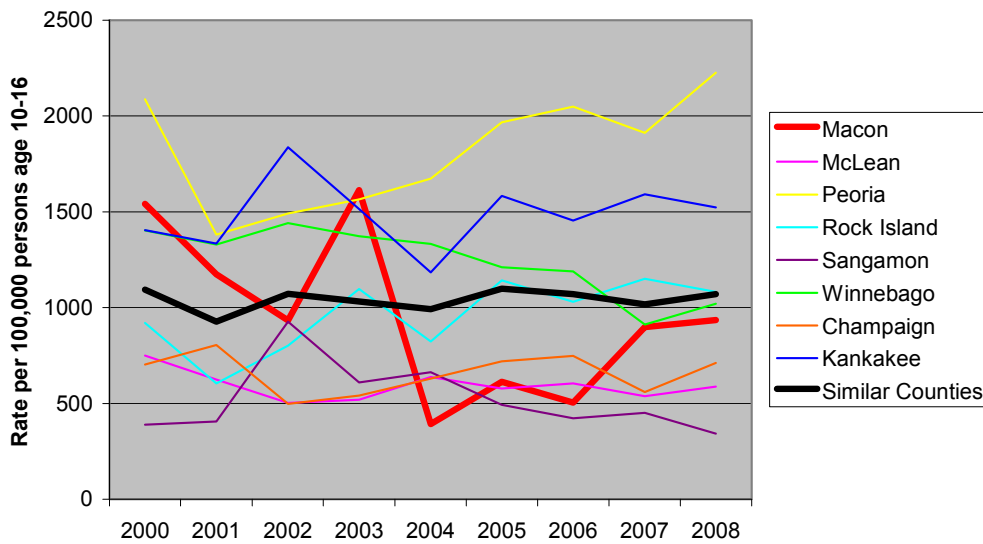
Another development that may have affected the increase in delinquency petitions is that, in the past, if a defendant re-offended prior to their initial court date, this would be considered a supplemental petition of the initial petition. In recent years, to gain more accurate data on the offense rate, this could be considered a whole new case, rather an escalation of the first.

Youth Adjudications Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Youth Adjudications Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Adjudication is the process by which the court finds the state has shown beyond a reasonable doubt that the juvenile committed the offense alleged in the petition. Therefore, this number is always lower than the rate of petitions.

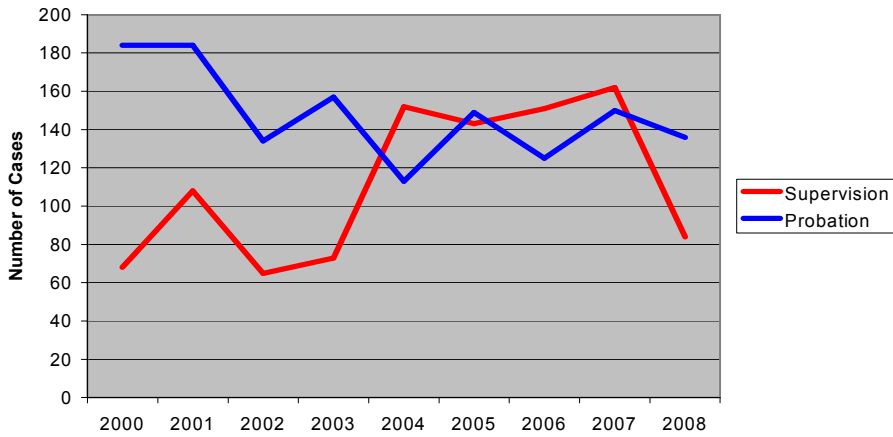
Macon County has a lower rate of adjudications than both averages for bordering and similar counties. Since 2004, Macon County has had the lowest adjudication rates it has had in the past 18 years.

Although petitions have been on the rise since 2005, adjudications have remained quite low. Like the rate of petitions filed, personnel and other environmental factors could also affect the rate of adjudications.

When one youth commits several offenses, it is likely that only the most serious crime will be adjudicated and the other charges will be dropped. In this case, there may be two or three petitions filed and only one adjudication. Although this alone cannot explain such a large gap between the rate of delinquency petitions filed and the rate of adjudications, this is at least *part* of the picture.

Another factor that could account for low adjudication rates is that if a youth successfully completes court supervision, there is no adjudication, even though a petition was filed. As we can see in the data on page 10, the use of supervision has indeed increased.

Youth Cases Continued Under Supervision and Annual Active Juvenile Probation Caseloads for Macon County

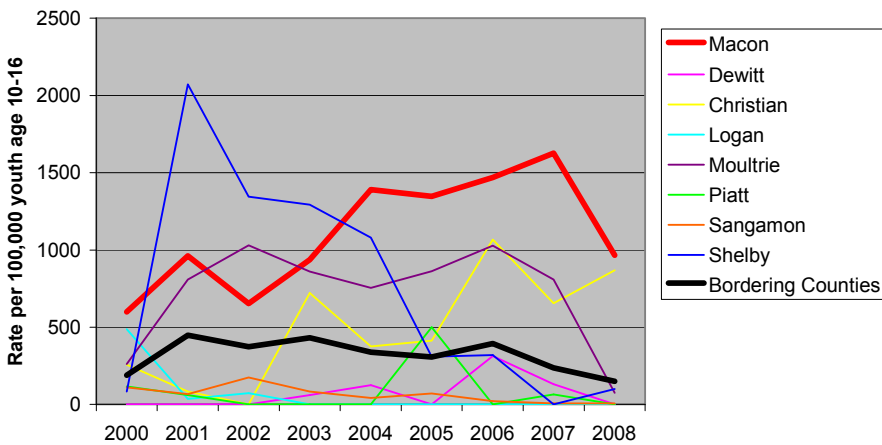


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

A case may be continued under supervision prior to adjudication. If a youth successfully completes supervision, the offense does not go on their record.

In Macon County, the use of delinquency petitions continued under supervision has dramatically increased. Macon County has significantly higher rates of petitions continued under supervision than bordering counties and is an extreme outlier when compared to other counties with similar demographics.

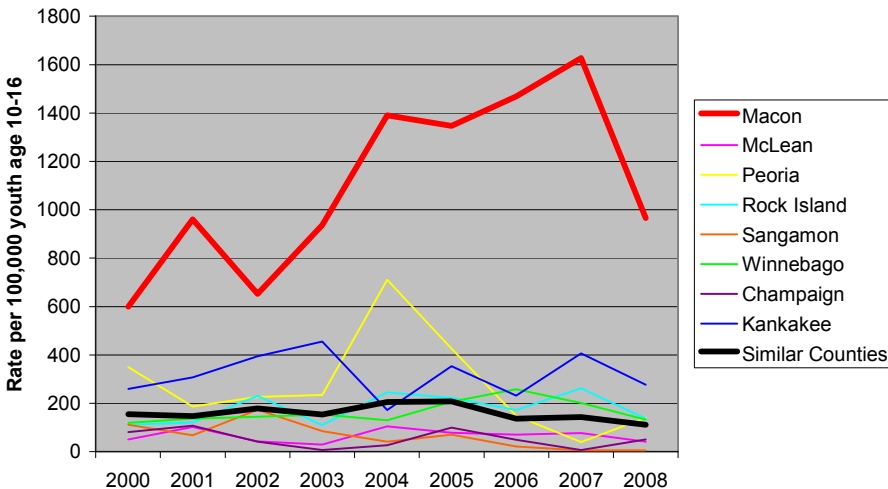
Youth Delinquency Petitions Continued Under Supervision Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Judges' and attorneys' preferences have a large bearing on whether or not a juvenile will be assigned to supervision or probation. Most often, the state will offer court supervision to youth who are coming to court on a petition for the first time. Supervision will likely be offered in these cases even if they have had prior police contact, or have gone through a diversion program such as Teen Court.

Youth Delinquency Petitions Continued Under Supervision Macon County and Similar Counties



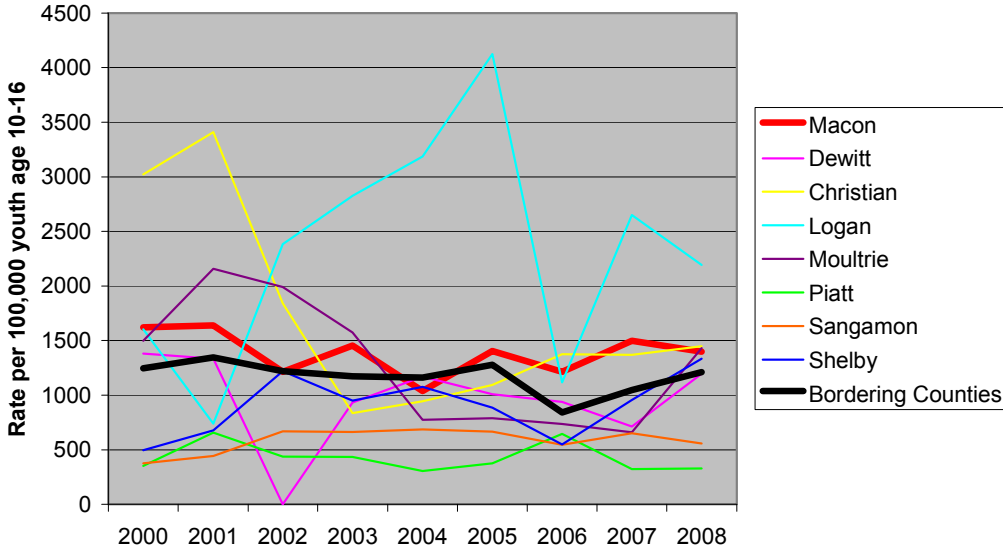
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Probation is a post-adjudication sentence under which a youth will be supervised by court services.

For Macon County, the number of Active Juvenile Probation cases has dropped, though inconsistently. Macon County has lower rates of active youth probation caseloads than similar counties and has only slightly higher rates than bordering counties.

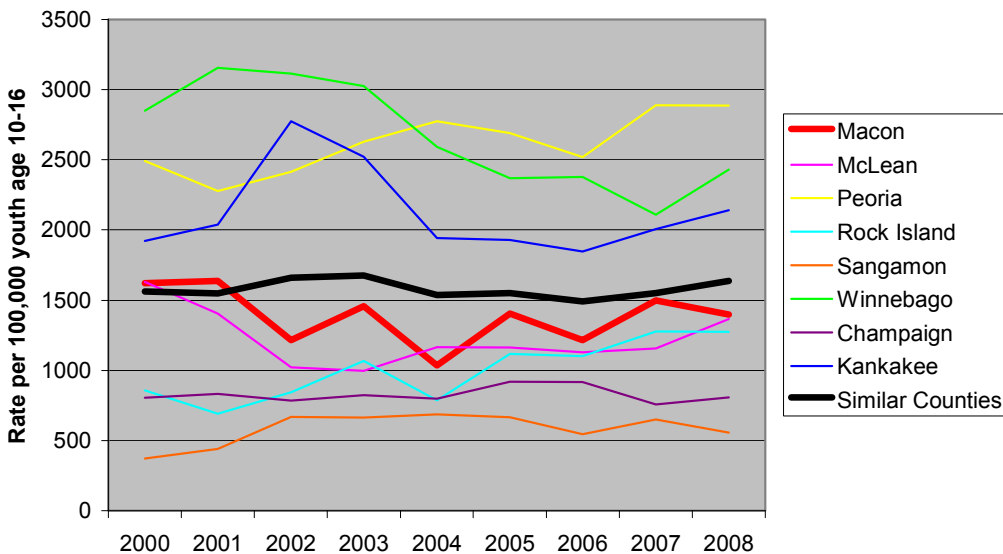
As far as raw numbers go, in 2008, there were 136 youth on probation and 84 cases on court supervision. These cases are treated the same from court services' stand point. The difference is that completion of supervision will not result in adjudication, but completion of probation does not change the adjudication.

**Number of Active Youth Probation Caseloads
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



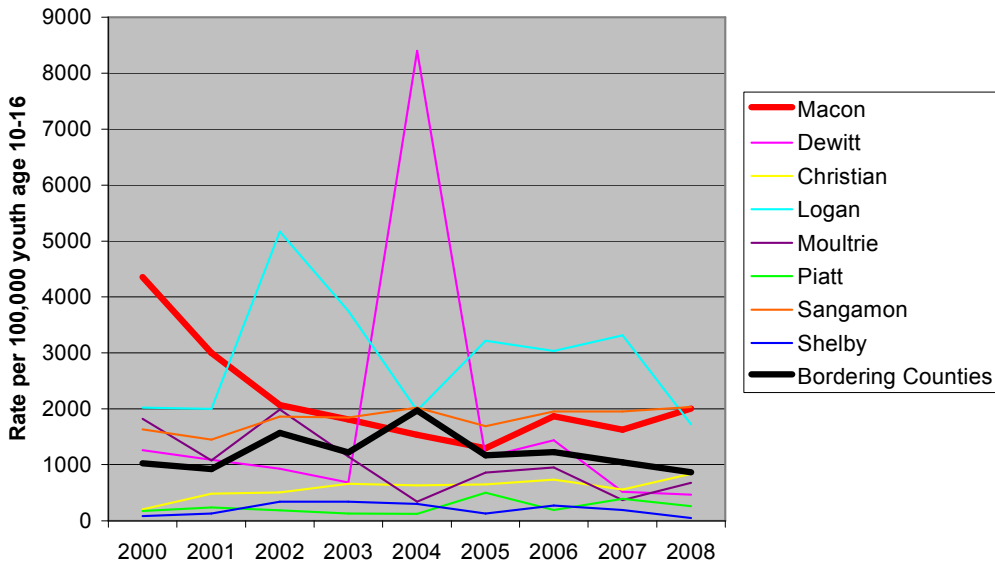
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

**Number of Active Youth Probation Caseloads
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

**Youth Admissions to Secure Detention
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

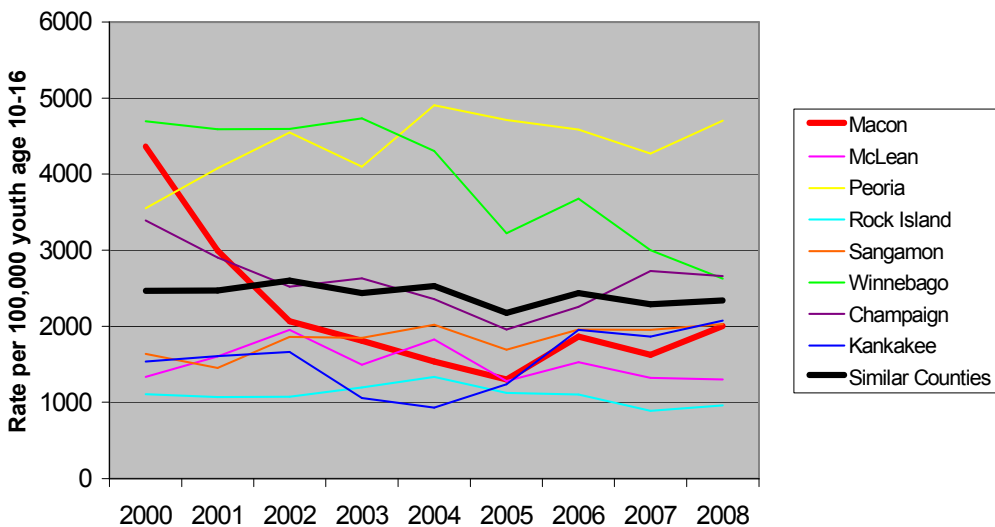


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

A youth could be held in detention because, after committing a crime, it seems likely that the youth is likely to flee, or is a danger to themselves or others. The purpose of detention is to keep the youth safe and to keep them from committing further crimes. A youth may also be admitted to secure detention if they had previously been sentenced to home detention and were unsuccessful.

Macon County has had consistent rates of admission secure detention since 2002. Macon County is in line with admission rates of bordering counties and has slightly lower rates of admission than similar counties.

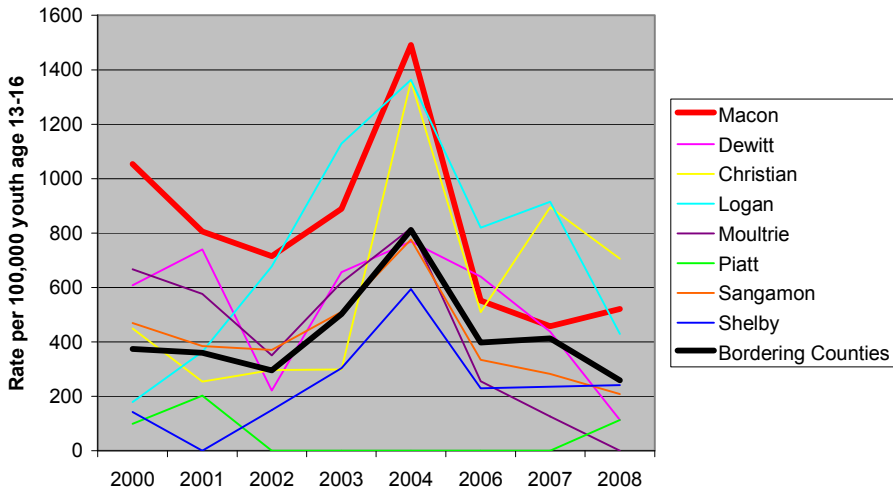
**Youth Admissions to Secure Detention
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

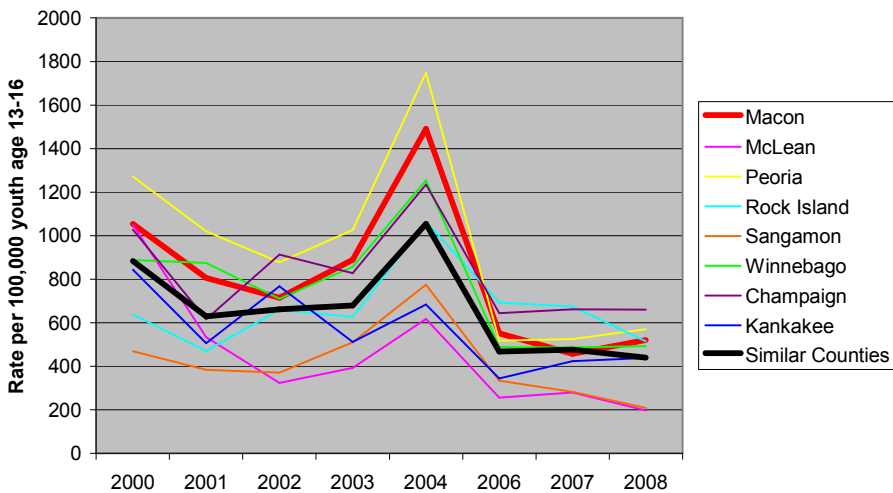
In 1999, court services implemented a detention-screening tool to help decide which youth should be sent to detention. This tool was re-vamped by the Juvenile Detention Alternative committee under the Disproportionate Minority Contact Initiative. This tool is an attempt to keep youth *out* of the system as much as possible while at the same time keeping the community safe by detaining those who are at risk of committing another crime. The Detention Screening Tool can be found in the appendix.

**Admission to Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



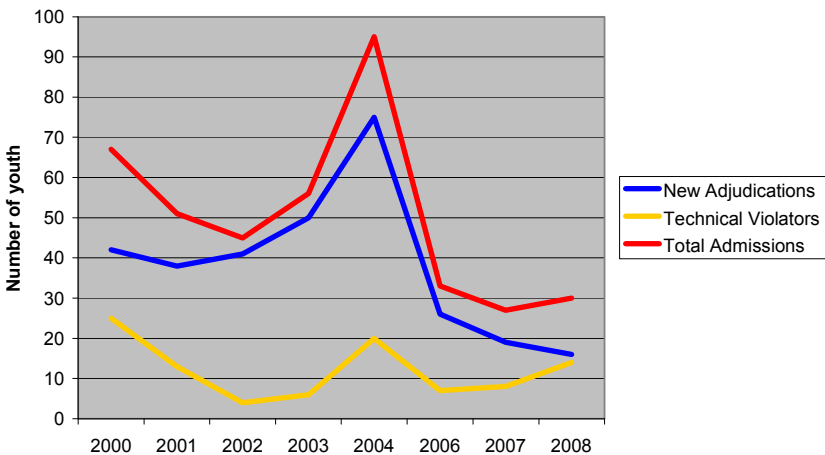
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

**Admission Rates to Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

**Macon County Admission to
Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ)**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

The most serious crimes may be punished with admission to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ). To make a parallel with the adult court system, secure detention is equivalent to jail, whereas IDJJ is similar to the Department of Corrections, or prison. A youth must be at least 13 years old to be sentenced to IDJJ.

Before 2006, Macon County had higher rates of admission to IDJJ than most similar counties and bordering counties. Since 2006, Macon County has been more in line with the averages of similar and bordering counties.

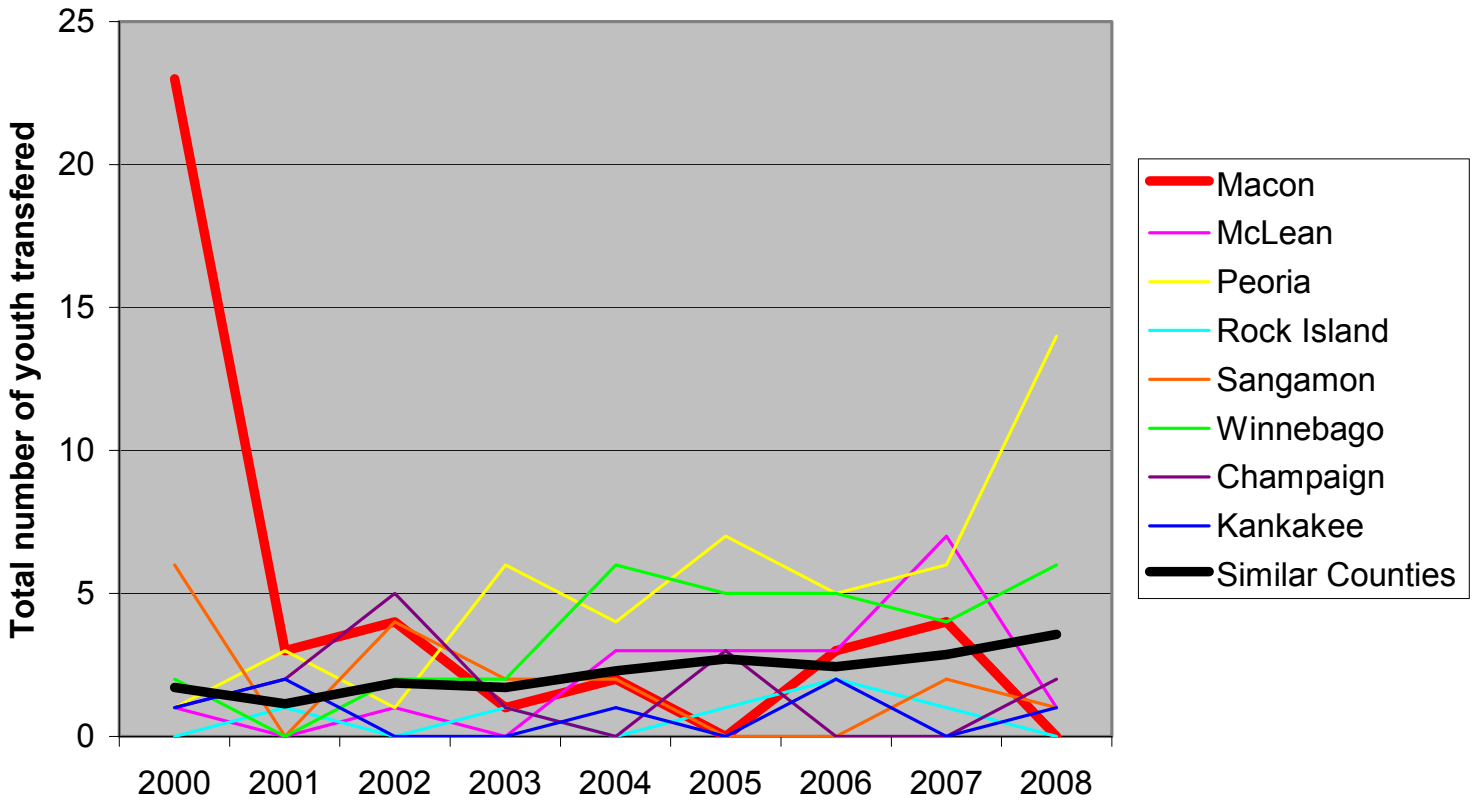
Macon County follows the curious trend in which all counties saw a spike in admission to IDJJ in 2004, followed by a significant decrease in 2006.

Community ACCESS/Redeploy Illinois program started in Macon County in 2005. This is a program aimed to keep youth out of the Department of Corrections and to give youth more chances to change their behavior before being sent away. Community ACCESS serves as a last step before IDJJ. Many of the clients in Community ACCESS have previously been in detention.

Peoria County is also a Redeploy Illinois site. None of the other surrounding counties or similar counties are Redeploy Illinois sites, however, many of these counties saw the same dramatic decreases in admission rates to IDJJ after the spike in 2004.

There are two ways that a youth can be sentenced to the Department of Juvenile Justice. The court could sentence a youth to IDJJ, or they could be sent *back* on a technical violation after having been released on parole. The decision to send a youth back on a violation is made by the parole officer, not the judge. The majority of youth sent to IDJJ are sentenced by the court. However, the number of youth being sentenced to IDJJ has decreased since the inception of Redeploy.

Youth Transfers to Adult Criminal Court Macon County and Similar Counties



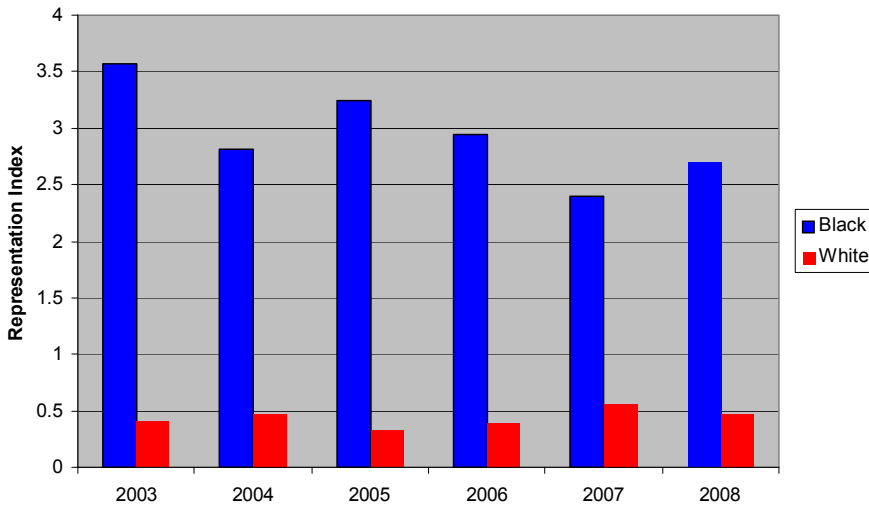
A juvenile may be transferred to adult court depending on their age and the severity of their crime. Some transfers are automatic transfers, whereas others are discretionary. A youth must be 15 years of age or older for a transfer to be automatic and 13 years or older for a discretionary transfer. Some offenses that would be automatically transferred include “forcible” felonies such as an offense “in furtherance of criminal activity by an organized gang” or aggravated discharge of a firearm. Class X felonies related to drug crimes may also be eligible for transfer. In both automatic and discretionary cases, the prosecuting judge must keep in mind the history of the youth. This includes criminal history, history of mental illness or substance abuse, current and prior treatment for mental illness and substance abuse, history of abuse and neglect, and the youth’s “willingness to participate meaningfully in available services”²

In Macon County, the majority of youth transfers to adult court are automatic transfers, rather than discretionary. Only 5 of 42 transfers have been automatic transfers from 2000 to 2008. Even excluding the outlying year (2000), where 24 juveniles were transferred, only 4 of 19 transfers were discretionary.

In more recent years, Macon County has worked to keep juveniles out of detention, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Corrections. Macon County also works to prevent “net widening” - bringing low-risk youth further in to the justice system- by using diversion programs, which keep youth from being petitioned, adjudicated or detained.

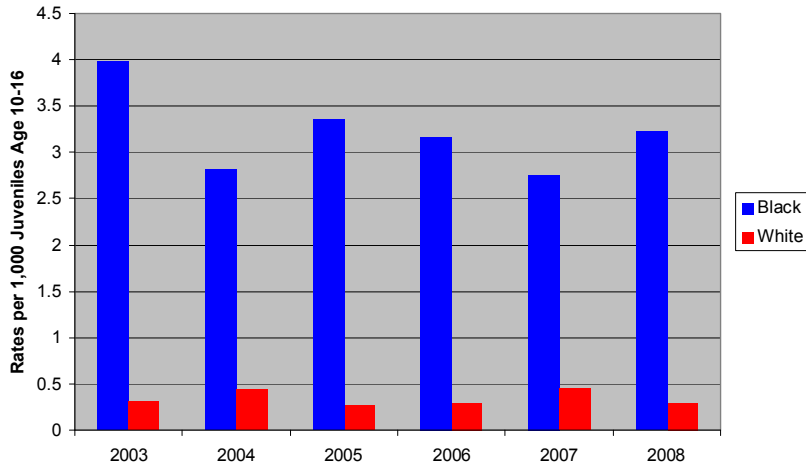
2.Illinois Compiled Statute 705 ILCS 405/5-805

Representation Index for Youth Arrests



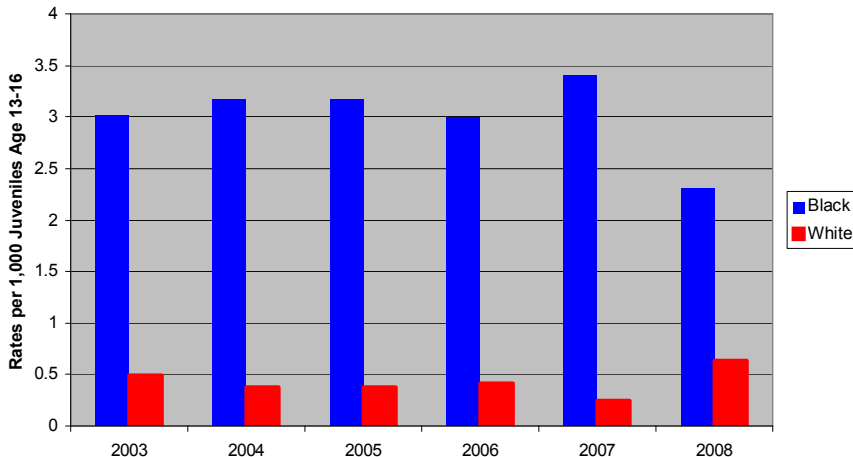
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Representation Index for Use of Secure Detention



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Representation Index for Youth Commitments to IDJJ



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

The Representation Index (RI) “compares the percentage of all minority youth at a specific stage of the juvenile justice process to the percentage of that same minority group in the general youth population of the jurisdiction of interest.”³³ The RI measures the disproportionality of contact with a specific minority group.

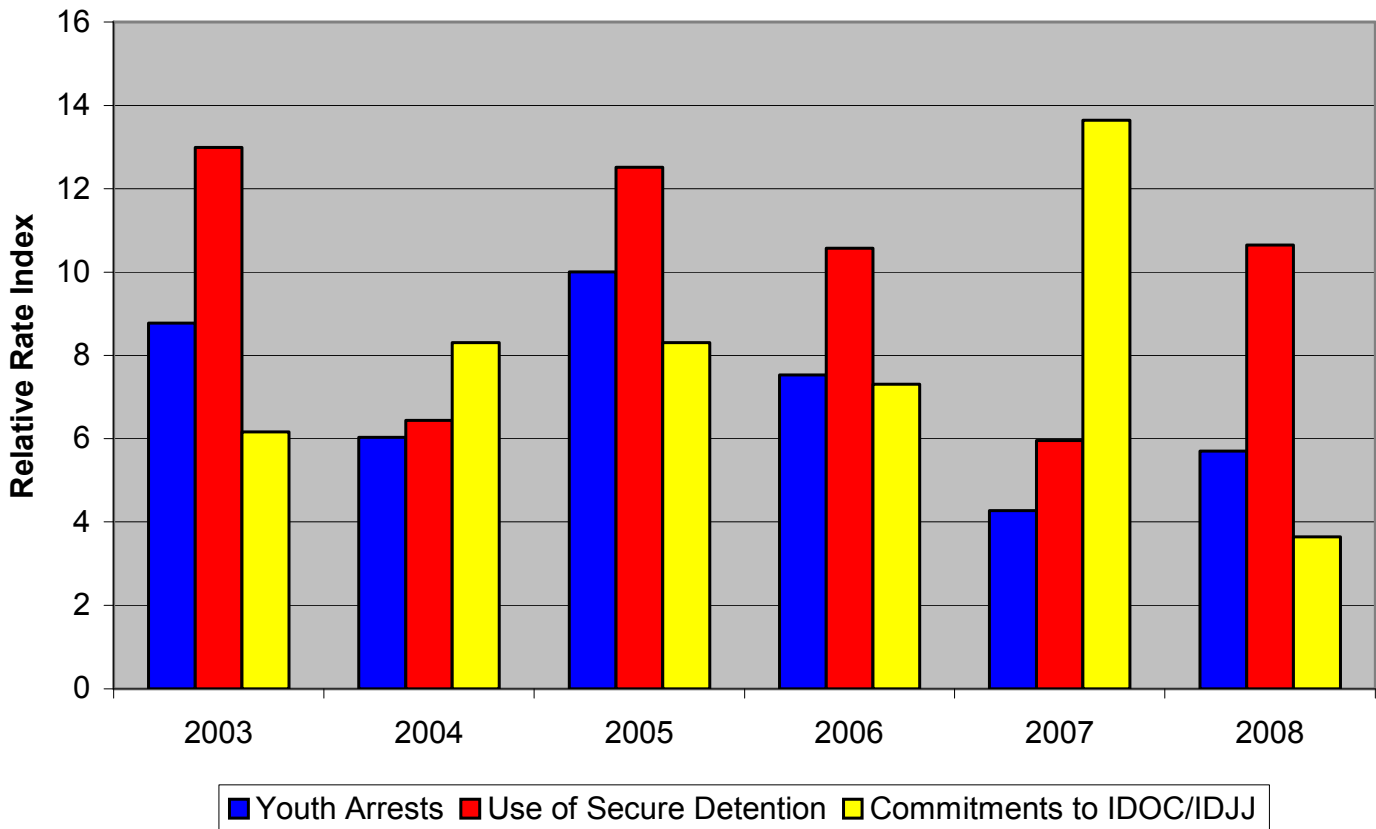
A score of 1.0 is equal representation. Anything significantly over or under 1.0 is a disproportionate contact. In Macon County there is a significant over-representation of black youth being arrested, held in secure detention and being sent to IDJJ. Conversely, white youth are under-represented in all three categories.

In Macon County, approximately 23.5% of the youth population age 10-16 is comprised of black youth. By looking at percentage of the population alone, it would be assumed that about 23.5% of youth getting arrested are black. However, there is a disproportionate overrepresentation of black youth being arrested and being detained. This is called Disproportionate Minority Contact. These high rates of arrest and detention are affected by poverty rates in the black community, education levels, attitudes of police and judicial staff, etc.

Efforts to reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) have heightened community awareness of the issue and have given us a lot of data about DMC. The DMC initiative has been part many changes in the community to reduce juvenile crime and detention, including several diversion and deflection programs. Overall juvenile crime rates are coming down, however, none of the efforts have been able to change disproportionality.

3. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2008 Annual Report

Relative Rate Index for Macon County



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Whereas the Representation Index compares a minority's contact with law enforcement to the percentage of the population that the minority group makes up, the Relative Rate Index compares the minority group to the reference group, or majority group. The relative rate index for Macon County represents the representative rate of black youth compared to the representative rate of white youth.

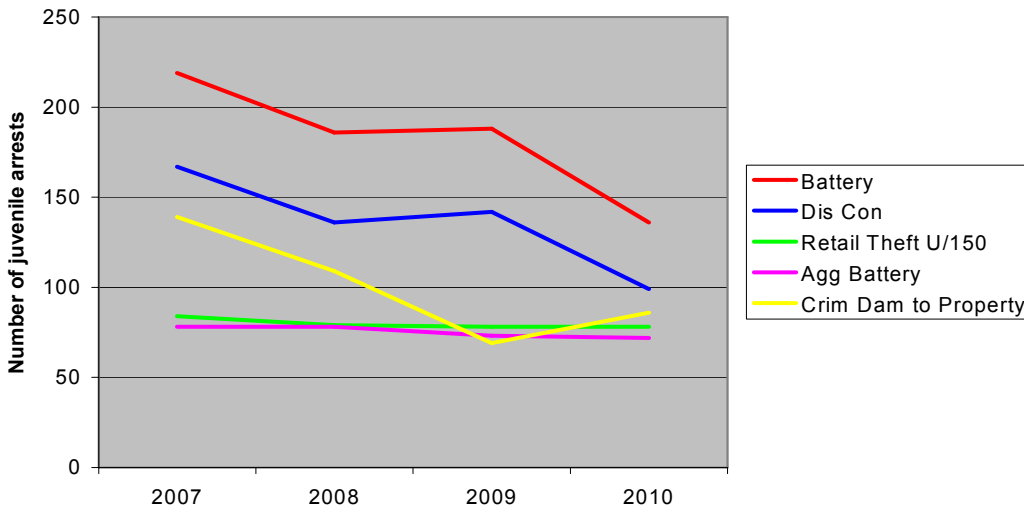
The likelihood of a black youth being arrested in 2008 was about 6 times as likely as that of a white youth. In general, the RI runs at about 3 for black youth and the RRI runs at about 6. Also, in state and national data, disproportionality increases the further in to the justice system you look. Therefore, disproportionality is more common for commitments to IDOC/IDJJ than it is for arrests.

For Macon County, the Relative rate for use of secure detention has remained persistently high.

The Relative Rate for commitments to IDOC/IDJJ has come down in recent years, with the exclusion of 2007, an outlier in the trend.

In 2008 you really begin to see the impact of Redeploy in the relative rate index for commitments to IDJJ. This year, Macon County saw great reductions in the number of youth going to the IDJJ. This was in part due to an effort to reduce ALL kids going to IDJJ, but since most of the kids who were headed to IDJJ were black, the disproportionality came down when the overall numbers came down. There is also disproportionality in the Redeploy program, which works with a higher number of black youth than white youth.

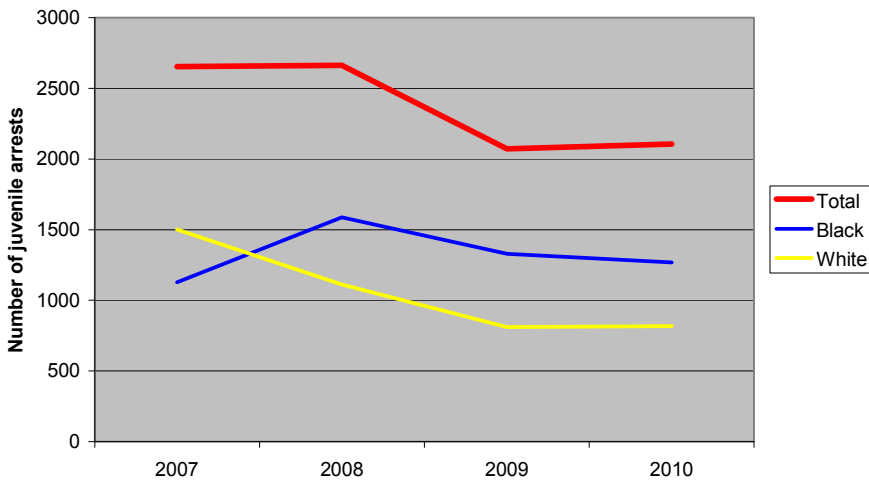
City of Decatur Juvenile Arrests Top 5 Offenses



Source: Decatur Police Department

The Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Initiative, in partnership with the Decatur Police Department and Macon County Court Services, has been collecting data on arrests, probation and detention since 2007. This data is disaggregated by race/ethnicity and gender. The arrest information shown here is not for Macon County as a whole, but for the City of Decatur.

City of Decatur Juvenile Arrests By Race

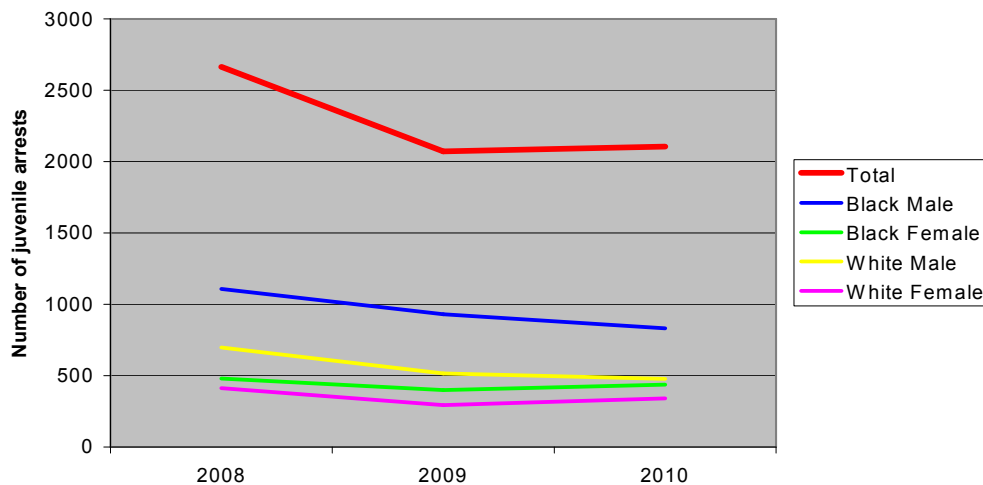


Source: Decatur Police Department

The DMC data analysis team has concentrated much of their efforts at analyzing the top offenses for juvenile arrests. This graphs shows the top 5 offenses- battery, disorderly conduct, retail theft under \$150, aggravated battery and criminal damage to property.

This data is useful because, with a bit of manipulation, we can see what offenses are happening the most and which groups are committing these “top” crimes. We can then use this data to better target programs and services to address the right issues.

City of Decatur Total Juvenile Arrests By Race and Gender



Source: Decatur Police Department

RISK FACTORS

The next section examines the risk factors in Macon County and its bordering counties and similar counties.

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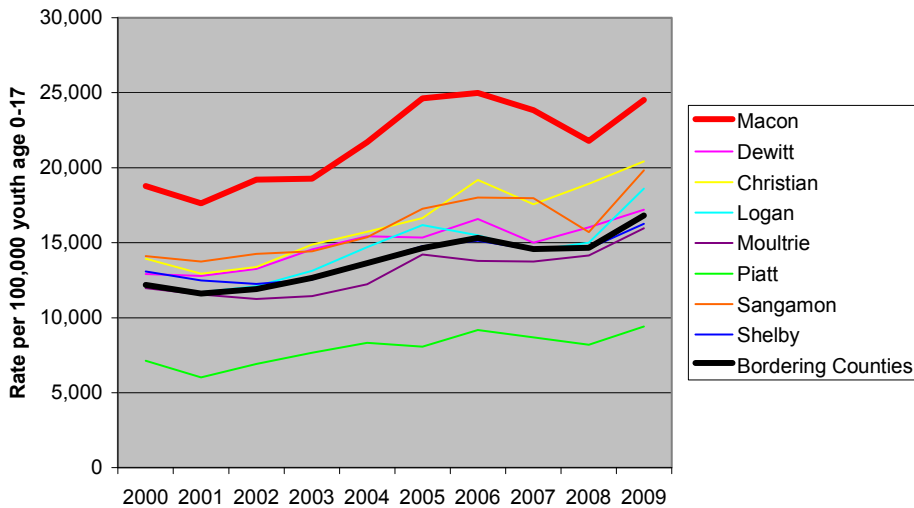
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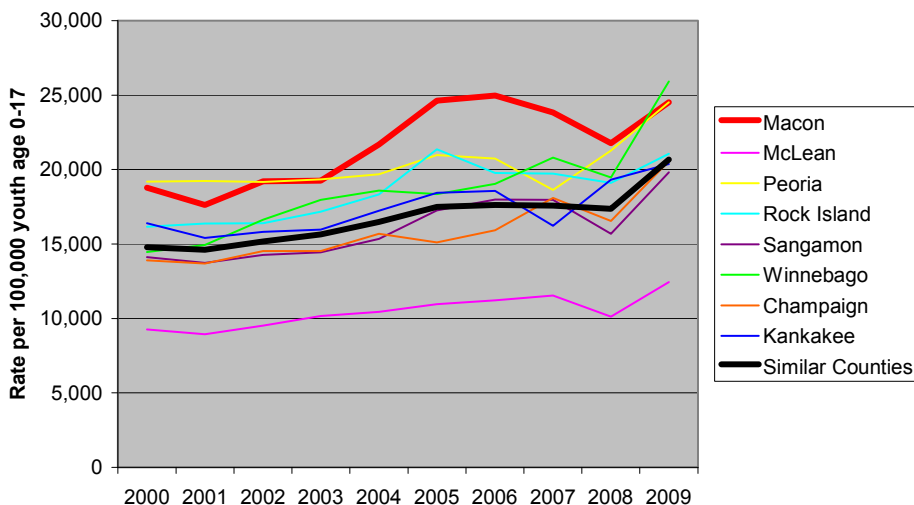
Child Abuse and Neglect Indicated for Macon County and Similar Counties 47

**Estimated Number of Youth Living in Poverty
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Estimated Number of Youth Living in Poverty
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

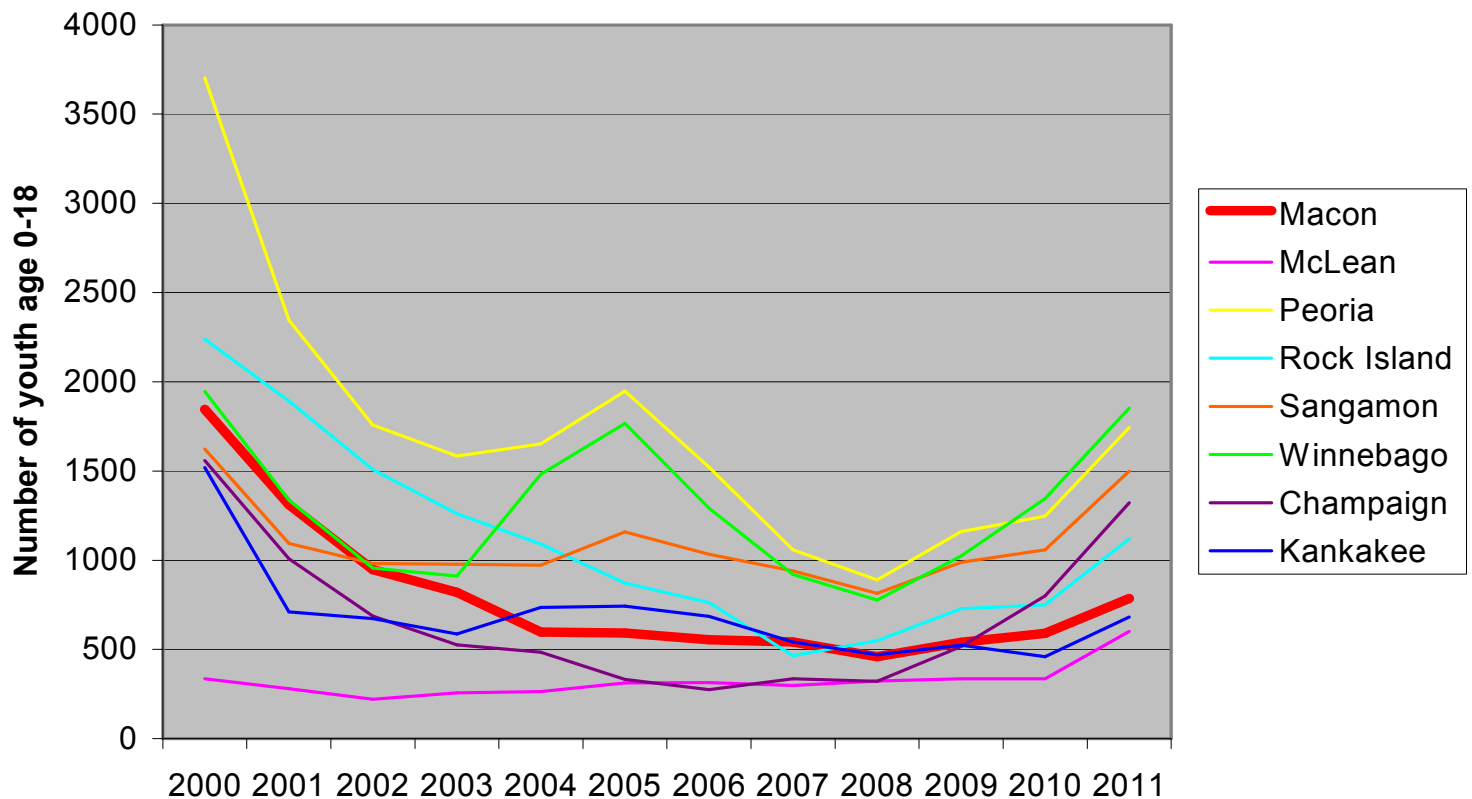
These graphs show only financial poverty. This is a measure of youth living below the poverty level. In the Continental United States, the poverty level for an individual is \$10,890 per year, \$14,710 for 2 people and \$3,820 extra for each additional person in the household. The poverty level is very low and those who make more than this may still feel the strains of living in poverty, although they are not counted as living in poverty.

Poverty is not only the condition of living on a small income. Poverty is a condition that hinders one's opportunities for advancement. There are significant gaps in educational attainment between low-income and non-low-income students. Educational attainment will in turn affect job prospects in the future, especially in today's economy when there are few well-paid positions for the uneducated.

Macon County has significantly higher levels of youth living in poverty than all bordering counties. Until 2009, Macon County also had higher rates of youth living in poverty than all similar counties. However, in 2009, Peoria and Winnebago Counties surpassed Macon County. All counties saw an increase in the youth in poverty rate in 2009 due to the financial crisis.

The high poverty rate in Macon County is alarming. Living in poverty is not necessarily a *cause* of criminal behavior. However, the conditions surrounding life in poverty, especially generational poverty, are conducive to criminal behavior. Many youth coming through the judicial system are low-income youth. Although there are always many exceptions to the generalization, poverty levels are most likely a factor in crime levels, as well as other issues facing Macon County including teen pregnancies, truancy and drop-out rates.

Youth Receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

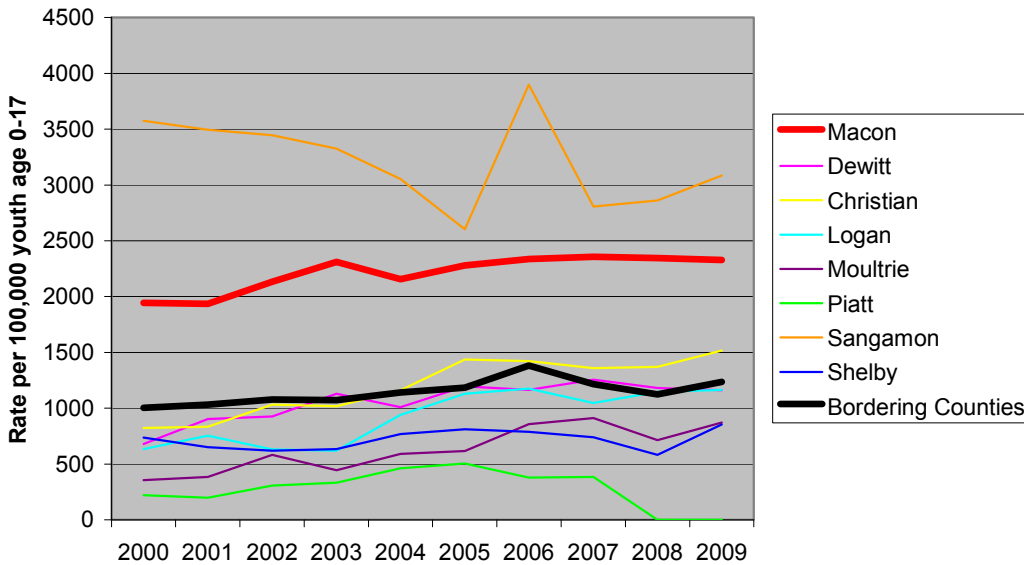
The Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program is a federal poverty program designed to assist individuals with children to get to self-sufficiency. There are a limited number of services offered, such as job training and education, to assist families in reaching this goal of self-sufficiency. Unfortunately, funding is limited for these programs, especially in downstate Illinois.

Participants are only allowed 60 months of time in the federal program. However, under certain circumstances, the state may “stop the clock” by paying recipients out of the state budget rather than the federal budget. One way this would happen is if you are working at least 30 hours, but still meet income qualifications. The number of families for whom this is the case is relatively small compared to the general population of those receiving TANF. Another way that the clock would be stopped is in Child-Only cases. For example, if a child’s parents are gone and the child is living with grandparents, the child may qualify for TANF under the state budget and will therefore not be subject to the 60-month maximum.

This graph represents the actual *number* of youth receiving benefits; this is not the *rate* for each county. Macon County has lower numbers than counties such as Peoria, Winnebago and Sangamon; however, these counties are also significantly larger than Macon County. McLean County and Champaign County have generally had lower numbers of youth receiving benefits, even though their populations are larger than Macon County’s.

The trend for Macon County is very interesting. The poverty rate actually increased from 2000 to 2006, however, the number of youth receiving TANF benefits actually decreased during this same time. This could have happened due to the success of programs aimed to assist families in becoming self-sufficient. Other reasons include the difficulty of applying, or exhausting benefits.

Youth Receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Macon County and Bordering Counties

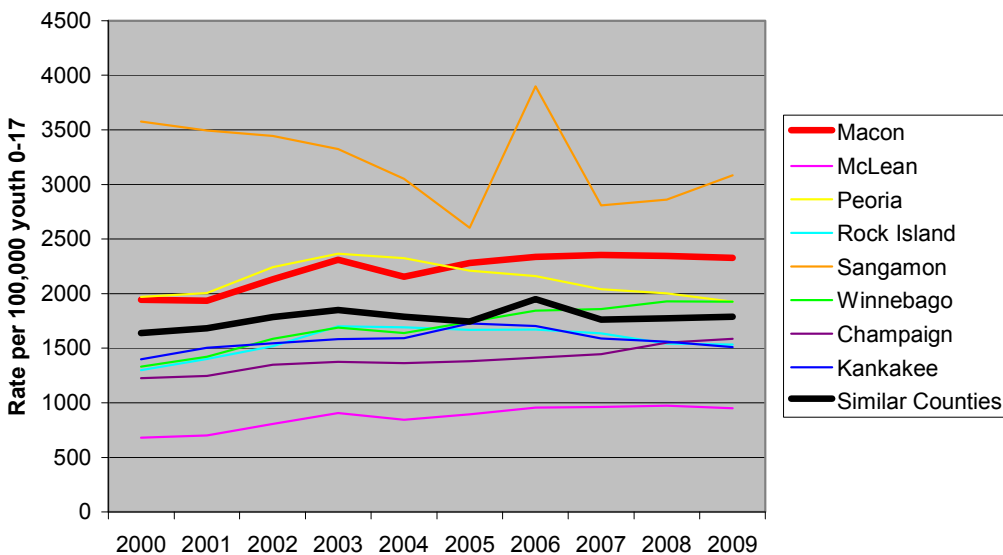


Source: Interpretation of Social Security Administration Data

Social Security Income is a needs-based program based on disability. Benefits for children depend on the parents' income, number of children in the home, etc. Income includes wages, child support and other benefits such as social security and public aid.

Macon County has significantly higher levels of youth receiving SSI and is slightly higher than the average rates of similar counties. Macon County has also seen increasing numbers since 2000. This is most likely due to the increased unemployment and poverty rates. As far as raw numbers go (rather than rate), there are 556 youth in Macon County who receive Supplemental Security Income benefits.

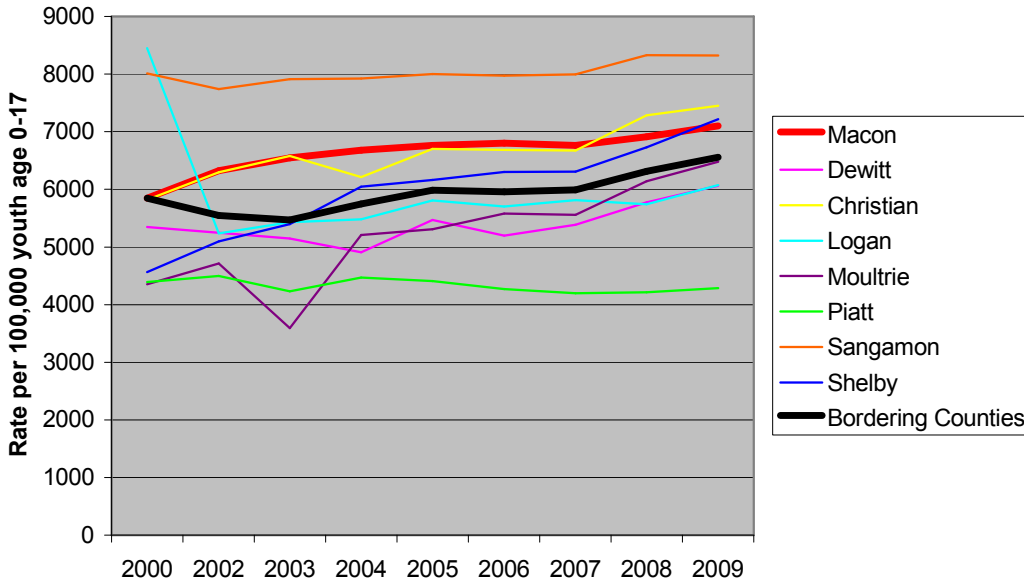
Youth Receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: Interpretation of Social Security Administration Data

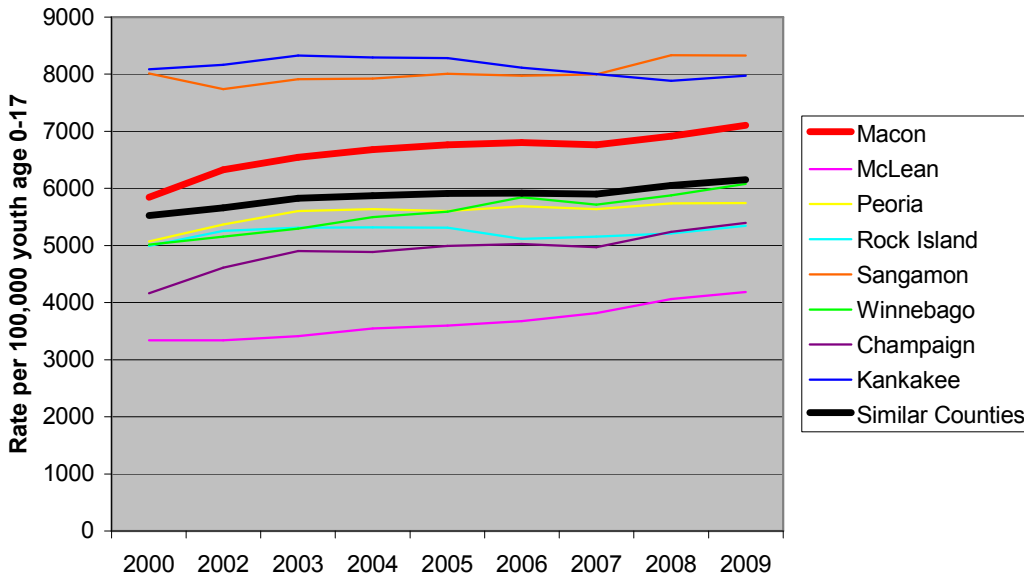
Social Security is based on earning history. SSI is an alternative for those who have no work history, such as children and who are disabled or are dependant on someone who is disabled.

Youth Receiving Social Security Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: Interpretation of Social Security Administration Data

Youth Receiving Social Security Benefits Macon County and Similar Counties



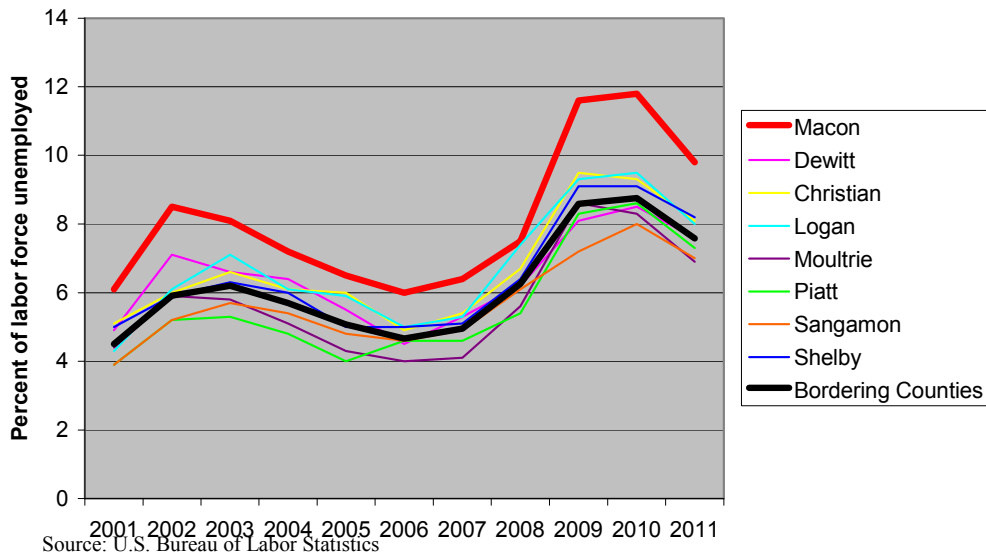
Source: Interpretation of Social Security Administration Data

Social Security, or the Old-age, Survivors and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program, is based on earnings, therefore, children would not be eligible to receive benefits on their own record. However, a child could be eligible to receive benefits if they are dependant on a parent/grandparent/guardian who is receiving benefits.

In Macon County there are 230 youth under 18 receiving retirement benefits in 2010, 820 receiving survivors benefits and 710 receiving disability benefits.

The number of youth receiving Social Security benefits has slowly crept up since 2000. This increase may be in part due to an aging population and/or the high unemployment rates. In Macon County, 15.6% of the population is 65 years or older. The state and national proportions are 12.1% and 12.6% respectively. Likewise, Macon County has higher unemployment rates than both state and national levels.

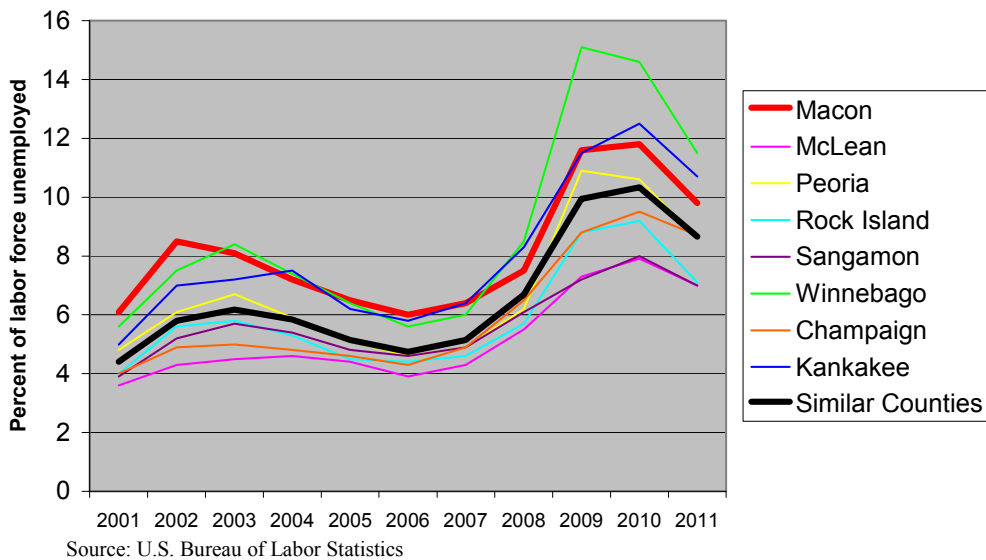
Unemployment Rate Macon County and Bordering Counties



The official unemployment rate only measures those who “have actively looked for work in the prior 4 weeks, and are currently available for work. Persons who were not working and were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been temporarily laid off are also included as unemployed.”⁴

Similar to youth living in poverty, Macon County has higher rates of unemployment than all bordering counties and most similar counties. Macon County does follow the same trends of unemployment, dipping with state and national levels, and rising at times of national economic crisis.

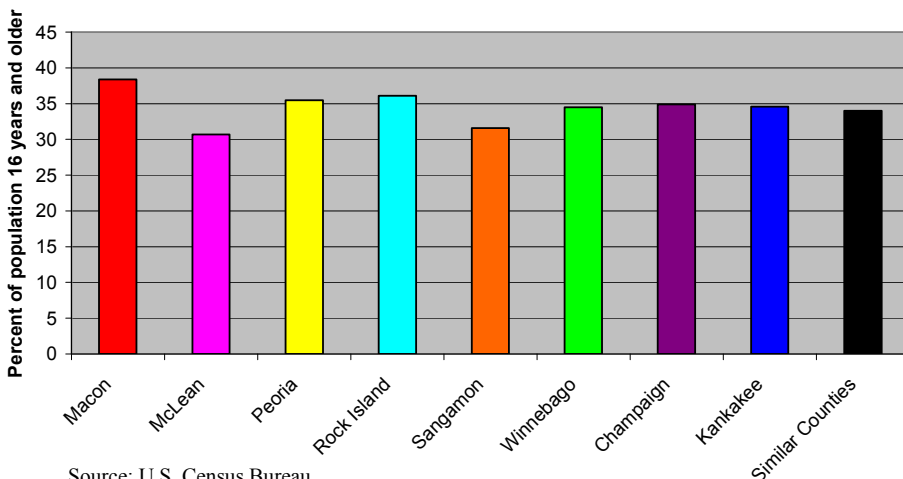
Unemployment Rate Macon County and Similar Counties



However, there are many people who do not fit in to this category and are therefore not counted in the official Unemployment Rate. There are also many people who are “not in the labor force.” These are people who may be out of work, but have not looked for a job in the previous 4 weeks, or are unavailable to work, due to temporary disability, family/care giving responsibilities or otherwise. In 2008, there were 32,662 people (age 16 and older) in Macon County who were considered to be “not in the labor force.”⁵

In Macon County, the percentage of the population 16 year or older that is considered to be “not in the labor force” is higher than that of all other similar counties and all bordering counties except Christian and Logan Counties, which stand at 41.8% and 44.9%, respectively (graph for bordering counties not shown).

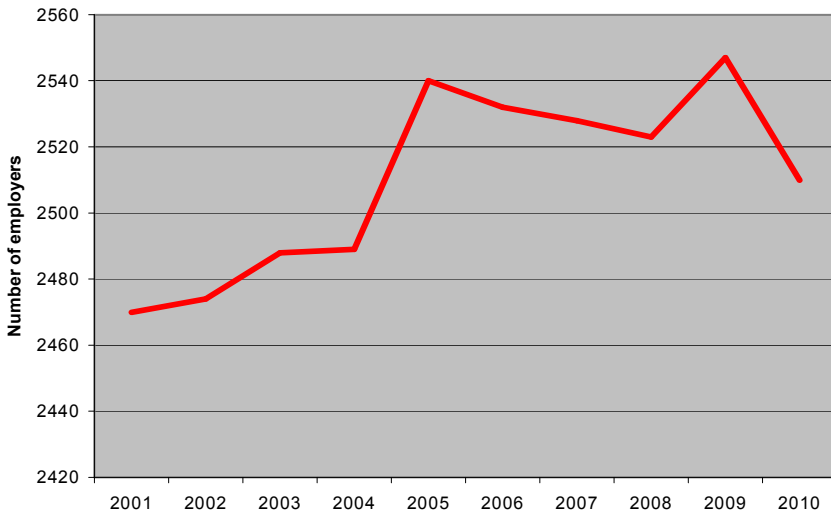
Population "Not in the Labor Force" Macon County and Similar Counties



4. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics

5. Decatur and Macon County Economic Development Corporation, Labor Force

Number of Employers in Macon County

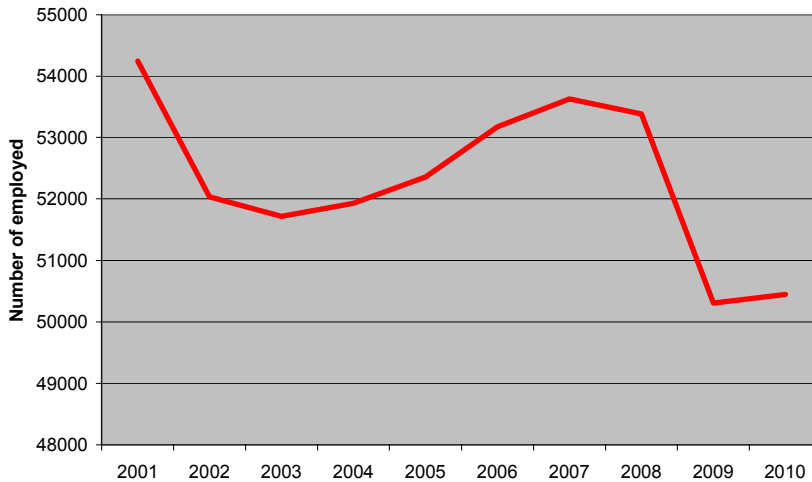


Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Macon County employment data looks a little different when you break it down by employers, employed and wages earned.

The number of employers in Macon County has actually risen since 2001, however, the number of employed has dramatically decreased. Throughout the graph, whenever the number of employers rises, the number of employed decreases and vice versa. This would suggest that Macon County is losing large employers and gaining small businesses that can only afford to employ a few workers.

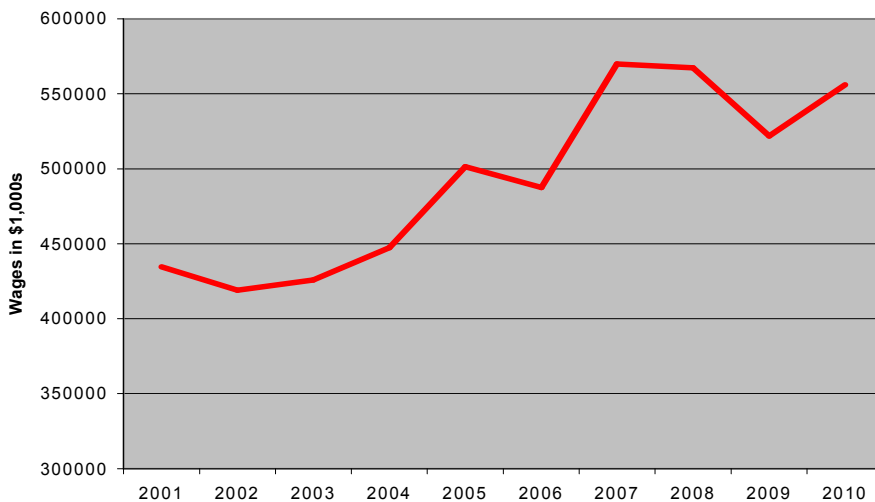
Number of Employed in Macon County



Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Since 2001, Macon County has 7% fewer workers in the formal economy. This data from the Illinois Department of Employment Security is more recent and we see a dramatic decrease in employment after 2008. In 2010 Macon County saw a tiny rise in employment – only 145 more people total were employed in 2010 than in 2009. As is the case with the rest of the state and the country, the economic recovery is very slow and unemployment rates remain high.

Total Wages in Macon County



Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Wages have also increased over the past 10 years, however, these rates are not adjusted for inflation. In 2008, the average rate of inflation was 3.85%, the highest rate in the past 10 years. However, wages remained stagnant from 2007 to 2008 even though employment was virtually the same.

Top 3 Industries Macon County and Similar Counties⁶

Macon County: Education, HealthCare and Social Services (22%); Manufacturing (22%); and Retail (11%)

McLean County: Education, HealthCare and Social Services (23%); Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (20%); and Retail (11%)

Peoria: Education, HealthCare and Social Services (24%); Manufacturing (16%); and Retail (11%)

Rock Island: Education, HealthCare and Social Services (21%); Manufacturing (17%); and Retail (11%)

Sangamon: Education, Health Care and Social Services (24%); Public Administration (14%); and Retail (11%)

Winnebago: Manufacturing (22%); Education, HealthCare and Social Services (21%); and Retail (11%)

Champaign: Education, HealthCare and Social Services (37%); Retail (11%); and Arts, Entertainment and Food Service (10%)

Kankakee: Education, HealthCare and Social Services (26%); Manufacturing (13%); and Retail (12%)

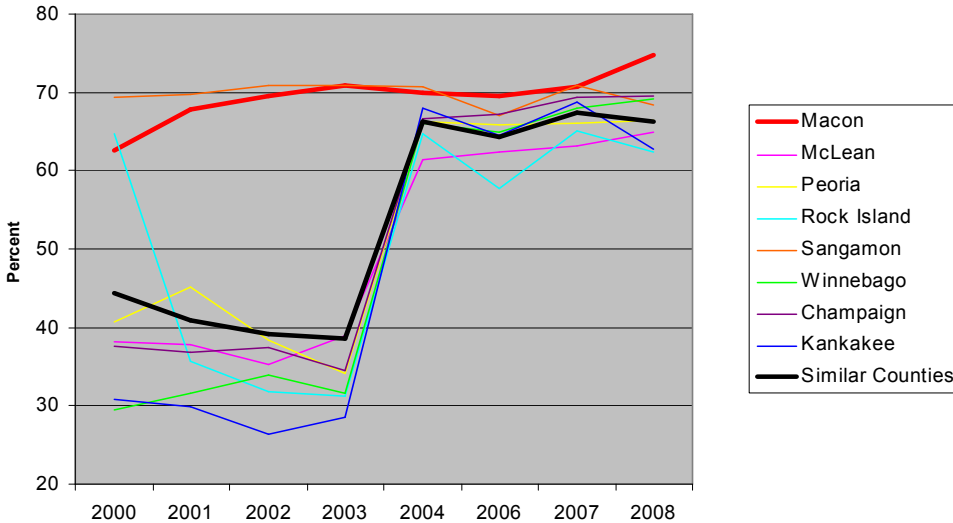
It is important to get a well-rounded understanding of each county and their business climate in relation to unemployment and poverty levels. McLean, Champaign and Sangamon Counties have the lowest levels of unemployment and poverty levels. These are also the counties whose top 3 industries do *not* include manufacturing. This is, of course, a trend throughout the United States. We can look at high profile examples, such as Detroit, which have been devastated by loss of industry due to outsourcing and foreign competition. Counties that have not historically relied on manufacturing jobs have been better equipped to keep jobs in the community.

At this point, we cannot expect manufacturing to come back to the United States in the near future. Manufacturing provided jobs for the less educated populations, which still reside in Macon, Kankakee, Winnebago and Rock Island Counties.

⁶ US Census Bureau, Narrative Profiles.

This number is the self-reported number of inmates who have children. It is not specified whether or not the children are dependent children in the home or under the age of 18, as the question posed to incoming inmates is simply “Do you have children?”

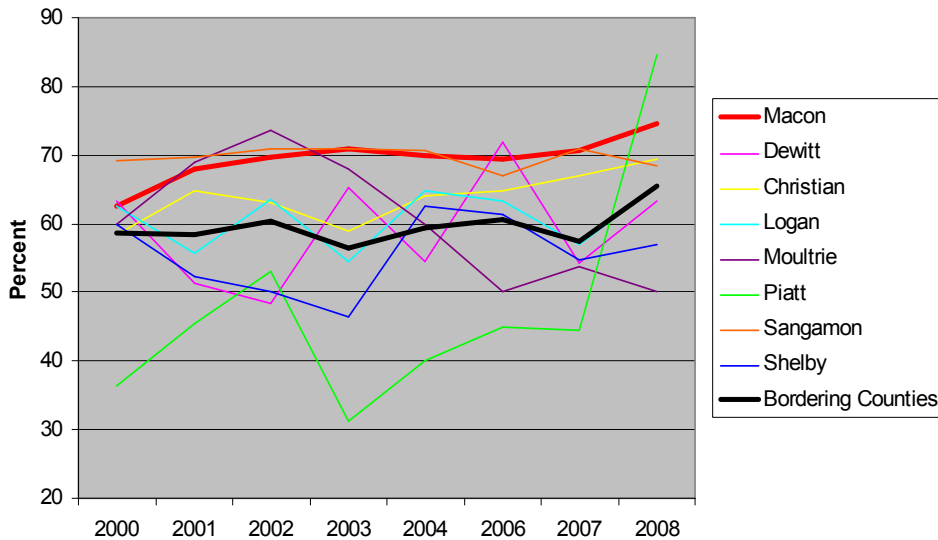
**Inmates with Children
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Macon County has had consistently high numbers of inmates with children. There is a significantly higher percentage of inmates with children in Macon County than the average in Bordering Counties. Macon County has had more consistently high levels than its counterparts, but similar counties saw a dramatic increase in the percentage of inmates with children in 2004- most counties jumping from the 30-40% range to mid-60s. This increase is most likely a result in a change in reporting standards.

**Inmates with Children
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

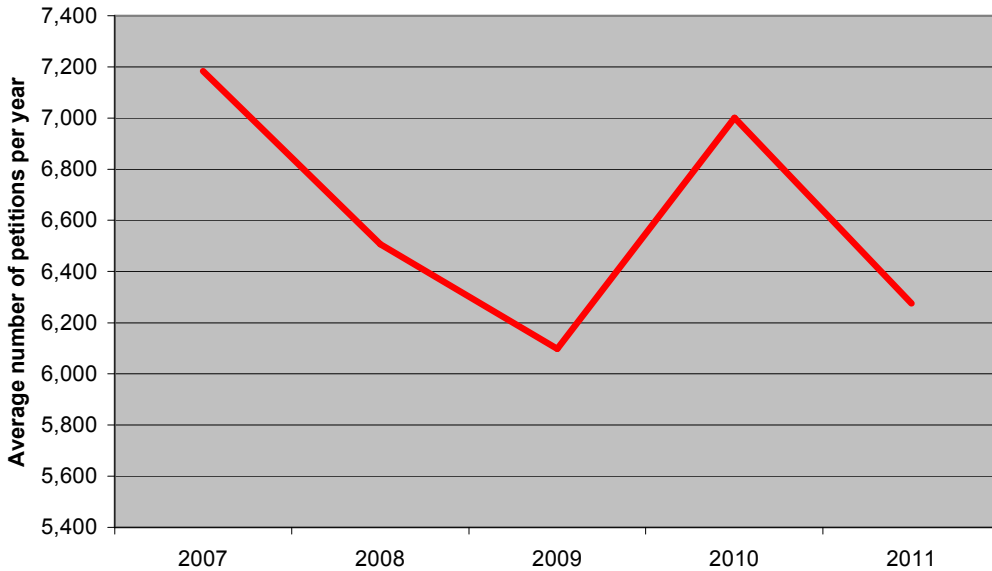


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

This is an important risk factor because children of incarcerated parents are more likely to enter the justice system themselves. These children are missing someone important in their lives and often do not have many positive role models. For this reason, organizations such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters target children of incarcerated parents for programs and services.

Unfortunately, the Mentoring Children of Incarcerate Parents Federal Grant Program has been de-funded and will cease its operations as of September 2011. Big Brothers/Big Sisters will certainly continue to work with this population in their usual operations, but their program to recruit this population will end in September.

Child Support Petitions Filed in Macon County

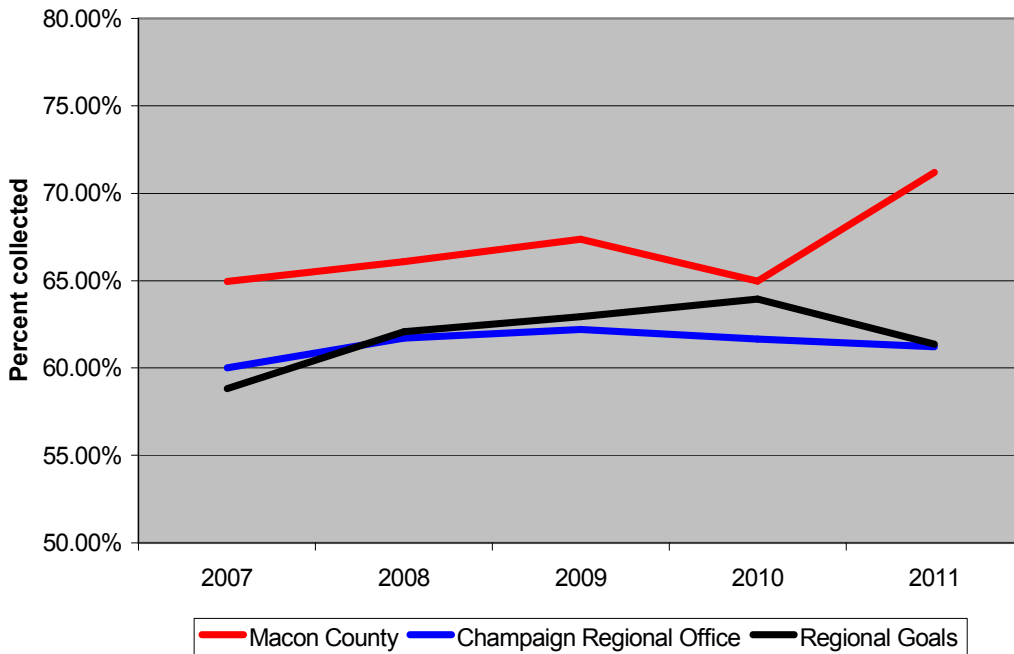


Source: Illinois Department of Health Care and Family Services

Macon County aggressively pursues child support cases. The States Attorney's Office works to establish and enforce child support orders. They offer services to find the non-custodial, genetic parent through investigation and genetic testing. Macon County has been consistently above the regional goals for collections and orders. This means that Macon County is able to collect more money in child support than the regional goal and is able to establish more child support orders than the regional goal.

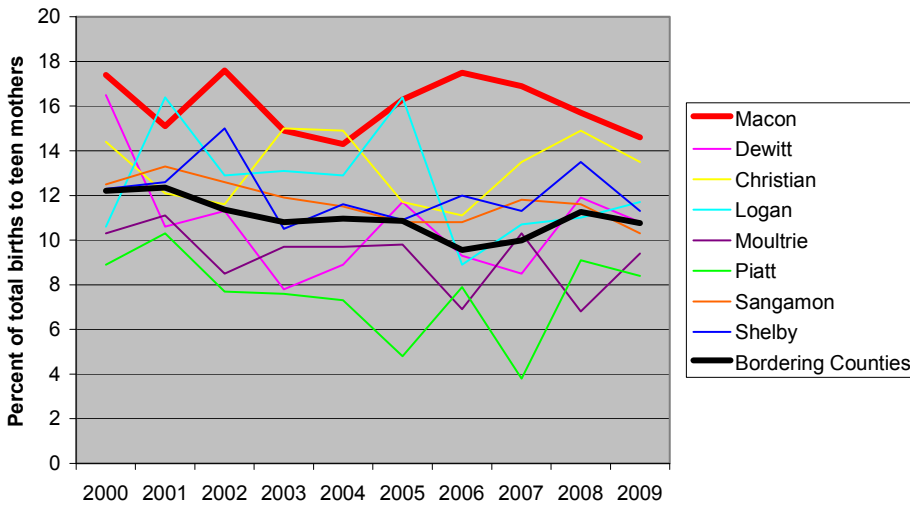
The majority of custodial parents (parent with custody of the child) are mothers. There is a small minority of grandparents, fathers, other family, or foster parents who have custody of the child.

Child Support Collections in Macon County



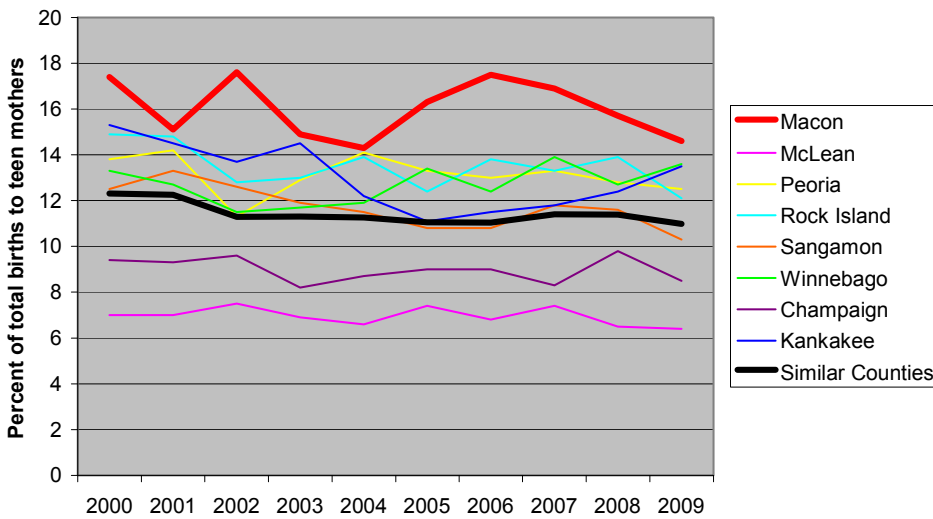
Source: Illinois Department of Health Care and Family Services

**Births to Teen Mothers
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

**Births to Teen Mothers
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

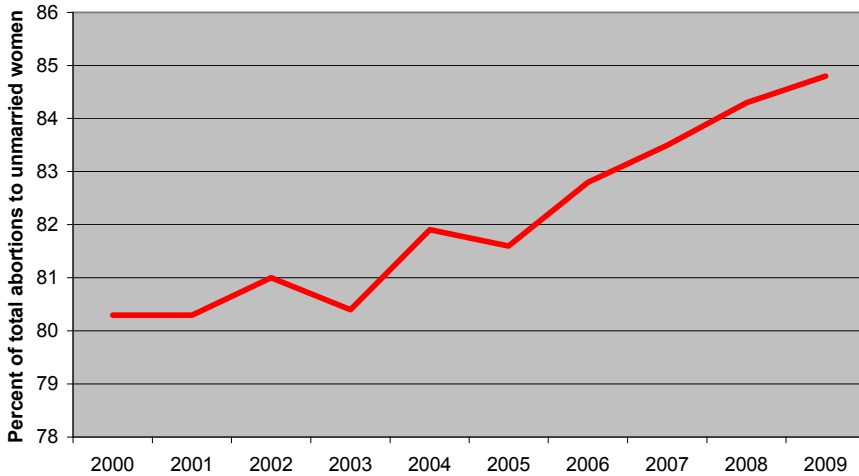
Macon County has consistently high birth rates to teen mothers. Although the numbers decreased from 2007-2009, Macon County is still consistently higher than most other bordering *and* similar counties.

Teen pregnancy is a risk factor for young women because becoming a mother often disrupts a young woman's education. Pregnancy, and child rearing often comes with great emotional stress, especially for young women without a strong financial and emotional support system. Teen mothers are still children themselves and are forced to mature very quickly.

Children of teen mothers are at increased risk for becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. Many of these young mothers are single parents and at a higher risk for living at or below the poverty line. Unplanned pregnancies, be that to teens or adults, affects programs such as Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), which most often serve single-parent families.

The State of Illinois has recently cut funding for the Teen Parent Program from county Health Departments. Macon County will be among the counties losing funding for this successful program. This program, which started in 1999 worked to reduce barriers to success for parents under 21 years old. Case managers assisted the young parents in their efforts to continue and complete their education and to achieve self-sufficiency. Due to the success of this program, the Health Department has expressed an interest in continuing this program in some capacity.

**Pregnancy Terminations to Unmarried Women
Illinois**

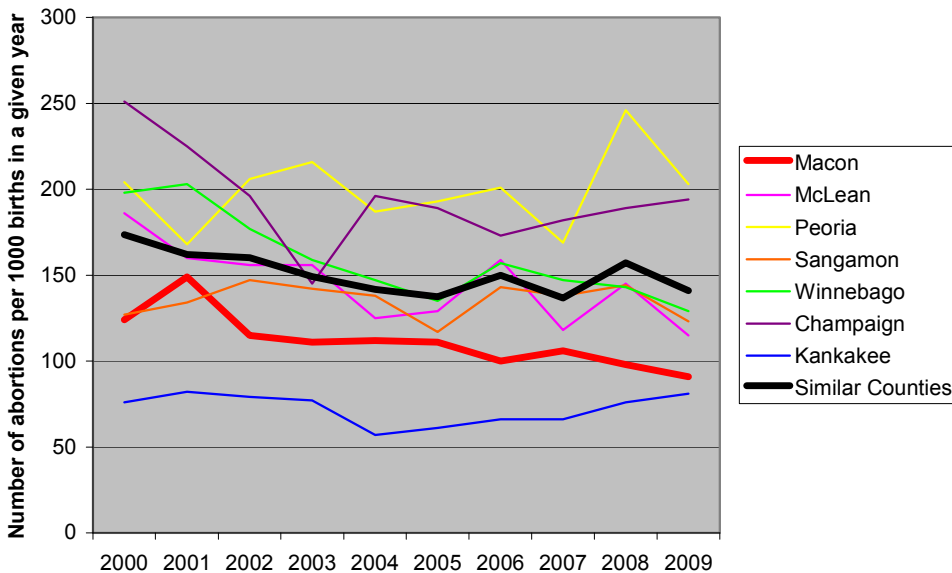


Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

The first graph here represents data for Illinois as a whole. These numbers are not disaggregated by counties. In 2009, nearly 85% of all pregnancy terminations were to unmarried women. In 2009, there were 16,376 births to teen mothers in Illinois. In this same year, there were 7212 pregnancy terminations to women 19 and younger. It can be assumed that most of these young women were also unmarried due to their age.

Macon County has lower abortion rates than almost all similar counties other than Kankakee. One of the main reasons for this is that there are no abortion services in Macon County. Women in Macon County must go to other counties in order to receive abortion services. This makes abortion less available for those who need these services, especially those who do not have the financial ability to leave the county for these services.

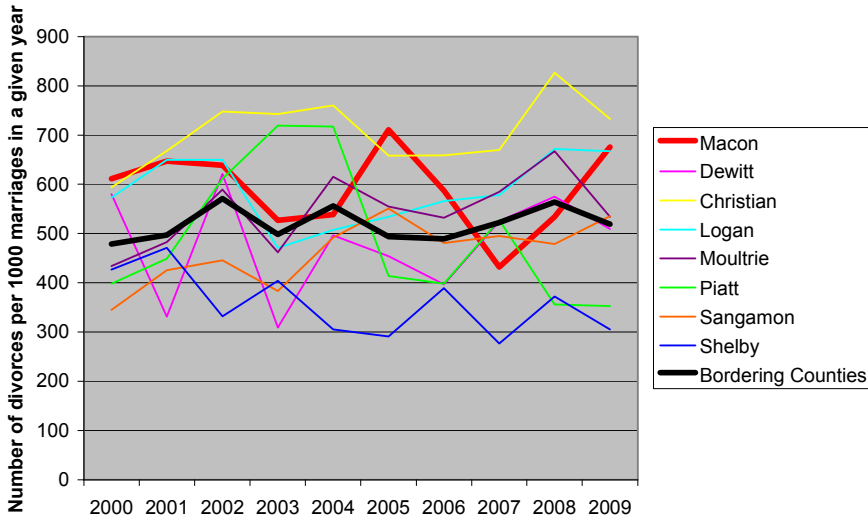
**Pregnancy Terminations
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

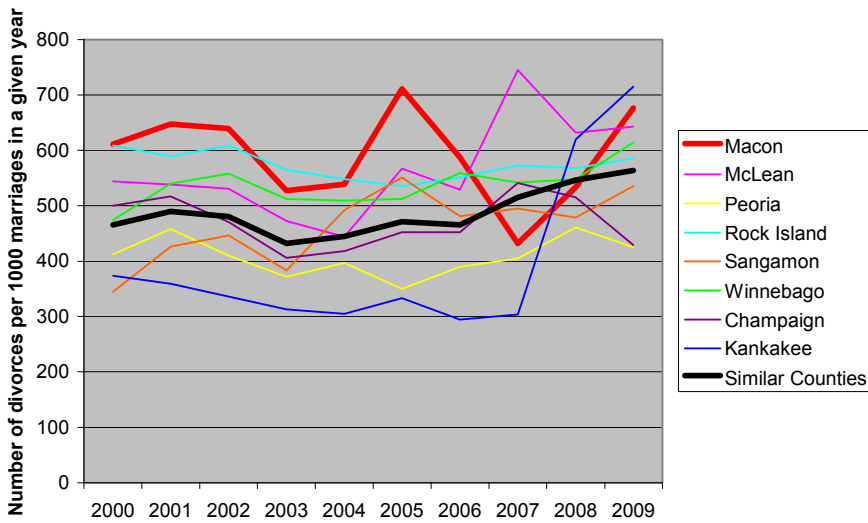
For the purpose of this document, the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council will take no stand on abortion rights, nor comment on the moral dilemma presented by these numbers.

**Divorces per 1000 Marriages
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



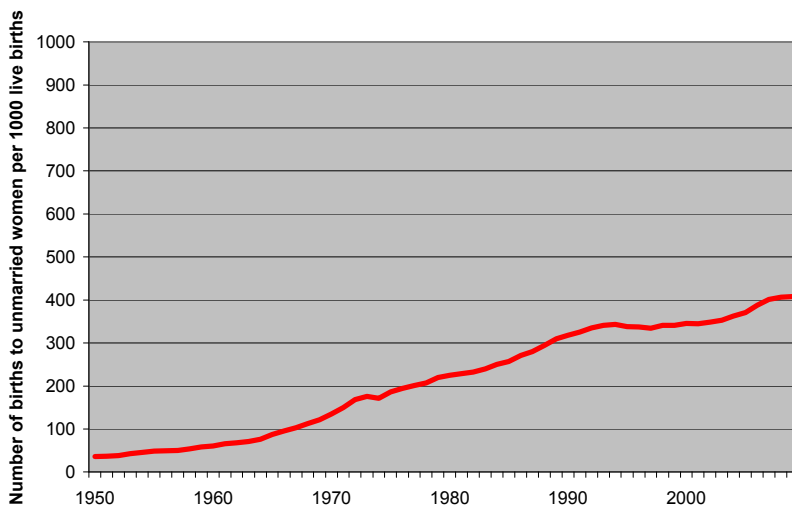
Source: Interpretation of Illinois Department of Public Health Data

**Divorces per 1000 Marriages
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Interpretation of Illinois Department of Public Health Data

Births to Unmarried Women in Illinois



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

The rate of divorce has actually decreased consistently since 2005. However, so have the marriage rate. Therefore, we decided to compare the number of divorces per year to the number of marriages in that same year.

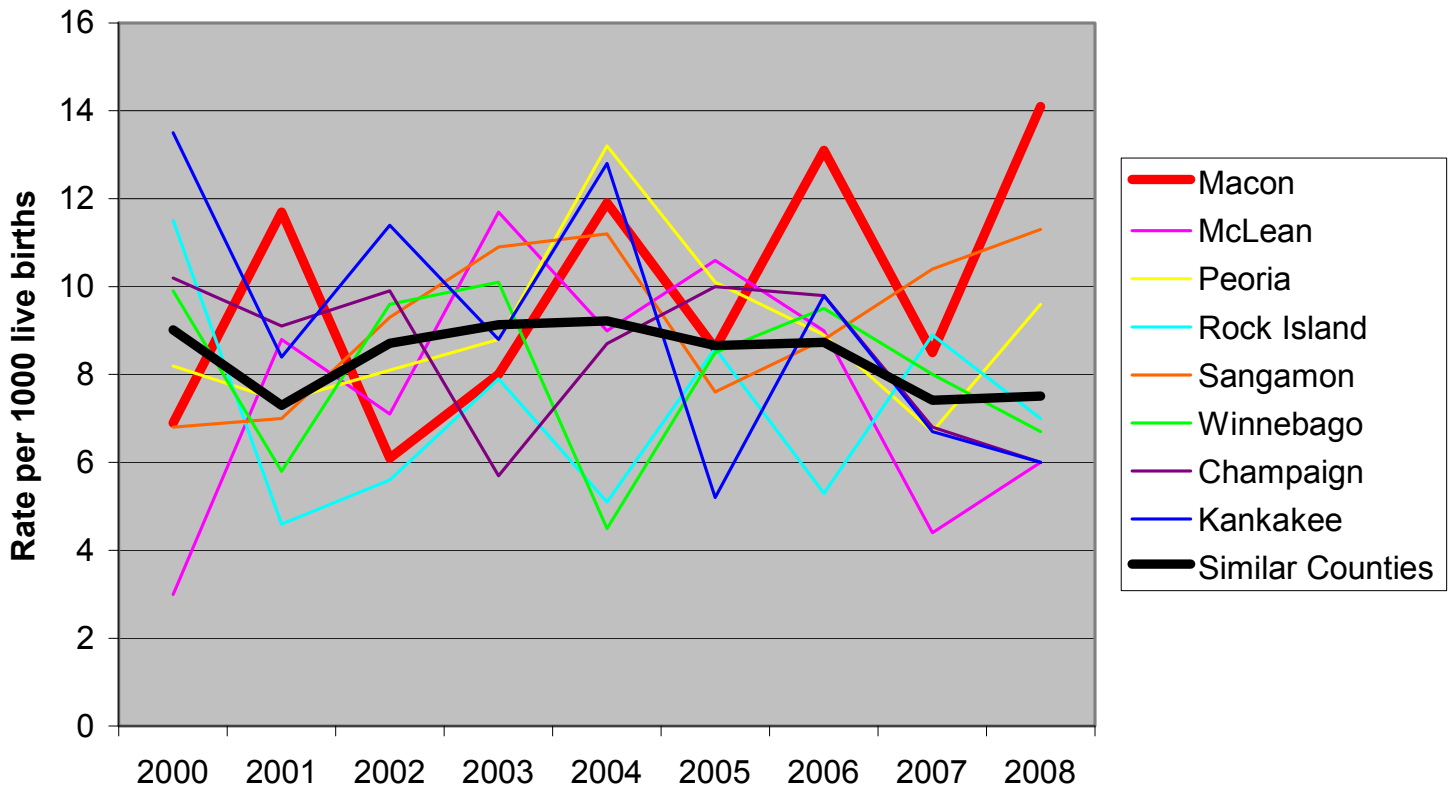
Macon County has jumped around quite a bit, on average, there are 590 divorces for every 1000 marriages.

Although the divorce rate is high, it is not necessarily true that children are involved in these divorces. This data does not give us a picture of the divorce rate among families with children. It could be true that an equal number of marriages with children end in divorce, or it could be true that couples with children are more likely to stay together.

What is more concerning than divorce rates, is the number of children whose parents were never married to begin with. As we can see, the number of children born out of wedlock has risen dramatically and consistently over the past 60 years. In 2009, more than 40% of children born in Illinois were born to unmarried women.

This statistic is of great concern because these children are more at risk of living in poverty than those with married parents. In Illinois, families with a female head of household where there is no husband present with children under 5 years old have the highest poverty levels. 45% of these families are living at or below the poverty level. On the other hand, only 5% of married couple families with children under 5 years of age are living at or below the poverty level (US Census Bureau). In Macon County, these numbers are even higher. The poverty rates for single mothers and couple families are 51.3% and 6.5% respectively for families with children under 5.

Infant Mortality Rate Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

Macon County jumps around quite a bit on this map, but is generally trending up. Macon County generally has higher infant mortality rates than its similar counties, nearly doubling the average rate of similar counties in 2008. This statistic is not comparable to most bordering counties because the number of infant deaths are very low.

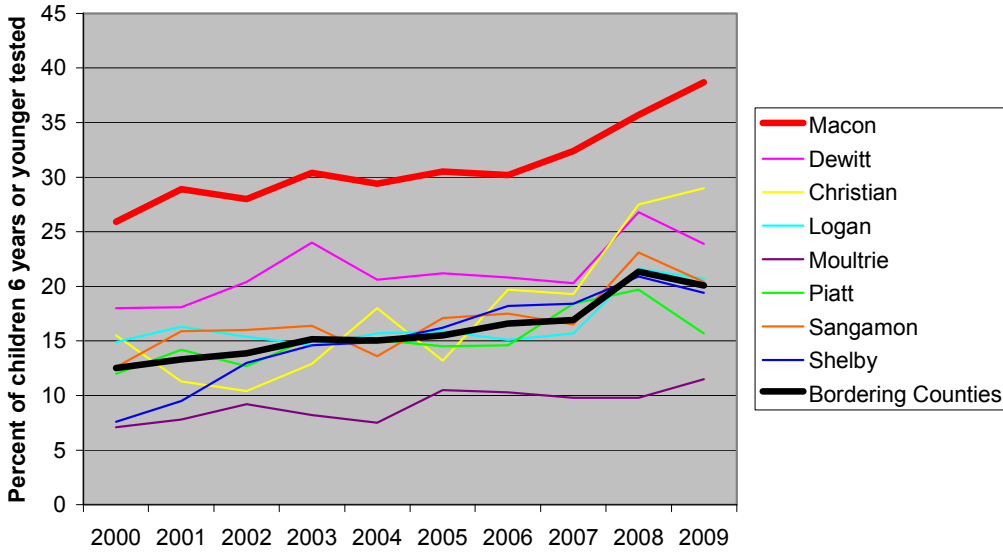
The infant mortality rate is a statistic of great interest on the global scale as well. Macon County has similar average rates of infant mortality to Kuwait, Malaysia and Guam, countries which rank 51, 52 and 53 respectively, according to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

There are several efforts in Macon County to address the rising infant mortality rate. Baby Talk runs a home visitation program through a statewide Prevention Initiative. Representatives visit 99% of all families giving birth in Decatur at Decatur Memorial Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital. Baby Talk teachers speak to all families in order to discuss their family supports and assess whether or not further interventions may be necessary.

Baby Talk is working with a number of other community partners, including the Decatur Area Education Coalition and Decatur Public School District #61, on a community wide federal grant. This grant will address issues of homelessness, substance abuse, and health. These efforts will hopefully play a role in bringing down the infant mortality rate.

All children ages 9-months to 6-years are tested for lead at the Health Department. Macon County tests children for lead poisoning at consistently higher rates than both similar and bordering counties. In 2009, Macon County tested 38.7% of all children under 6 years old.

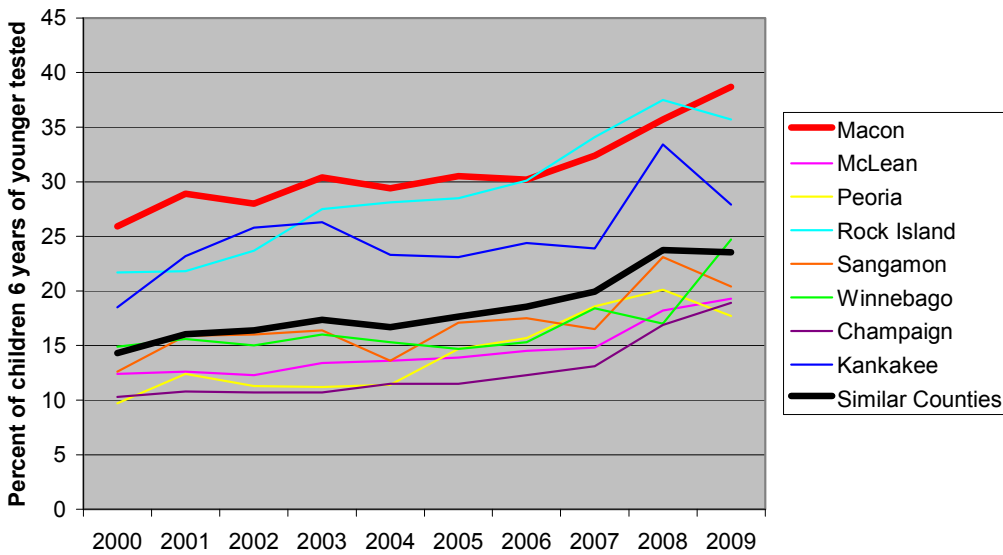
**Children 6 years or younger Tested for Lead Poisoning
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

In a study published in 2001, it was found that Lead exposure was “significantly associated with an increase in self-reported delinquent behavior.”⁷ According to Dr. John Rosen, Professor of Pediatrics and director of the lead program at the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY, lead poisoning is also linked with loss of IQ points, and deficits in language fluency, communication, memory, attention span, planning and organizing, cognitive flexibility and problem solving.⁸ The data is not necessarily conclusive in the sense of lead poisoning directly causing delinquent behavior. It is likely the case that the circumstances that lead to lead poisoning, often lead to delinquent behavior.

**Children 6 years or younger Tested for Lead Poisoning
Macon County and Similar Counties**

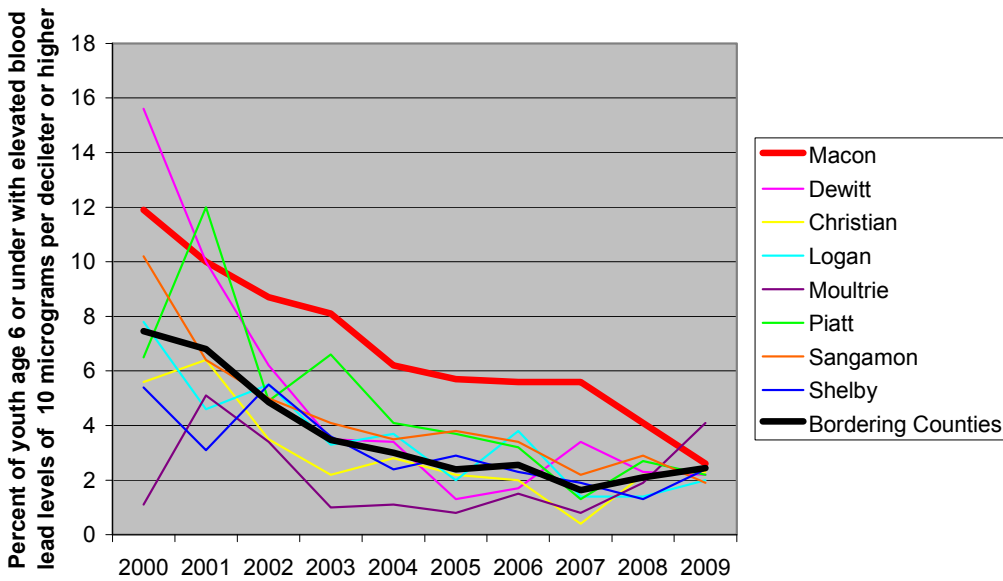


Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

7. Dietrich, Kim N., et. al. "Early Exposure to Lead and Juvenile Delinquency".

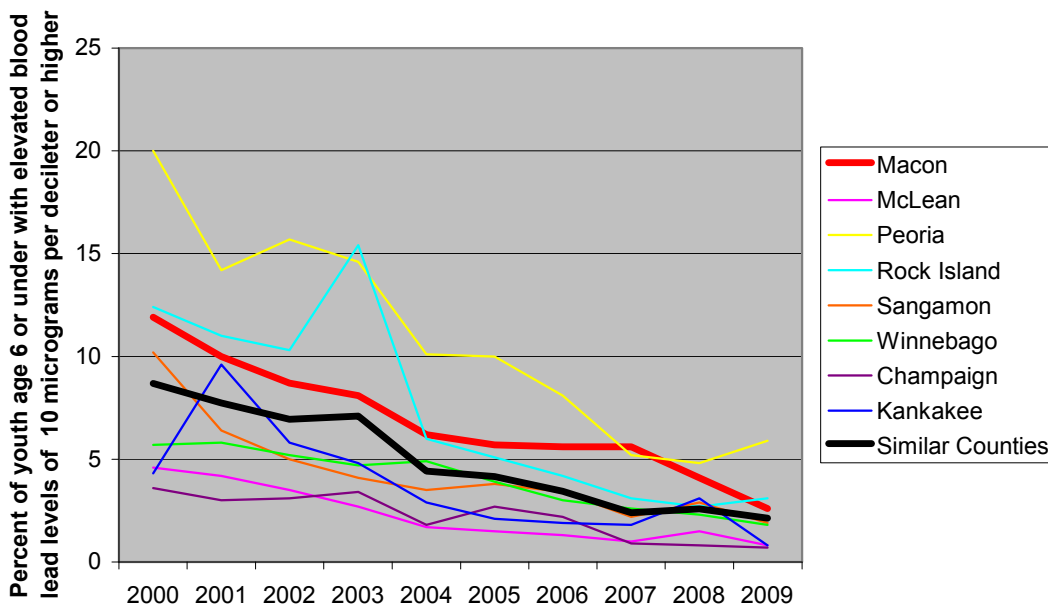
8. DeNoon, Daniel J. "Lead Poisoning and Kids".

**Children 6 years or younger with Elevated Blood Lead Levels
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

**Children 6 years or younger with Elevated Blood Lead Levels
Macon County and Similar Counties**



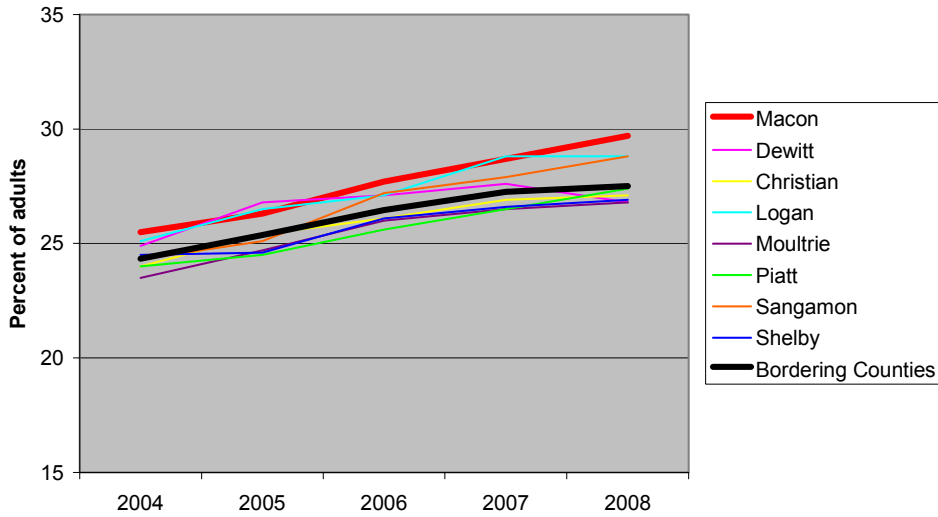
Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

Macon County, like most other counties in Illinois and the nation, has seen a decrease in the number of children with 10 micrograms/decileter or more. These graphs represent the percent of the children who were tested who tested positive for lead poisoning.

In 2008, counties in Illinois started testing for lead levels of 5micrograms/decileter or higher. In 2009, 15.9% of children tested, tested positive for lead poisoning under the lower threshold, 71% of which tested at levels of 5-9 micrograms/decileter.

Lead is frequently found in homes built before 1978, which makes up 80% of homes in Macon County. Remediation usually is as simple as a new paint job. Due to constraints in funding, the Health Department only pursues remediation when children test at 10 micrograms or higher. Children who test below 10 and above 5 micrograms receive information regarding the effects of lead exposure.

**Obesity Rates
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

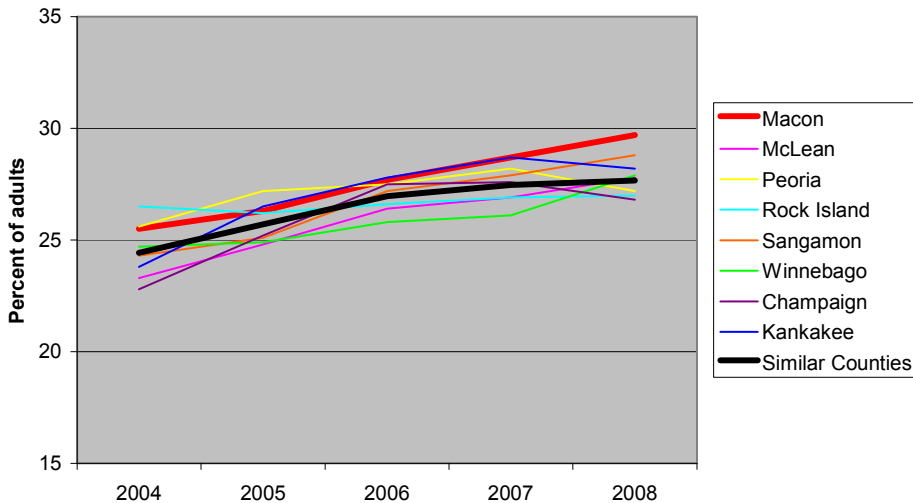


Another health related risk factor is Obesity. In the year 2008, Macon County surpassed not only bordering and similar counties, but all other counties in Illinois. In Macon County, 29.7% of adults have a body mass index of 30 or more. Since 2004, the obesity rate for every bordering and similar county has increased. In fact, obesity rates across the United States have increased dramatically over the past 20 years.

Some negative effects of obesity include increased risk for diabetes, heart disease and high cholesterol. Obesity related diseases are often costly and these increasing levels of obesity have further burdened the health care system.

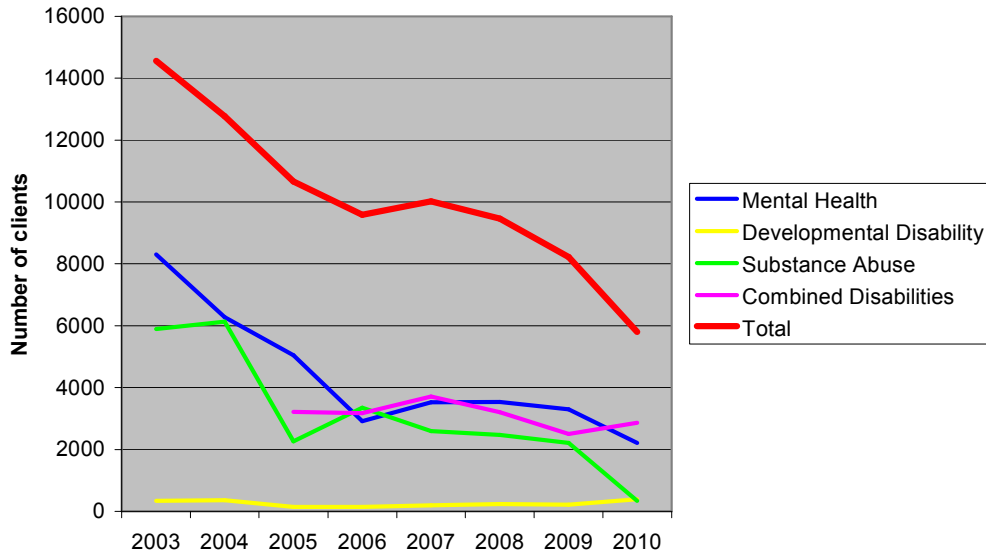
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is a significant correlation between income and obesity among women. Women at lower income levels are more likely to be obese than women in higher income brackets. Among men, however, the opposite is true. Men from lower income levels are *less* likely to be obese than men with a higher income. There is no correlation between education levels and obesity in men; however, women with higher education levels are less likely to be obese than women with less education.

**Obesity Rates
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Obesity is on the rise in adults, but also in children and adolescents. According to research done by the National Conference of State Legislatures, 34.9% of children age 10-17 are overweight or obese. According to

Disability Category for Clients Receiving Prevention and Treatment Services in Macon County y

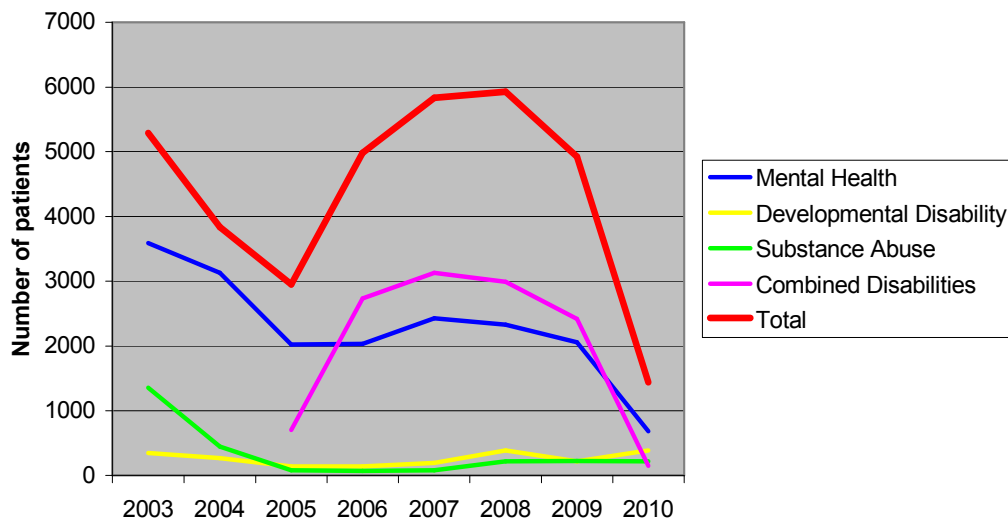


Source: Macon County Mental Health Board

The first graph represents the number of clients receiving either prevention services or treatment services. This includes all clients seen by any mental health agency overseen by the Macon County Mental Health Board. The number of clients seen for either prevention or treatment services has declined significantly from 2003 to 2010.

Mental health/mental illness and combined disabilities makes up for a large part of the total number of clients receiving prevention or treatment services. Until 2010, substance abuse prevention services were funded at similar levels to mental health and combined disabilities. However, in 2010, there were significant cuts in substance abuse prevention due to a loss of funding for after school programs that provided these services.

Disability Category for Clients Receiving Treatment Services in Macon County

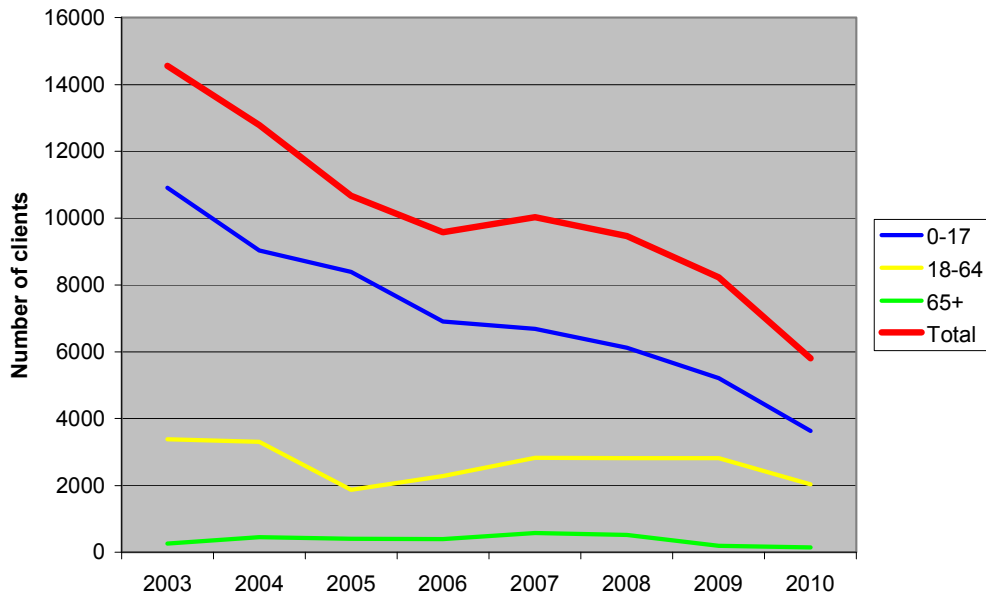


Source: Macon County Mental Health Board

The second graph represents the number of clients receiving treatment services only. These services fell dramatically in 2010. The types of disabilities that decreased the most were combined disabilities and mental health/mental illness. Since 2005, there has not been much change in the number of clients receiving treatment for either developmental disability or substance abuse.

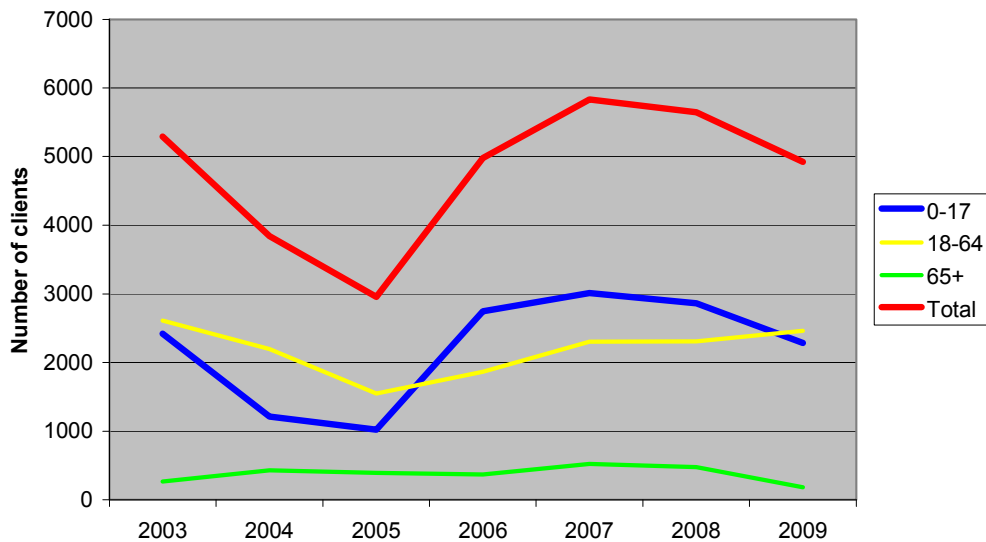
The majority of treatment services are provided for mental health and, until 2010, combined disabilities. The most prevalent diagnosis for youth is combined disabilities, followed by mental health/mental illness.

Age of Clients Receiving Prevention and Treatment Services in Macon County



Source: Macon County Mental Health Board

Age of Clients Receiving Treatment Services in Macon County



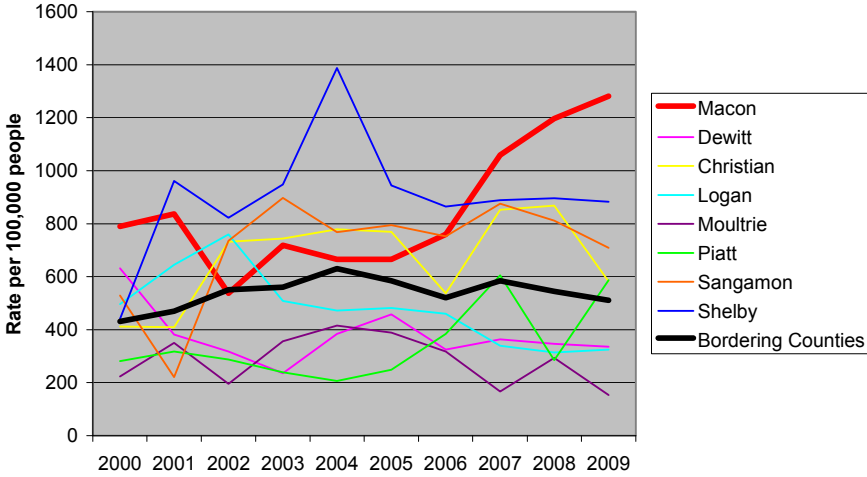
Source: Macon County Mental Health Board

For clients receiving prevention and treatment services, youth under 17 receive the greatest number of services. Although there are many youth receiving treatment services, prevention services are generally reserved for youth. In 2009, 2935 youth received prevention services whereas only 458 adults and 36 seniors received prevention services. Therefore, cuts in funding for programs offering prevention services disproportionately affect youth.

Many youth involved in the juvenile justice system are also dealing with mental health issues. This is especially true the further in to the juvenile justice system the youth goes. Youth in detention and corrections are often dealing with severe emotional disturbances, behavioral disorders and trauma. Often, these mental health issues are coupled with substance abuse.

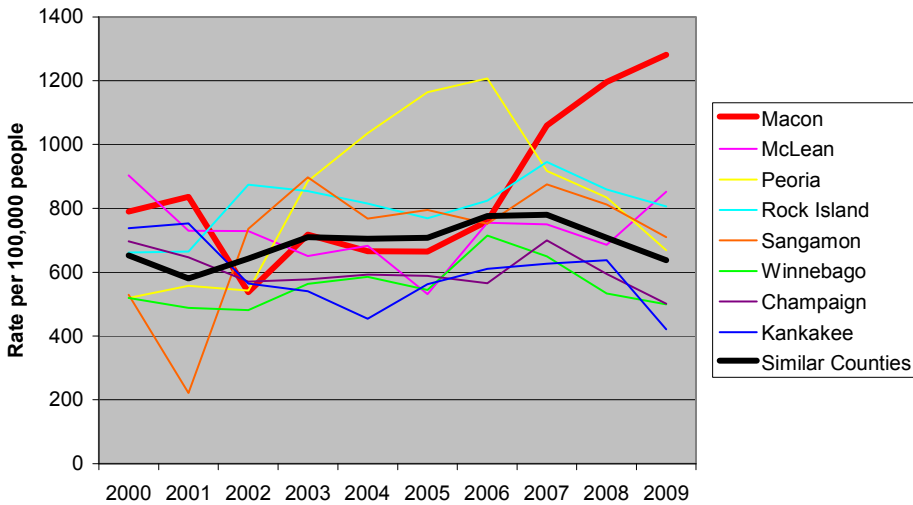
In 2000, Illinois began the Mental Health Juvenile Justice Initiative to provide services for youth in detention or who are detainable who have a major affective disorder/depression or psychosis. Macon County has been part of this initiative since its inception. This program is run through Heritage Behavioral Health Center and is connected with the Macon County Juvenile Court and Probation, as well as the Sangamon County Detention Facility. This program provides case management to ensure that the youth get the therapy, personal contact and other services they need. The parents of participating youth are also guided through the process and given assistance to help navigate the juvenile justice system.

**Total Drug Arrest Rate
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



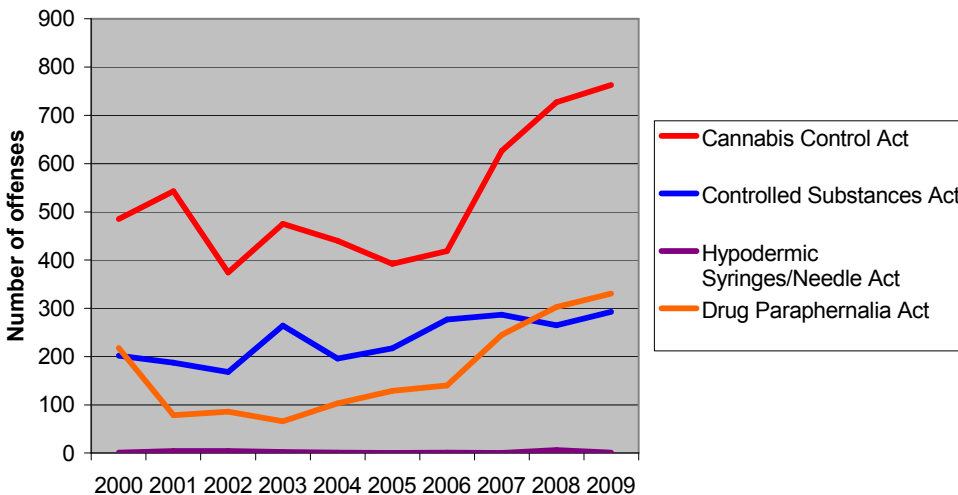
Source: Interpretation of Illinois State Police Data

**Total Drug Arrest Rate
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Interpretation of Illinois State Police Data

Drug Arrests by Category in Macon County



Source: Interpretation of Illinois State Police Data

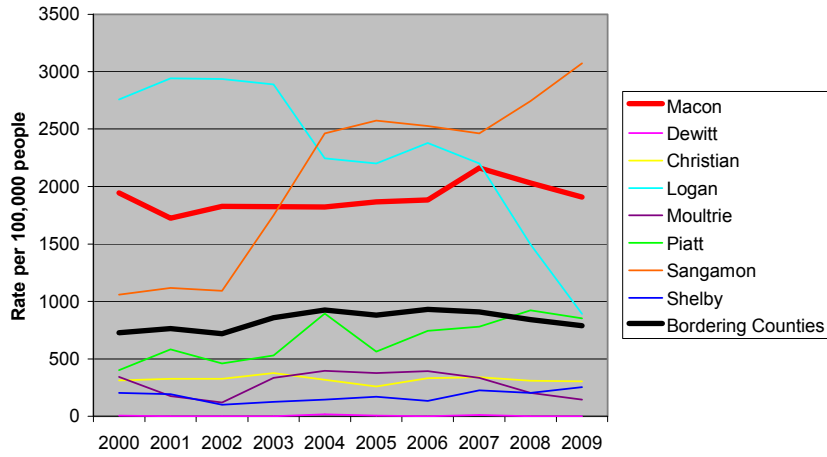
The drug arrest rate in Macon County has increased significantly since 2002. In this time, Macon County has departed from the average of both bordering counties and similar counties. In recent years, Macon County's total drug arrest rate has been higher than all other counties in either of these two categories.

Cannabis is, not surprisingly, the largest portion of drug arrests. The number of Cannabis arrests has risen dramatically, especially since 2006. One reason for this increase could be the Weed and Seed initiative, which started in October 2007. This federal program provided resources for street patrol, foot patrol and cameras to monitor high-crime neighborhoods. This led to an increase in self-initiated, proactive arrests, especially drug related arrests.

These graphs do not disaggregate the arrests by juveniles and adults. In Decatur there were 104 juvenile drug arrests in 2010. In 2009, the numbers were significantly lower at 44 juvenile drug arrests. In 2008 and 2007, the total youth drug arrests were 95 and 117 respectively. Involvement with drugs often leads to further criminal behavior. Drug activity may lead to other crimes, such as gang activity, burglary and theft. There have also been drug arrests in the schools. Both public high schools and both public middle schools saw drug related arrests on school property, during school hours.

Often, youth involved in drug-related crimes have been exposed to drugs in the home, or in the homes of friends and associates. Adult involvement in drugs, drug dealing and drug trafficking does not go unnoticed by youth in the home.

**Domestic Crimes
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



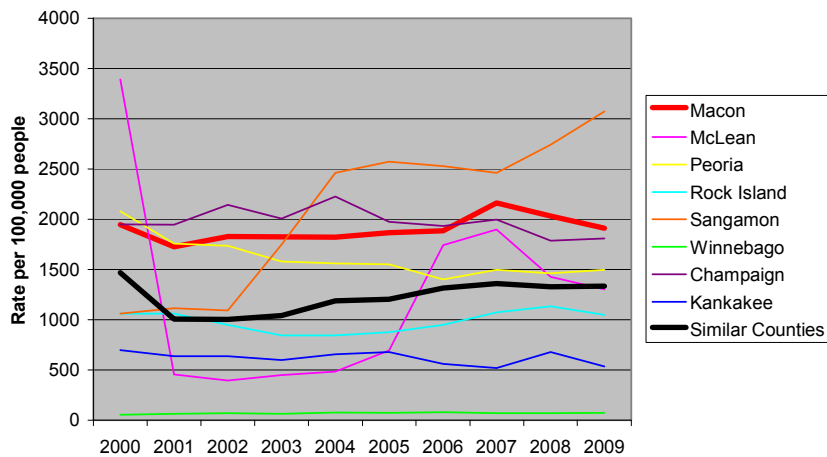
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

The Domestic Crimes statistics include ALL crimes where a domestic relationship has been established, no necessarily domestic violence, although assault/battery makes up approximately two-thirds of all domestic crimes. This category of crimes has not been reported uniformly, and may not be entirely accurate.

Macon County has higher rates of domestic crimes than the average for its bordering counties and its similar counties. In 2008, Sangamon County was the only county in either group that exceeded Macon County's rates of domestic crime.

Domestic violence is one of the most under-reported crimes. Until very recently, there was a stigma surrounding domestic violence. There were few supports in place and little help offered to victims of domestic violence. In 1994, President Bill Clinton signed into law the Violence Against Women Act. This law provided increased funding for investigation and prosecution of crimes against women and has provided the necessary legal support necessary to improve the lives of victims of domestic violence.

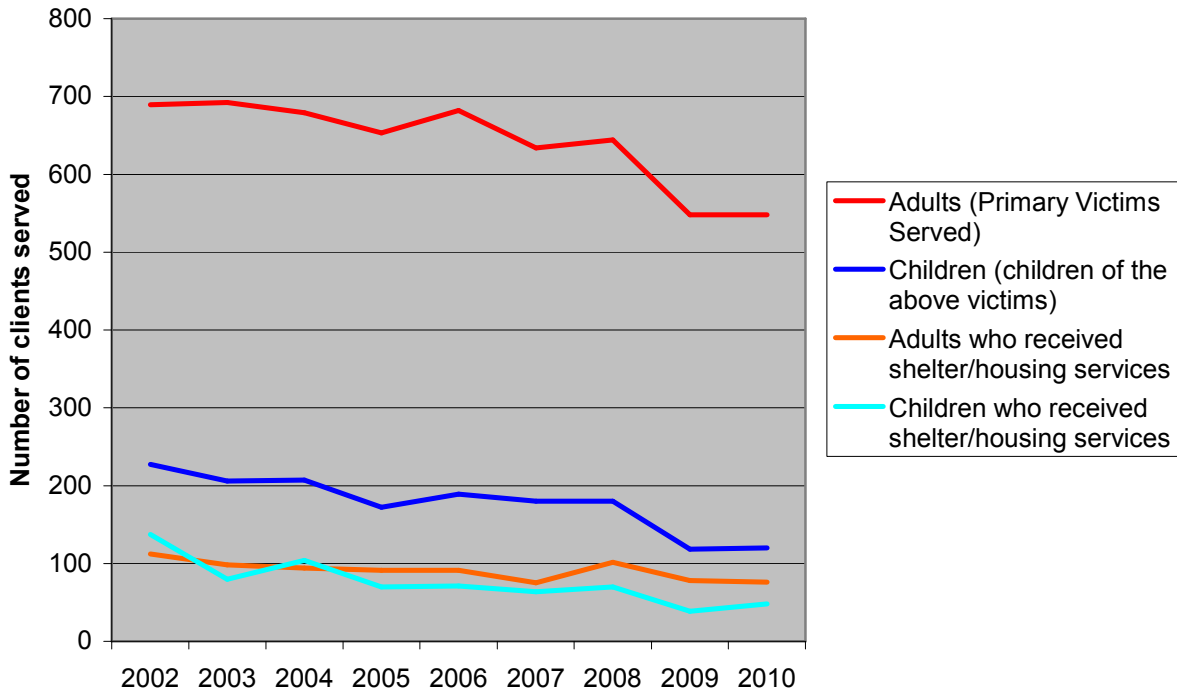
**Domestic Crimes
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Domestic Violence is a risk factor for youth because, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, 38% of all domestic violence cases involving a female victim, and 21% of cases involving a male victim occur in homes where children are residents. Child abuse is more likely to be taking place in homes where domestic violence occurs than in non-violent homes. Children may be threatened, hurt or unintentionally harmed by violent domestic disputes. Children who have witnessed domestic violence often have trouble at school and may display unusual behavior such as extreme aggression or passivity. Often, these children are misdiagnosed as having Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), when in reality, it is more likely they are suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) brought on by witnessing violence in the home. According to the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, "children from violent homes have higher risks of alcohol/drug abuse and juvenile delinquency. For this reason, domestic abuse becomes an issue that affects the whole community, not just the family.

Domestic Violence Services in Macon County



Source: InfoNet Database, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

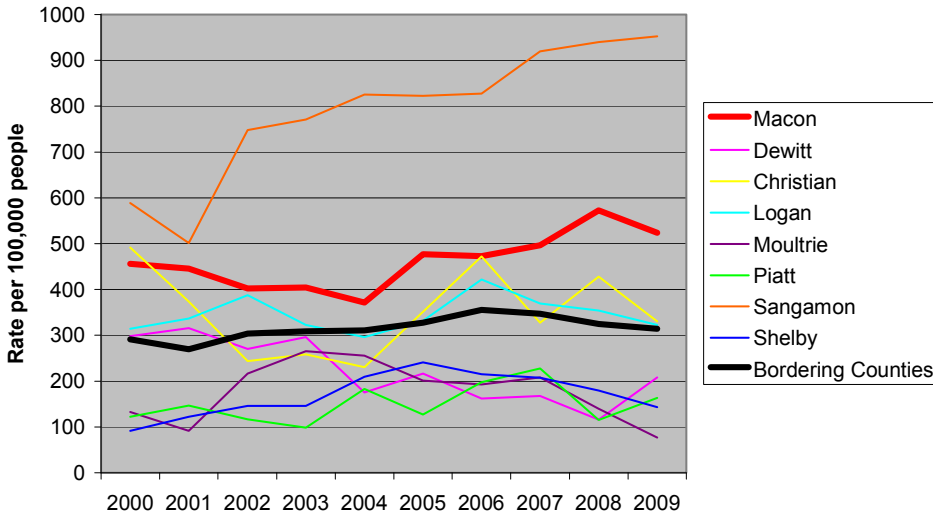
This data represents the number of clients being served by state-funded domestic violence programs, such as the one provided through DOVE, Inc in Macon County. This number also includes clients served by other organizations, but who reside in Macon County. Even though the number of domestic crimes has not decreased, the number of clients seeking services has decreased since 2002. DOVE receives every police report involving domestic violence within one to three days. A representative makes at least three attempts to contact the victim to offer services. Many victims decide not to accept services for a variety of reasons including fear, and other personal or religious reasons. Many victims simply do not want to be involved in the justice system.

DOVE, Inc is a community organization of religious organizations, volunteers and advocates that offers support and assistance to families of domestic violence in Macon County, as well as Moultrie, Piatt, Shelby and Dewitt Counties. DOVE's domestic violence program provides a residential shelter for women and children, as well as counseling (individual and group), legal advocacy, children's services (including counseling), community education programs and referrals to other social service agencies.

In Macon County, domestic violence cases are vigorously pursued and prosecuted. Macon County was the recipient of A Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program through the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) under the US Department of Justice. This program stresses victim safety and offender accountability. Macon County has been using evidenced-based prosecution to build a case that is not based on cooperation of the victim. Six positions were funded in part or in full by the OVW grant. These new positions form the Violence Against Women Unit consisting of an attorney, a probation officer, a counselor and an investigator. This grant also funds the Batterers Intervention Program – a 6-month, intensive behavior modification program- through court services. This program is meant to divert offenders from the department of corrections while seeking to correct their violent behavior. Unfortunately, this grant is set to end in 2012.

Many victims of domestic violence have children and these children are always affected in one way or another by domestic violence in the home, be that physically or emotionally. These children are taken in to account by the Violence Against Women Unit as they pursue prosecution.

**Total Reported Violent Index Offense Rate
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



Source: Interpretation of Illinois State Police Data

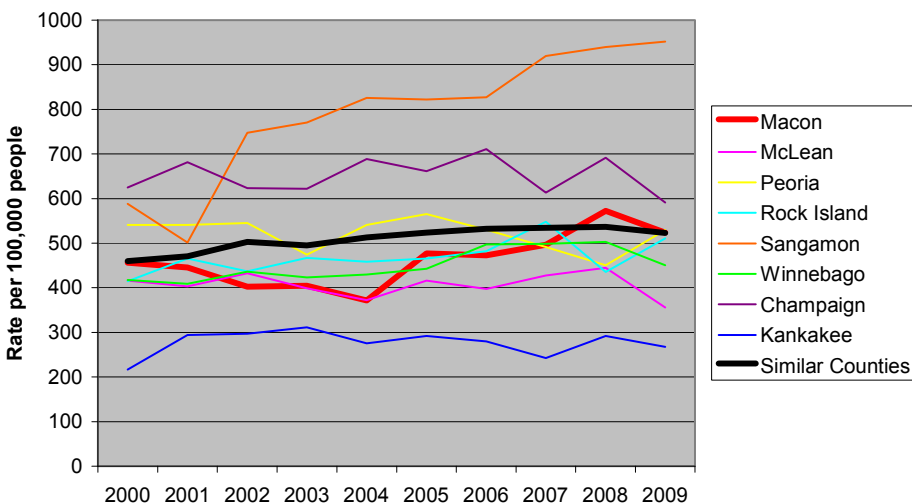
To measure the Violent Offense Rate, we included the rates for murder, aggravated assault/battery and criminal sexual assault.

Macon County has a slightly higher violent offense rate than its bordering counties; however, Macon County has generally similar or lower violent offense rates than its similar counties. This statistic is contradictory to what some would think. Decatur is seen as a particularly violent city. As we can see in the statistics, Macon County is actually significantly less violent than Sangamon County.

What is concerning Macon County is the rise in this trend. Macon County's violent Index Offense Rate has increased since 2004.

This particular statistic is not separated out to indicate how many of the offenses were committed by juveniles. Nevertheless, one of the crimes included in this measurement is aggravated assault/battery, which is one of the top 5 juvenile offenses, as we can see on page 21.

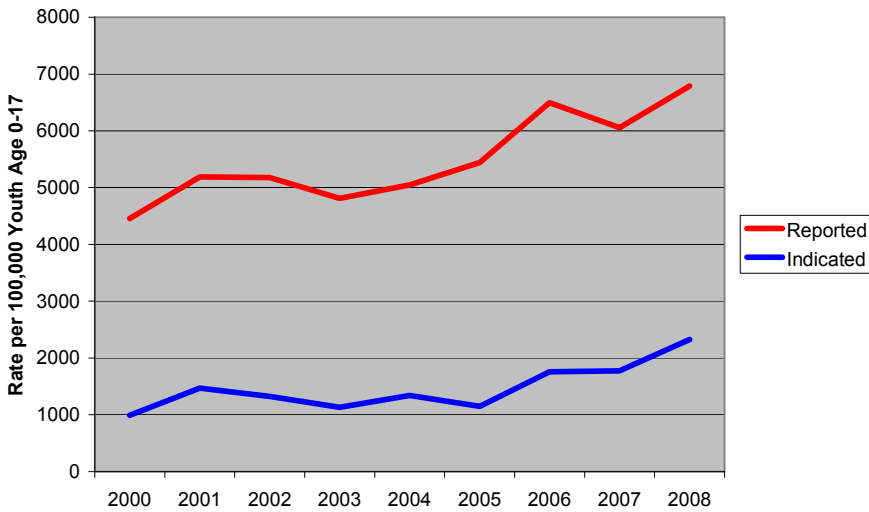
**Total Reported Violent Index Offense Rate
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Interpretation of Illinois State Police Data

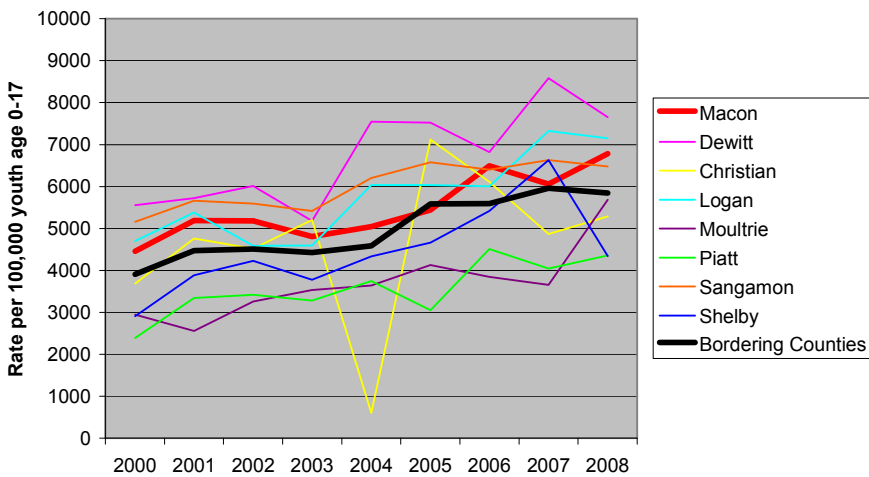
As with domestic violence, youth are affected by high rates of violent crime because they may be witnesses, victims or perpetrators. Often, perpetrators of violent acts have previously been witnesses or victims of violence.

Child Abuse and Neglect in Macon County



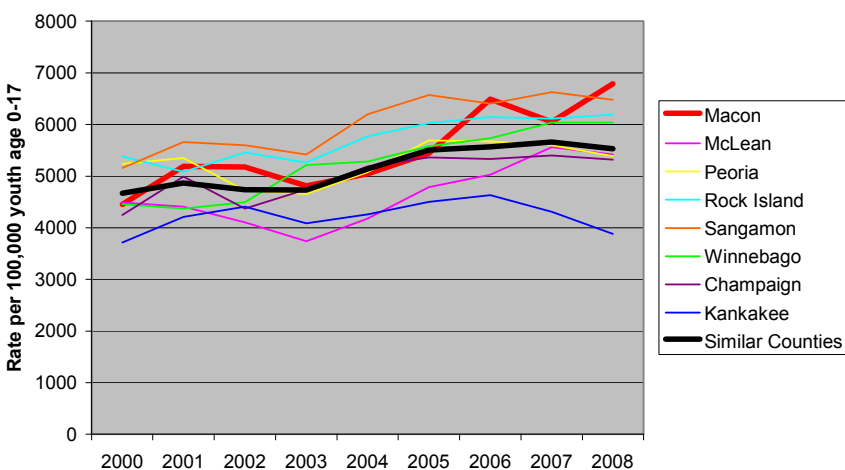
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Child Abuse and Neglect Reported Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Child Abuse and Neglect Reported Macon County and Similar Counties



When someone calls the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to report a case of neglect or abuse, this is counted as a *reported* case. However, a reported case does not mean that the incident is founded. After an investigation of a reported case, DCFS will decide whether or not the case is founded or *indicated*. Therefore, the number of reported cases will always be much higher than the indicated cases.

Macon County follows the general trend of both bordering and similar counties for reported cases of Child Abuse and Neglect. The number of reported cases has been on the rise since 2000 for almost every one of these counties.

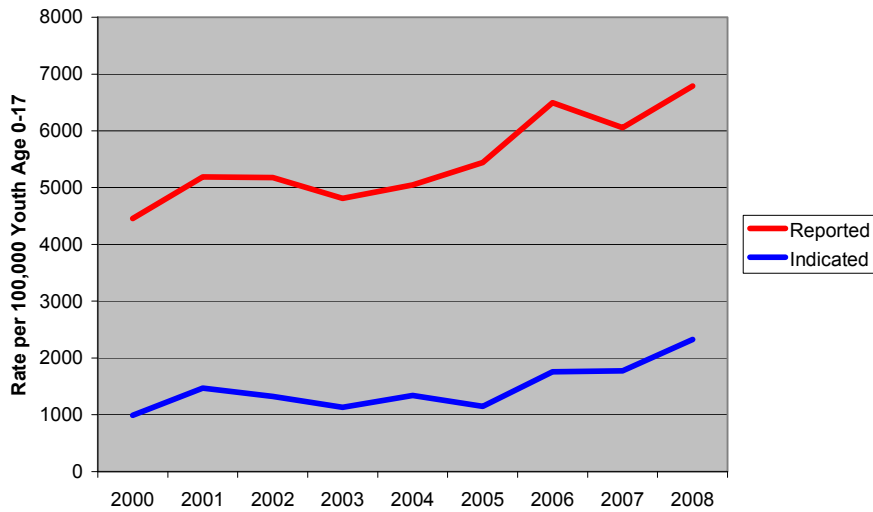
As with many statistics, these rates vary from time to time and place to place and can be very unpredictable.

The DCFS works mainly with families in poverty. Many issues Macon County is facing are connected with the high levels of poverty.

DCFS also works with a disproportionate number of minority youth. Of children placed in out-of-home care in 2010, 46% were black youth. The Representation Index for black youth in out-of-home care in 2010 would be 1.9. The Relative Rate Index for black youth in out-of-home care in Macon County is 2.6.

In Macon County, black children are more likely to be *reported* as neglected/abused, however, both black and white children are *indicated* as neglected/abused at the same rate once reported- 39% of reported cases were indicated for both black and white children. However, once indicated, black youth are more likely to enter care. After indication, 24% of African American children entered care whereas only 19% of white children entered care.

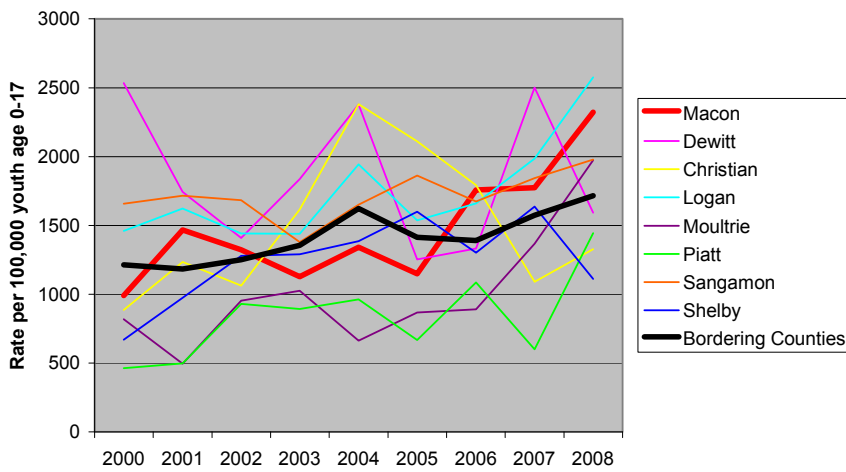
Child Abuse and Neglect in Macon County



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

The number of indicated cases for Macon County has also been on the rise. This is, similar to reported cases, the general trend of both Macon County's neighboring counties and similar counties. From 2000 to 2005, Macon County was actually trending *below* most of its similar counties for the rate of indicated child abuse and neglect cases. However, since 2005, has surpassed the average number of indicated cases for similar counties and in 2008. Macon County had the highest rate of indicated cases than all its similar counties and all but one of its bordering counties.

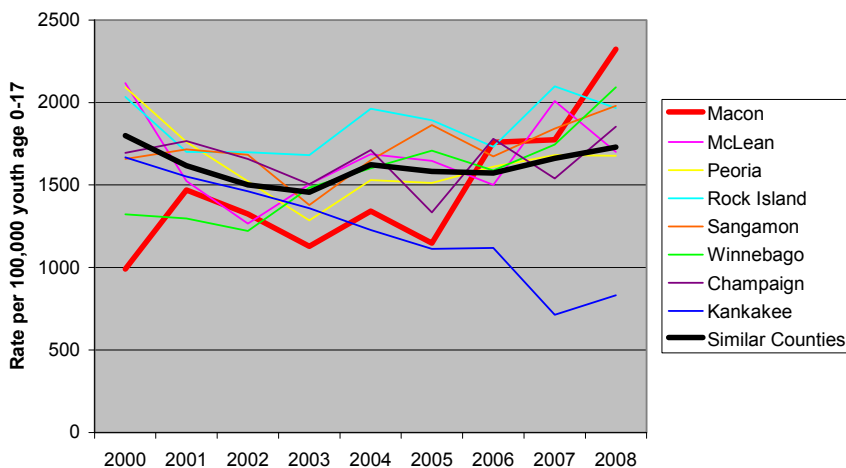
Child Abuse and Neglect Indicated Macon County and Bordering Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Macon County also has a very high protective custody rate. Macon County is consistently two to three times higher than the state average for protective custody rates. The average rate of protective custody for the State of Illinois is about 4% of all indicated cases. For Macon County, at any one time, 8% or more of all indicated cases may be protective custody cases.

Child Abuse and Neglect Indicated Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Although the number of indicated cases is pretty average in Macon County, it seems that the severity of these cases is greater. There are many factors that could go in to these high protective custody rates. This could be a lack of resources in the community for early interventions, the number of drug cases (which often result in protective custody), or it could be a result of families coming from Chicago and leaving their support systems behind. These high protective custody rates could also be an affect of agency culture and the method of investigation and case management used in the Macon County office.

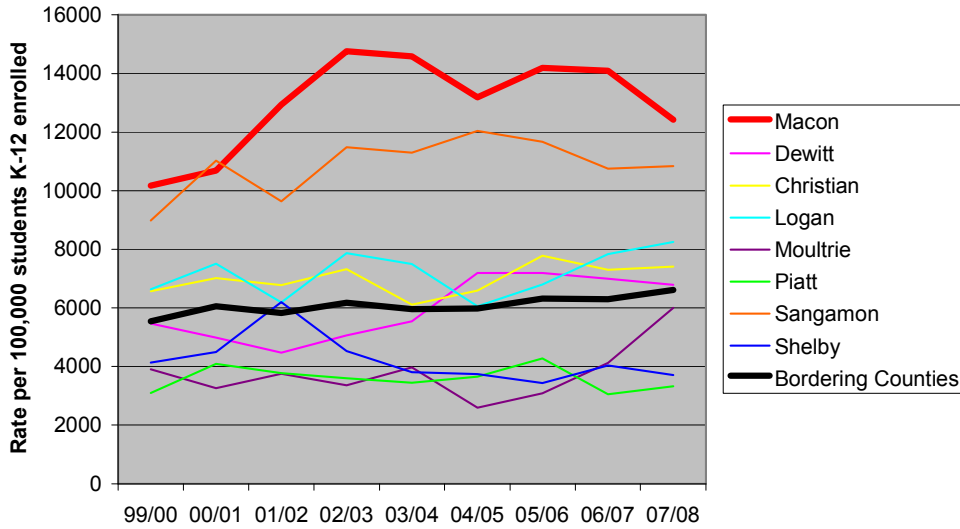
The Macon County DCFS office is working on several initiatives to bring down the protective custody rate, including a team decision-making model for these types of cases. Unfortunately, many initiatives are stuck in the bureaucracy of the large organization.

SCHOOL DATA

This section provides information on school discipline, truancy, dropouts and overall education levels. Truancy is of particular interest to the Juvenile Justice Council, therefore, we have chosen to break out truancy by district in Macon County and further by schools in Decatur Public School District #61.

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**Rate of Student Suspensions
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

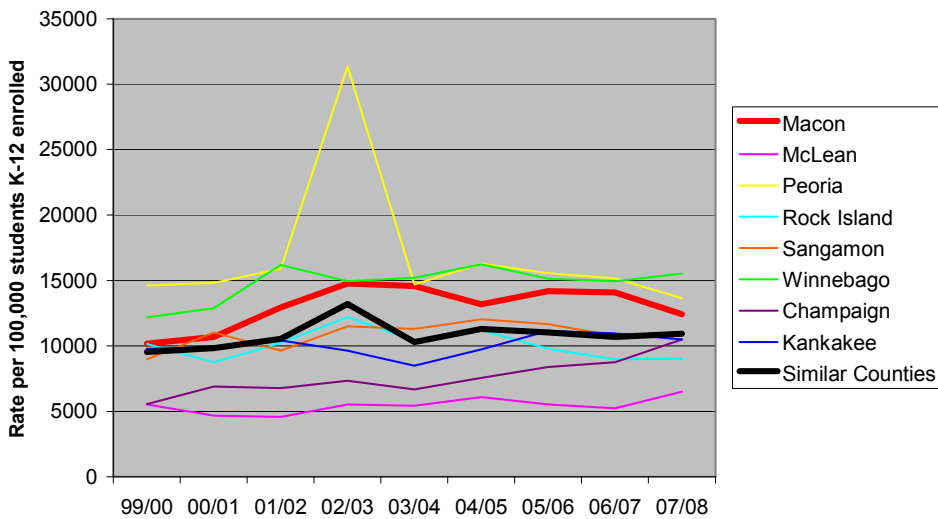


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

School data is difficult to analyze in Macon County. Decatur Public School District #61 is the largest district in the county, with more than 8,700 students enrolled in K-12 grade. However, Macon County also encompasses Mt. Zion, Maroa-Forsyth, Meridian, Warrensburg-Latham, Argenta-Oreana and part of Sangamon Valley as well as several private and parochial schools including Lutheran Schools Association and St. Teresa Catholic School and a few alternative schools. Each of these districts have different policies and procedures which may affect the disciplinary actions taken at school. For this reason, school data is very disjointed and difficult to explain.

Macon County has significantly higher rates of suspension than bordering counties, but only slightly higher rates than counties with similar demographics.

**Rate of Student Suspensions
Macon County and Similar Counties**

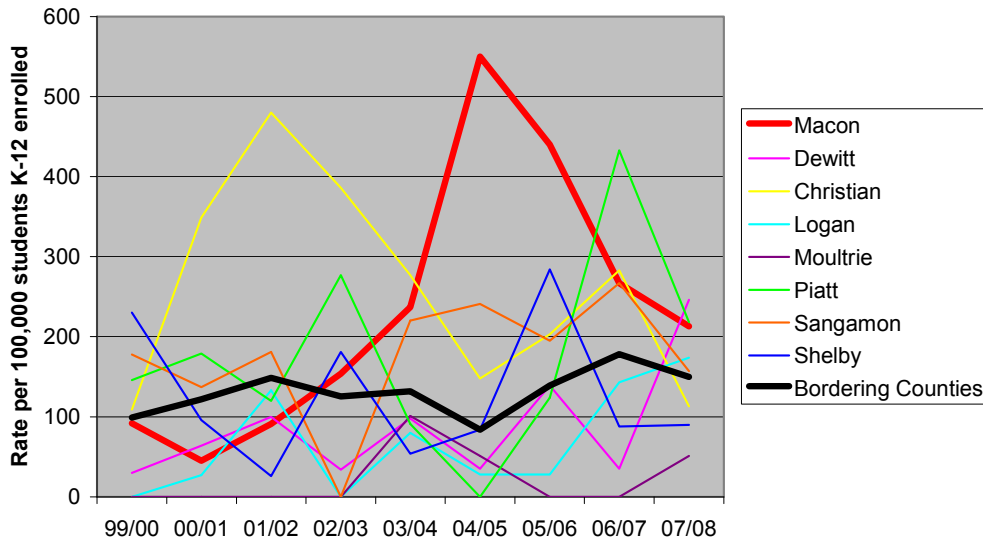


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Some Macon County schools, including Decatur Public Schools, have implemented behavior interventions systems such as peer juries in order to address high levels of suspension. This could explain why these rates are not higher than they are.

One issue with these graphs is that the data is not disaggregated. We cannot see whether these suspensions are in-school suspensions or out-of-school suspensions, nor can we see how many suspensions come from each school.

**Rate of Student Expulsions
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

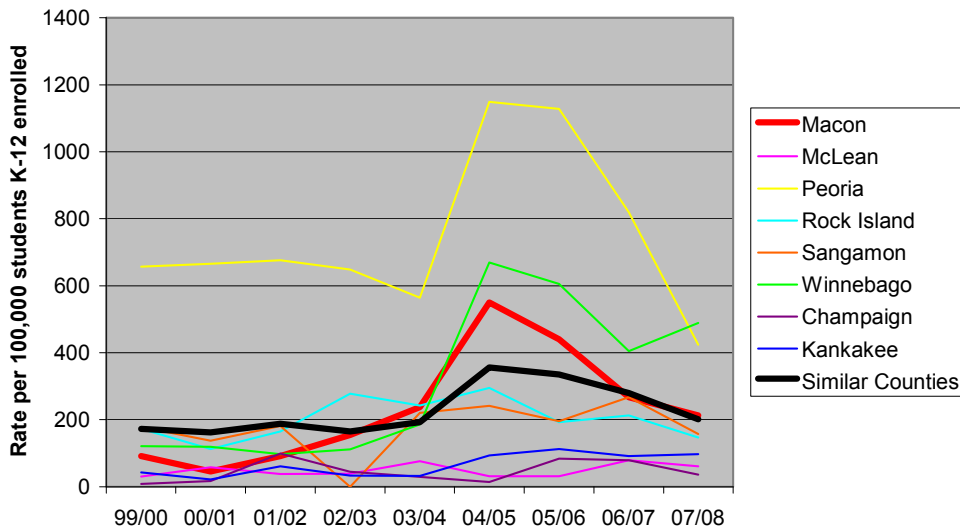


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

A student may be expelled when he or she violates a written rule in the code of conduct. The goal of any school is NOT to expel their students. Schools do not want their students to end up on the streets without an education. High rates of expulsion also reflect negatively on the school itself.

Decatur Public Schools has implemented many programs to address the spike in expulsions in the 2004/2005. First, the Joint Drop-Out Task Force was established to bring together community stakeholders to address issues surrounding dropout and expulsion rates. This group put together a community-based strategy and the numbers did decline in the years, which this task force was in operation.

**Rate of Student Expulsions
Macon County and Similar Counties**



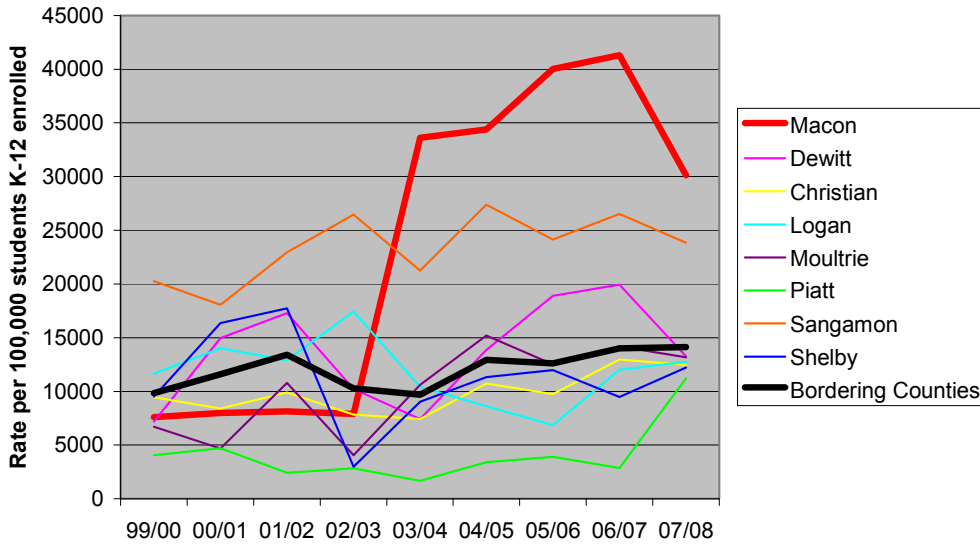
Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

In 2007, the Student Services department was established at Decatur Public Schools. Student Services was created to bring more in-house support for students. Student Services works with a number of service providers in the community, including many members of the Macon County Juvenile Justice Council, to address issues of truancy, expulsion and dropout.

Rather than expelling students to the streets, the goal of DPS #61 is to be able to offer these students extra supports and interventions, as well as a way to continue their education. There are a few alternative programs, including Phoenix III through DPS and Milligan Safe School through the Regional Office of Education where students may complete their education.

There is a very significant increase in the 03-04 school year, which is difficult to explain.

**Rate of Students Reported Truant
Macon County and Bordering Counties**

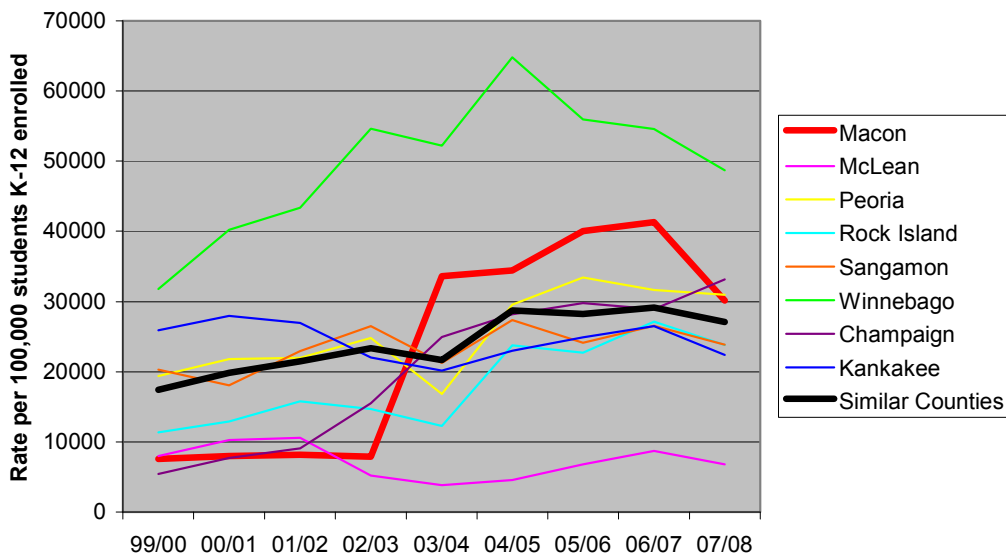


Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Project Success played a large role in getting truancy under control, especially at the elementary level. This is of great concern to Macon County, especially Decatur Public Schools, because Project Success closed at the end of June 2011.

Truancy Court, which was established in 2008, is an intense case management program that uses restorative justice principles to get kids back on track and back in school. Truancy Court started through the Macon County States Attorney's Office in Stephen Decatur Middle School and has since been expanded to include MacArthur High School. In 2010, the States Attorney's Office and Macon and Piatt Regional Office of Education established a partnership to expand Truancy Court to Eisenhower High School and Thomas Jefferson Middle School, as well as other schools in Macon County as needed.

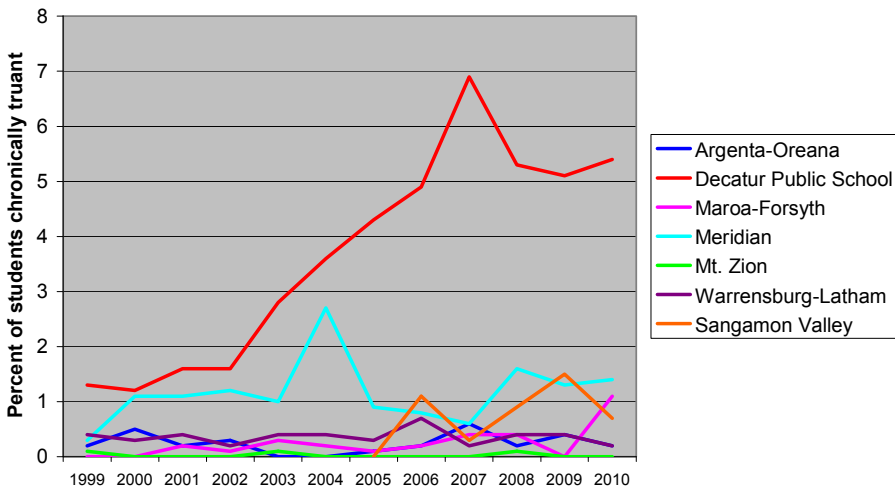
**Rate of Students Reported Truant
Macon County and Similar County**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

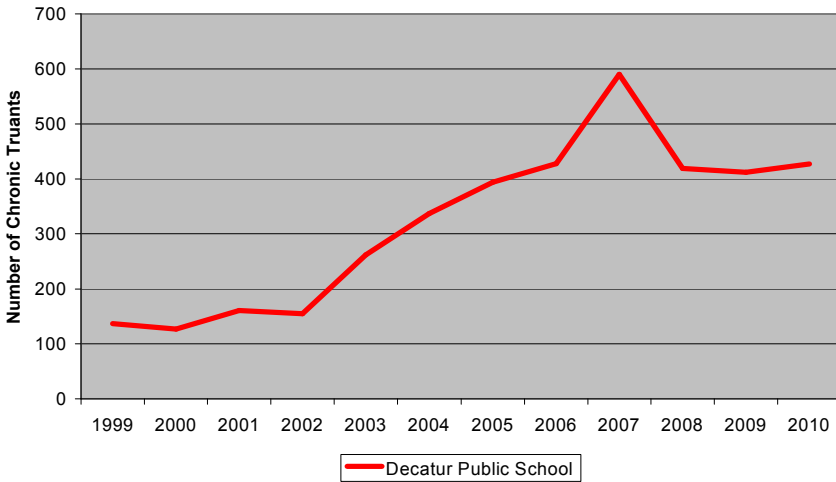
Starting in the fall of 2011, Truancy Court will be expanded further in to the elementary schools in Decatur Public Schools. The Regional Office of Education will be getting two AmeriCorps VISTA members through Cra-Wa-La Volunteers in Probation. These new volunteers will be working in the elementary schools to establish Truancy Courts and to find ways of sustaining the programs through continued collaboration between the States Attorney's Office, the Regional Office of Education and the school district.

Chronic Truancy by School District in Macon County



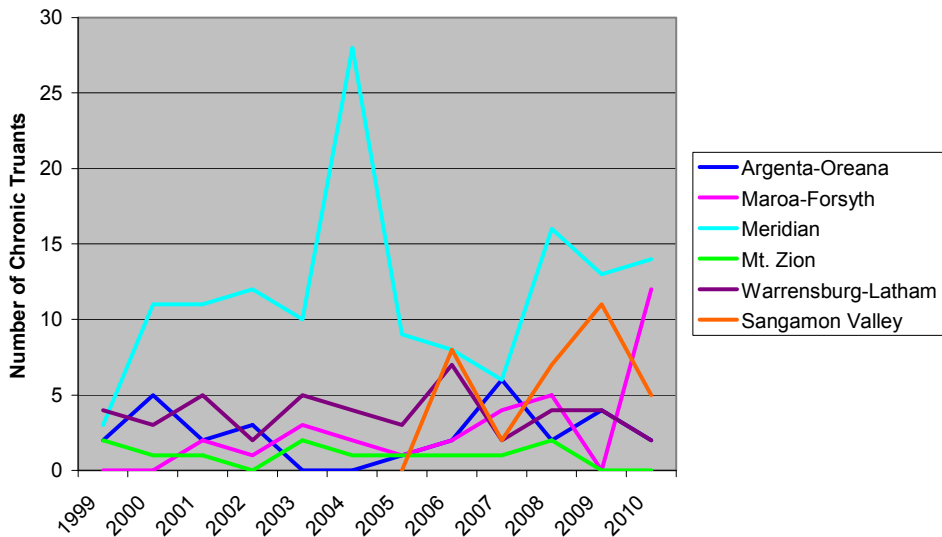
Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

Number of Chronic Truants for Decatur Public Schools



Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

Number of Chronic Truants by School District in Macon County



Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

Chronic truancy is a Class C Misdemeanor offense under which both the juvenile and their parent may be prosecuted. Prosecution does not happen very often, as it is a lengthy process to prosecute; however, this is an option.

In order to more effectively address chronic truancy, the Regional Office of Education, States Attorney’s Office and City of Decatur have been working to draft a truancy ordinance, which will fine students/parents for missing a certain number of unexcused days.

The Macon County Juvenile Justice Council is also very concerned with the high levels of truancy. The council has formed a committee to address truancy issues and has hired a consultant to perform an in depth study of

One of the most concerning policy changes comes from the State of Illinois. Public Act 097-0218 recently passed through the Illinois General Assembly and was signed by Governor Pat Quinn. This act changed chronic truancy from 10% (18 unexcused absences) to 5% (9 unexcused absences).⁹

On the following pages, chronic truancy is broken down by school in Decatur Public School District #61. We see that there is a jump in truancy at the Jr. High level (SDMS and TJMS) and then another large jump at the high school level (EHS and MHS). The majority of students who are chronically truant are 16+ years old and are therefore very difficult to prosecute.

9.Illinois General Assembly, Public Act 097-0218

2010-2011 Chronic Truants in DPS 61

School	Chronic Truants	Males	Females	African-American	Caucasian	Multi-race	Hispanic	Other
Baum	1		1		1			
Brush College	2	1	1		2			
Dennis	2	1	1	2				
Eisenhower High School	240	151	125	150	71	16	2	1
Enterprise	2		2	2				
Franklin	2	2		1		1		
French	1		1	1				
Harris	2	1	1	1	1			
Hope Academy	1		1			1		
MacArthur High School	186	104	82	110	56	14	6	
Muffley	6	3	3	2	4			
Oak Grove	2	1	1	1	1			
Parsons	9	7	2	3	3	3		
Pershing Early Learning Center	22	13	9	12	7	2	1	
Phoenix	18	11	7	14		4		
Phoenix II	4		4	4				
Stephen Decatur MS	27	17	10	14	9	4		
Stevenson	2	2		2				
Thomas Jefferson MS	32	15	17	16	10	5	1	
Total	561	329	232	335	165	50	10	1
		58.60%	41.40%	59.70%	29.50%	9.00%	1.70%	0.10%

8794 total students in DPS 61

8.5% of African-American students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (335/3936)

4.4% of Caucasian students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (165/3726)

6% of Multi-race students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (50/826)

5% of Hispanic students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (10/198)

3.7% of AMIND/AK students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (1/27)

0% of Asian students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (0/80)

0% of Pac Isle students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (0/1)

2009-2010 Chronic Truants in DPS 61

School	Chronic Truants	Males	Females	African-American	Caucasian	Multi-race	Hispanic	Other
Decatur Area Tech Academy	2	2			2			
Dennis	1		1	1				
Durfee	1		1		1			
Eisenhower High School	229	118	111	132	78	15	5	
Enterprise	2		2	1	1			
Franklin	1	1				1		
Harris	1		1	1				
Hope Acadmey	2	1	1	2				
MacArthur High School	153	90	63	95	44	9	5	
Muffley	2	2		2				
Parsons	5	4	1	5				
Pershing Early Learning Center	56	25	31	24	22	5	3	2
Phoenix II	8		8	7		1		
Phoenix III	20	11	9	16	4			
Stephen Decatur MS	24	14	10	19	4	1		
Thomas Jefferson MS	19	8	11	12	5		1	1
Total	526	276	250	317	161	32	14	3
		52.40%	47.60%	60.20%	30.60%	6.00%	2.60%	0.60%

8944 total students in DPS 61

8% of African-American students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (318/3938)

4% of Caucasian students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (160/3891)

4% of Multi-race students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (32/810)

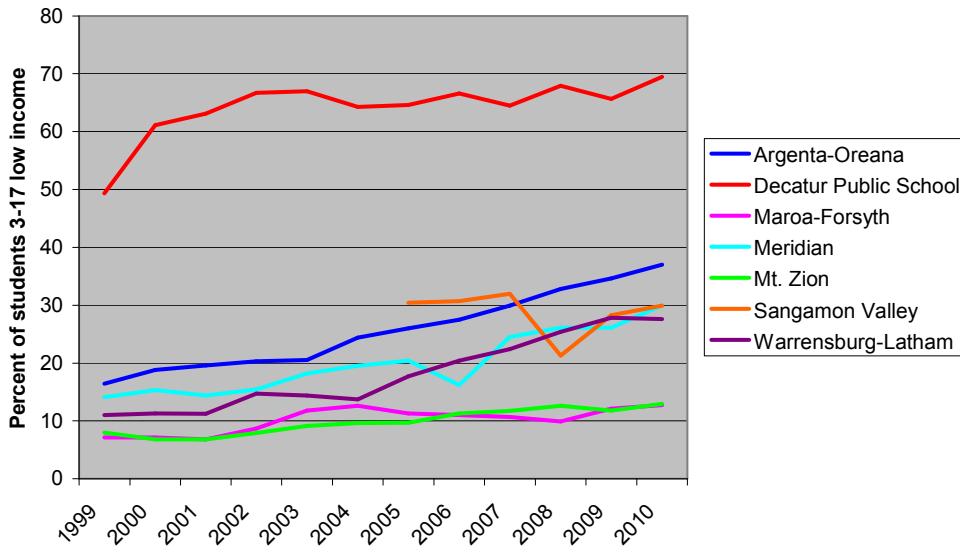
7% of Hispanic students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (14/190)

4% of AMIND/AK students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (1/26)

2% of Asian students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (2/88)

0% of Pac Isle students in DPS 61 were Chronic Truants (0/1)

Percent Low Income by School in Macon County

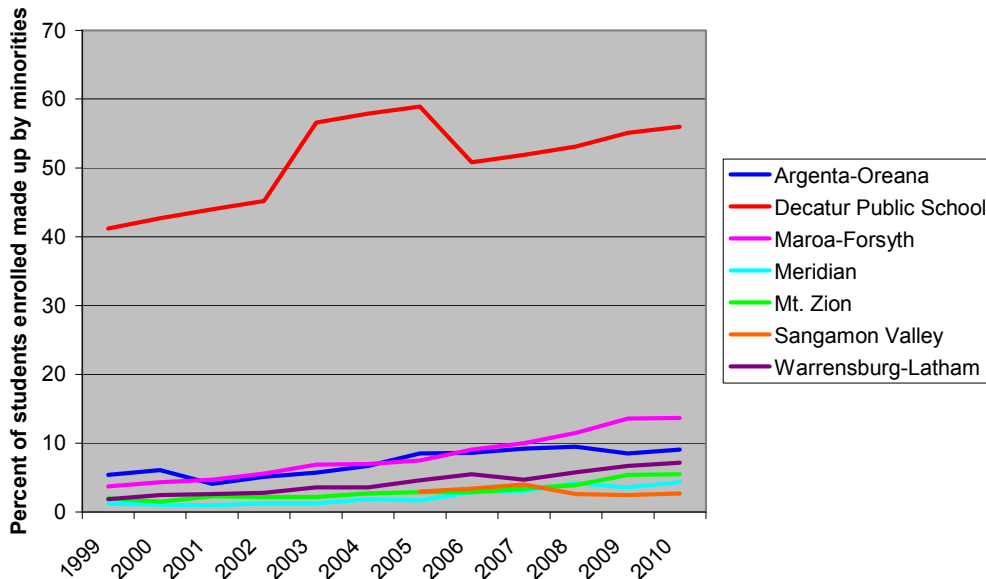


Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

To accurately compare school data, we must also take in to account the percent low-income and minority students. Decatur Public School District has significantly higher levels of both low-income students and minority students. Almost all schools in Macon County have seen at least slight increases in both the number of low-income students and minority students.

The number of low-income students is an important factor for school performance measures. In general, there is an achievement gap between low-income students and non-low income students. This gap starts even before the student begins school. One program that seeks to address this problem is Head Start. In Macon County, there are two Head Start Programs: Baby Talk Early Head Start and Anna Waters Head Start.

Percent of Minority Students by School in Macon County

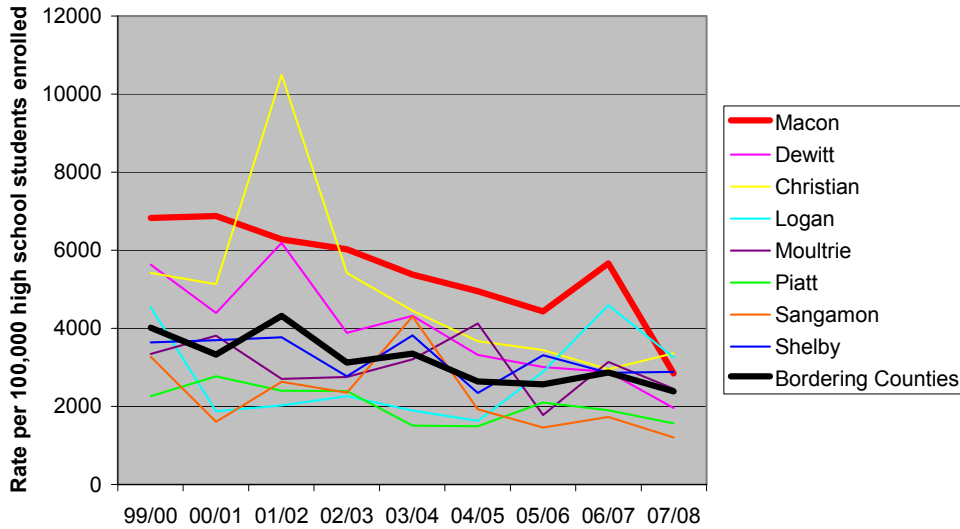


Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

The Early Head Start program at Baby Talk is a program for prenatal to 3 year old children of low-income families. This program's focus is teen mothers, and expecting parents, who plan to continue their education. This program is wrapping up its first year. In 2010/2011, the Early Head Start served 56 families in their center-based program and another 22 in their home-based program. The program uses comprehensive services to address all the needs of the family, including their housing, food and educational needs, etc.

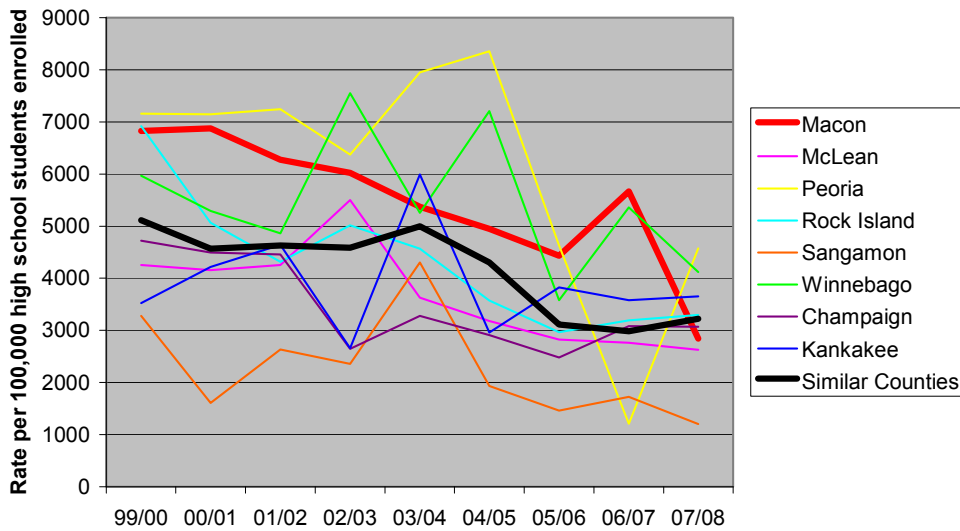
The Anna Waters Head Start is a no-charge pre-school program that focuses on school readiness for 3-5 year olds who qualify as low income (up to 10% over federal poverty rate). This program serves 378 children at two sites and is not connected with Decatur Public Schools or any other district.

**High School Dropout Rate
Macon County and Bordering Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

**High School Dropout Rate
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

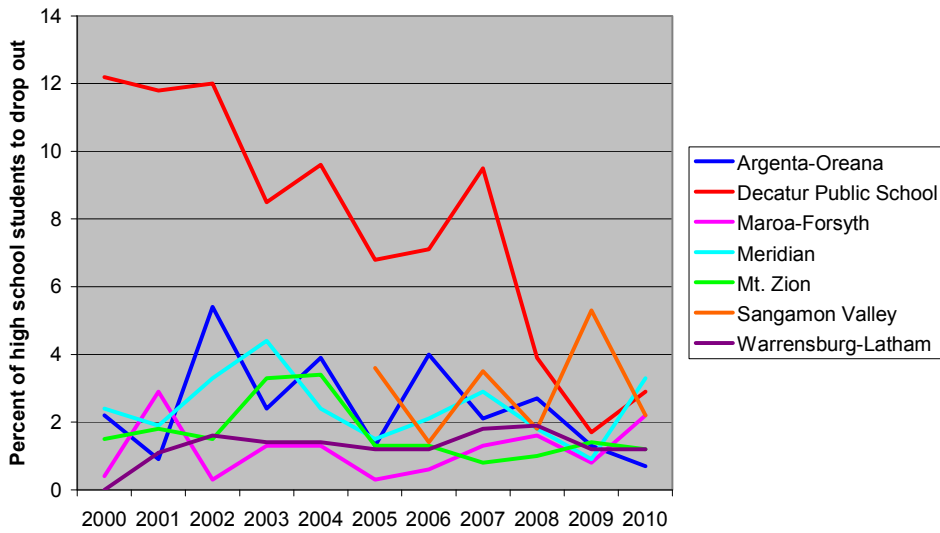
Dropout rates for Macon County have decreased relatively consistently since 99/00. Until 07/08, Macon County had above average levels of high school dropouts. In 07/08, Macon County came in to line with both its bordering counties and similar counties.

This decline may reflect a heightened focus on dropout issues in the community, similar to the decline in expulsions. Another factor, which may have contributed to the decrease in dropouts, could be the Joint Drop Out Task Force and the initiative started through this collaboration.

In **WHAT YEAR** the Illinois State Legislator passed a bill that allowed students who enrolled in a GED preparation course to be counted as a “transfer” rather than a “dropout.” This change in reporting policy was more than likely a factor in the decreased numbers of dropouts.

However, this law has been changed. **Public Act 097-0218** reverted to prior language stating that a dropout is characterized as “any child enrolled in grades 9 through 12 whose name has been removed from district enrollment roster for any reason other than the student’s death, extended illness, removal for medical non-compliance, expulsion, aging out, graduation, or completion of a program of studies and who has not transferred to another public or private school and is not known to be home-schooled by his or her parents or guardians or continuing school in another country.” This language still gives schools quite a bit of leeway when students transfer to alternative programs, as long as these programs are degree programs, rather than programs that offer GED.

Dropout Rate by School District in Macon County



Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

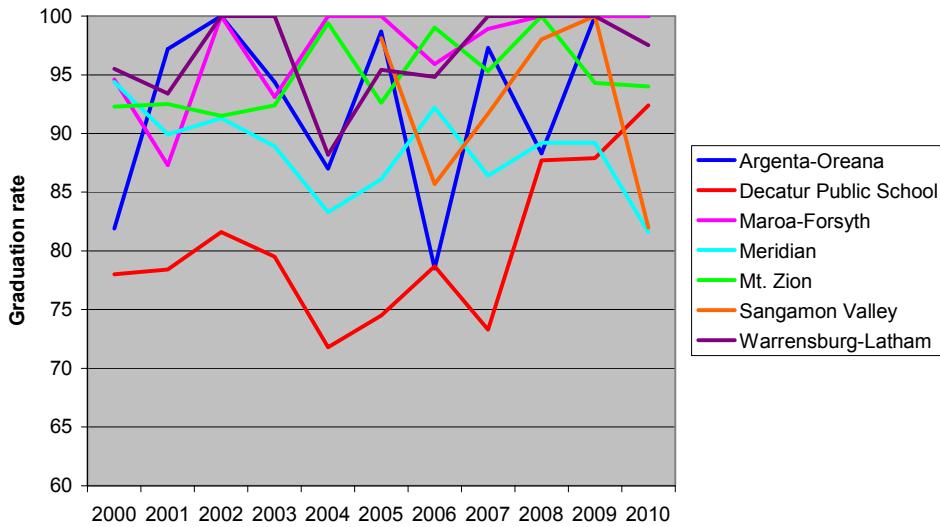
Maroa-Forsyth and Warrensburg-Latham consistently have the lowest drop out rates. In the early-2000s, Decatur public schools high dropout rates- almost double the state average- but in recent years, they have managed to bring their dropout numbers in line with the state and other schools in Macon County.

The graduation rate for Decatur Public Schools is on the rise. DPS #61 has seen a sharp incline in the rate of graduation from 2007 to 2010.

With much of the focus on the schools in Decatur, what goes on in the county schools often goes un-noted. However, Sangamon Valley saw a sharp decrease from 100% graduation rate in 2009 to a rate of 82% in 2010, the lowest graduation rate since the district's inception in the 2004/2005 school year.

Although Meridian has higher rates of graduation than Decatur Public School District and the state average, its rates are the lowest of the county schools. Meridian does not have higher rates of low-income students than most of the districts which out perform it in terms of graduation rate.

Graduation Rate by School District in Macon County



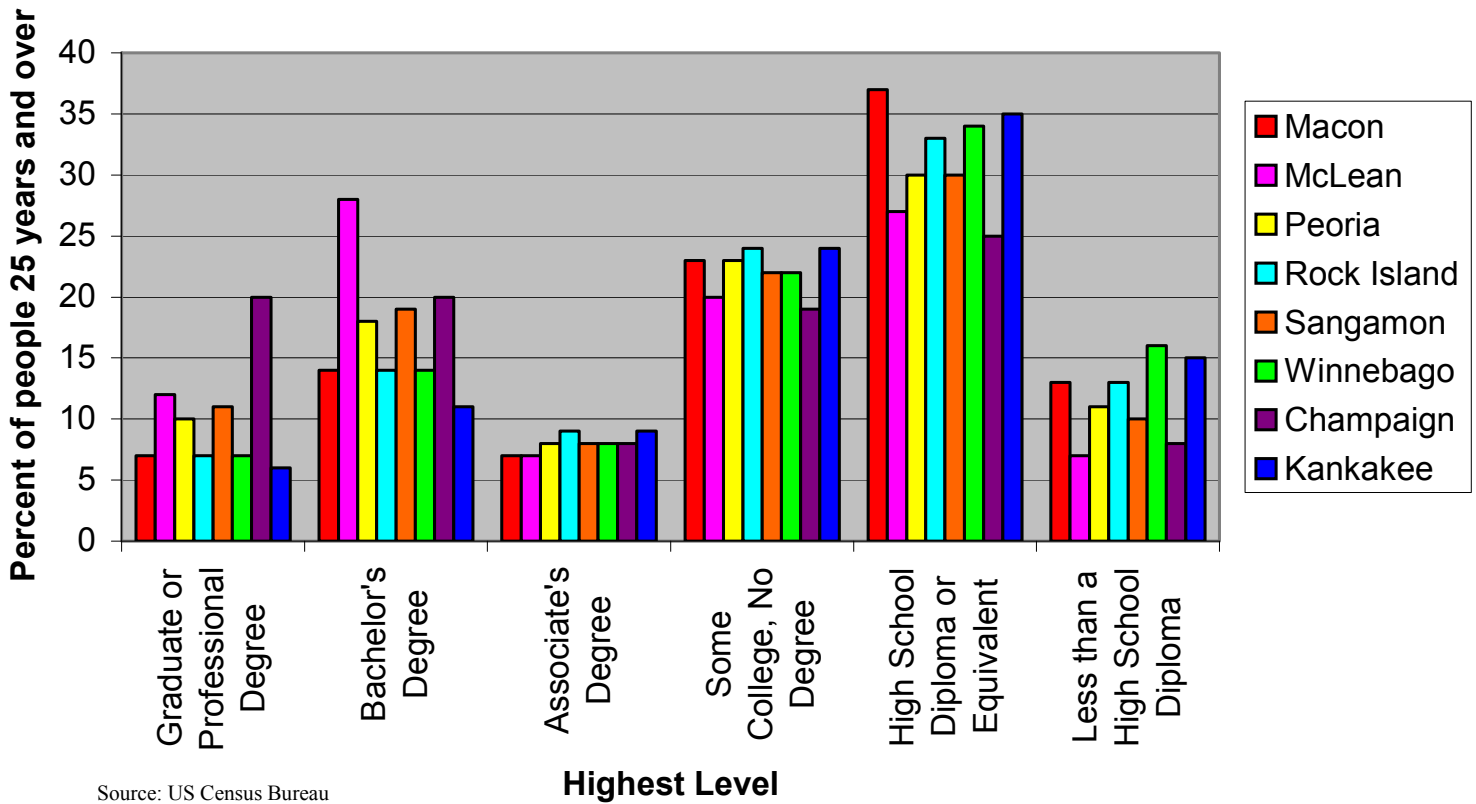
Source: Illinois Interactive Report Card

Argenta-Oreana has inconsistent rates of graduation. The rate has been as high as 100% in 2009 and 2010, but dipped as low as 78.5 in 2006.

Consistent with Warrensburg-Latham and Maroa-Forsyth having the lowest dropout rates, these schools also perform the best in terms of graduation rate.

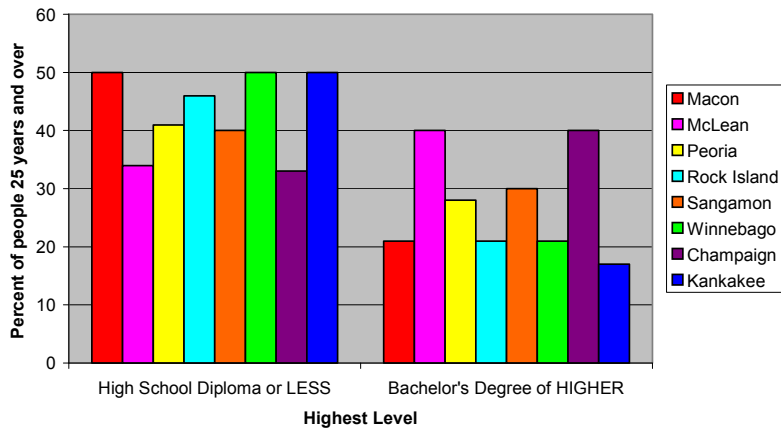
There seem to be some discrepancies in reporting. It seems implausible for a school that *never* reports a perfect 0% drop out rate, can have a 100% graduation rate three years in a row. I am sure there is an explanation for this, most likely a glitch in the manner in which data is reported, but it calls in to question how accurate the data is.

Educational Attainment Macon County and Similar Counties



Source: US Census Bureau

**Educational Attainment at Highest and Lowest Levels
Macon County and Similar Counties**



Source: US Census Bureau

Education is very important to the success of a community. McLean and Champaign Counties have a higher percentage of the population with Bachelor's Degrees or Higher. Both of these counties house major universities (Illinois State and University of Illinois, respectively), which not only educate the population, but also bring in educated individuals as Professors and Administrators.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

This section provides information on amenities in Macon County.

Community Facilities 60
Bus Routes..... 61

Art Galleries:	6	Gardens:	3
Ball Diamonds:	28	Health Clubs:	10
Lighted Ball Diamonds:	20	Miniature Golf:	1
Basketball Courts:	35	Nature Areas:	8
Bike Trails:	3	Playground Equipment:	30
Bowling:	2	Public Swimming Pool:	1
Campgrounds:	3	Public Tennis Courts:	22
Churches:	200	Tetherball Courts:	34
Dog Park:	1	Theaters:	4
Football/Soccer Fields:	18	Volleyball Courts:	5

Golf:	Hickory Point Golf Club Red Trail Run Golf Club by Raymond Floyd Scovill Golf Club DISC Indoor Golf Center
Horseback Riding:	Big Creek Riding Center Sand Creek Conservation Area
Ice Skating:	Decatur Civic Center
Museums:	Birks Museum Chevrolet Hall of Fame Museum Mueller Museum Macon County Museum
Parks:	49-2,000 acres
Public Zoo:	Scovill Zoo
Roller Skating:	Skateland
Skate Park:	Fairview Park
Sports Complex:	Decatur Indoor Sports Complex East Mound Soccer Complex Rotary Park Skywalker International Sports Complex
Water Access:	Lake Decatur Sangamon River Lake Shelbyville Clinton Lake



- Senators Sewers Transit Center
- Hospital
- Shopping Center or Mall
- Points of Interest

Version en Español
 Como un servicio a nuestros clientes, ofrecemos una copia de esta "Guía Map & Schedule" en español si usted así lo solicita. Para solicitar una copia, puede escribirnos al **Deatur Public Transit System** al **617-424-2821** o llamarnos al **(617) 424-2814**, y solicitar una versión en español.

BUS OPERATOR HAS NO CHANGE
PUNCH CARD AND MONTHLY PASS
 The DPTS bus operator has no change for the convenience of our riders. The Punch Card has no expiration date. The Monthly Pass is good only in the month of issue.

Punch Card	Monthly Pass
Basic Adult Fare (in come no larger than a quarter)	\$7.50
Basic Youth Fare (Ages 5 through 18, and those with approved ID card)	\$4.00
Disabled (with state Circuit Breaker certification)	FREE
Child (under 5)	\$2.70
Adult	\$27.00

If you wish to purchase Punch Cards and Monthly Passes at the Senators Sewers Transit Center at 363 E. William St. by mail, send a check made payable to Deatur Public Transit System to:

PUNCH CARD or MONTHLY PASS
Deatur Public Transit System
666 E. Wood Street
Decatur, IL 62523

Remember to include your name and address.

SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
 No DPTS service on Sundays or Holidays

SATURDAY PASS
 Cost \$1.50. Unlimited rides all day Saturday

Operation Uplift
 All of the buses and trolleys in the DPTS fleet are wheelchair and disabled accessible. However, to better serve the needs of our riders, the DPTS also provides supplementary, door-to-door wheelchair lift, equipped, raised roof vans. In addition, DPTS also provides subsidized taxi ride under Operation Uplift at \$1.50 per person for each one-way trip.

CALL 424-2821
 These services are available at the same times in the bus system in its operation.
 Monday - Friday
 5:30 am - 6:45 pm
 Saturday
 6:15 am - 6:45 pm
 There is no service on Sundays or Holidays.

For more information call the Decatur Public Transit System at 424-2800.
Downtown Decatur Trolley
...it's fun, quick, convenient, and it's FREE!

Cracking Downtown Decatur every 15 minutes.
 Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 6:15pm, and Saturday from 8:00am to 6:15pm.
 The Trolley is scheduled to be at the Transit Center (353 E. William St.) on the hour, 15 minutes past, and 45 minutes past the hour, each hour, starting at 7:00am weekdays and at 8:00am every Saturday. The trolley will depart at 6:00pm, Monday through Saturday.

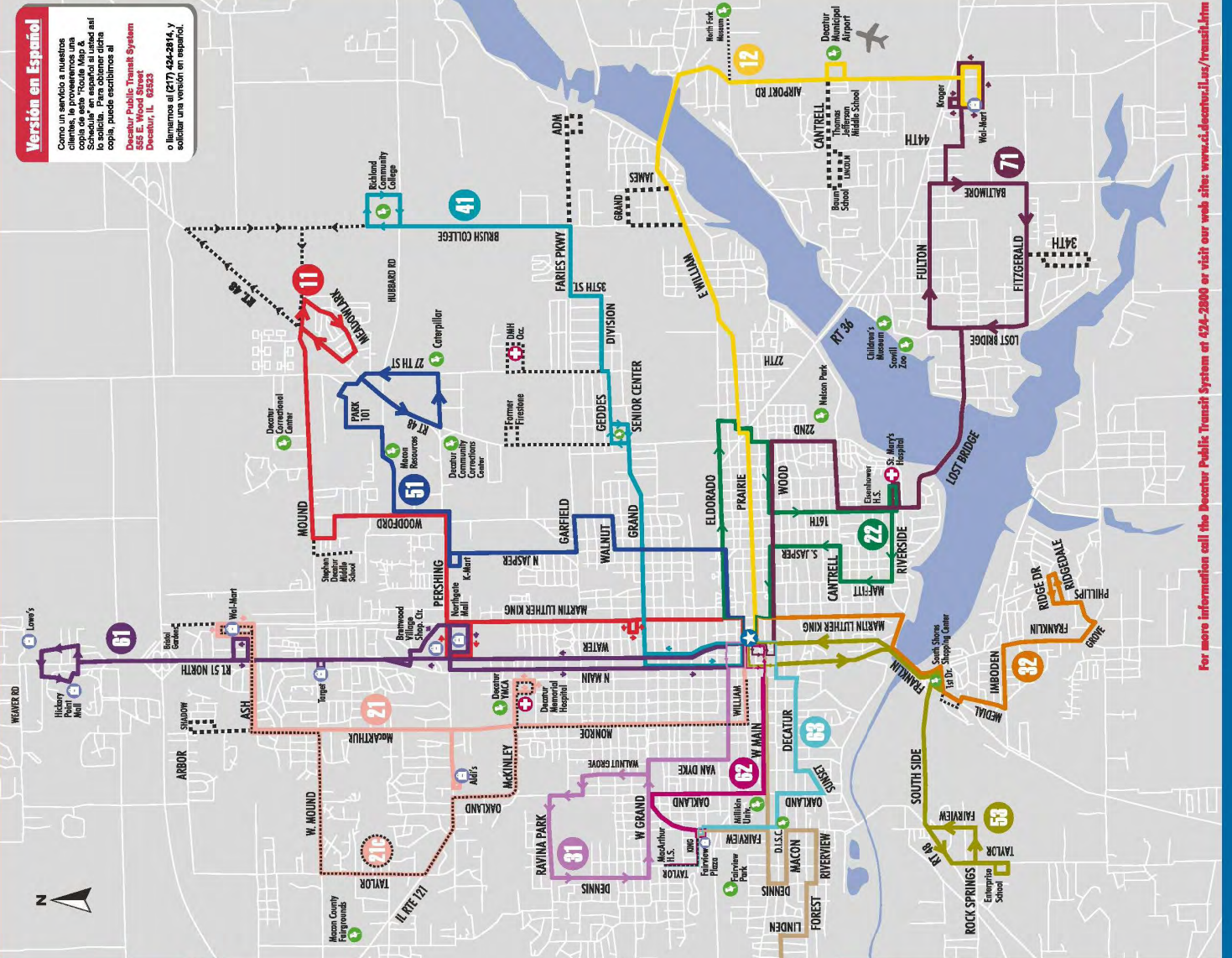


PASSENGER CONDUCT
 DEATUR PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REMOVE FROM THE BUS AND/OR PERSONS WHO IS DISRUPTIVE TO ITS PASSENGERS, CUSTOMERS, EMPLOYEES AND WHO CAUSES AN UNSAFE DRIVING CONDITION FOR DRIVERS.

VOLATORS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE BUS OR TRANSIT CENTER.

WHILE RIDING IN A TRANSIT VEHICLE OR USING THE TRANSIT CENTER, THE FOLLOWING RULES SHALL APPLY:

- NO SMOKING
- NO LOITERING
- NO PROFANITY
- NO HORSEPLAY
- NO LOUD NOISE
- NO DRUGS
- NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES



- LEGEND**
- 11 Meador Park - Meadowlark
 - 21 Airport - West Hill East
 - 31 Meador - West Hill North
 - 41 Meador - West Hill North
 - 51 Meador - West Hill North
 - 61 St. Mary's - Grant
 - 71 West Hill - Ravenna Park
 - 81 South Side
 - 91 East Grand - Richard C.C.
 - 101 Jasper - Park 101
 - 111 West Hill - Wydes Road
 - 121 Enterprise - Taylor Rd.
 - 131 Water St. - Hickory Point Mall
 - 141 Oakland
 - 151 Decatur
 - 161 Lead Bridge - West Hill East
 - 171 Deatur Public Library
- For service on Supplementary Routes call 424-2800

For more information call the Decatur Public Transit System at 424-2800 or visit our web site: www.ci.deatur.il.us/transit.htm

CONCLUSION

The Community Profile was not compiled to point out the Macon County's faults or to point fingers at different agencies and entities whose statistics are presented. This profile has been a collaborative effort between many agencies whose work directly affects these statistics. Representatives were encouraged to speak honestly about the statistics and the work that has been done to address issues in the community. All of these statistics are publicly available through different statewide agencies. This profile merely collected public data and put it all in one place.

In conversations with different stakeholders, it is clear that many of these issues are interrelated. Many of these issues are impossible to solve without addressing the interrelated concerns. Many of the issues are correlated. For example, counties with higher overall adult education levels tend to have lower crime rates, lower unemployment rates, fewer births to teen mothers and lower levels of disciplinary actions taken in schools. These issues show strong correlation, however, this does not necessarily suggest causation. Another correlation found in the data is that counties in which manufacturing is one of the top three industries have high unemployment rates than counties which rely on other sectors such as the education/social service sector or the financial sector.

Because issues of juvenile justice are entangled with issues of poverty, health and education, there can be no true solution to these issues without addressing them holistically. For this reason, intense case management that addresses *all* the needs of the juvenile is the most successful method of achieving meaningful and lasting outcomes. For this reason, case management has recently become a focus for many grant funded programs and initiatives. For example, the Safety Net Works grant, which came to Decatur in 2008, has always incorporated case management in its programming. Projects funded through Safety Net Works for the fourth year must include a strong case management piece. This model is used not only in juvenile justice, but can be used to address concerns in the realm of education, health, trauma, mental health and substance abuse.

In order to address the interwoven issues in Macon County, service providers have come together to work in collaboration. The Macon County Juvenile Justice Council is only one example of an effective collaboration of agencies and organizations in the county. Some other standing collaborations in Macon County include: Decatur Community Partnership, the Macon County Justice Council, Human Services Agency Consortium (HSAC), Macon County Support Advisory Council (MSCAC), and the Decatur Area Education Coalition.

MCJJC MEMBER AGENCY INFORMATION

This section provides information on each member agency, including contact information, history, mission, vision and goals, as well as services provided by the organization.

Community ACCESS (Redeploy Illinois)

141 S. Main St.
Decatur, IL 62523
217-424-1444
Fax: 217-425-9813

MCJJC Member: Thea Toussaint, Ttoussaint437@yahoo.com

Mission: Keep high-risk juveniles in the community while keeping the community safe.

Vision: Utilize a quality continuum of community-based services for juveniles and their families.

Services Provided:

- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Mental Health Counseling
- Anger management
- Tutoring
- Community Restorative Boards (Restorative Justice)
- Home Intervention Services
- School Advocates
- Transportation
- Gardening Program
- Mowing Program
- Girl's Group
- Cognitive Intervention

Coalition of Neighborhood Organizations (CONO)

PO Box 3294
Decatur, IL 62525
Conodecatur.com
Phone: 217-454-5652
Fax: 217-422-6924

MCJJC Member: John Phillips, 217-454-5652

History: CONO was established in 1991, and in 1997 was recognized by the [Decatur City Council](#) as the official representative of Decatur neighborhoods. Since that time CONO has consistently been the number one “grassroots” organization in Decatur, by serving as the umbrella organization to all neighborhoods in the city.

Mission: Our mission is to support the formation, development, and empowerment of grassroots neighborhood organizations within the city boundaries of Decatur

Goals: To meet with representative of various neighborhood organizations/associations together in a room with service providers and city representative to tackle issues in our neighborhoods. To focus on communications (i.e. neighbor meetings, events, fundraising), fundraising in addition to City grants, volunteering, and getting everyone on board with helping the neighborhoods.

Decatur Community Partnership

2000 N. Main St
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone: 217-875-7060
Fax: 217-875-2933
www.dcp.richland.edu

MCJJC Member: Vivian Goodman, Executive Director, 217-421-6566

History: Decatur Community Partnership (DCP) is a formal network of the major health, human service, law enforcement, local government, educators, youth, parents and media agencies in Decatur and Macon County. The purpose of DCP is to identify and address gaps in consumer service through an integrated service system that includes research of best practices and management team leadership working toward needed policy change, bringing more persons to self-sufficiency and/or independence. Since its initial beginnings, DCP has been the recipient of at least a dozen governmental and private foundation grants, bringing in several million dollars to the community.

DCP was organized in the early 1990's as a community-wide effort to combat youth drug use. It maintained a singular focus on prevention and reduction of youth substance abuse for over a decade. DCP was the designated coalition for the 2005 Drug Free Communities program. Since that program was successfully launched, DCP broadened its scope, expanding into areas that are not directly tied to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD), yet still focus on increasing the quality of life and health for Macon County residents. In 2006 DCP was one of three national grantees for a cancer clinical trial education program, and in 2007 it was awarded the Weed and Seed grant by the Department of Justice. Since 2005, the Drug Free Communities project has centered around the theme of coalition building with the goal of reducing the rate of substance use and abuse by high school students and over time, among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse. This project is implemented through a Drug-Free Community Coalition and partnerships with other area service providers.

In October 2007, The DCP board became the program administrator for a five year \$1million Federal Weed and Seed grant. The purpose of this grant is a two tiered process to first rid a targeted neighborhood of hard core criminal and drug activity through arrests and prosecutions. Secondly, human service agencies provide restoration to the area through the delivery of effective programs.

As DCP expanded its range, it wanted to maintain a focused and collaborative ATOD effort. In early 2007 it created a new unit, the Decatur Drug Free Community Coalition, consisting of those DCP members that concentrate on youth drug prevention. DCP continues to manage and staff the Drug Free Coalition. Richland Community College serves as the fiscal agent for our current DFC grant. DCP's Executive Director serves as Project Coordinator for the Drug Free Community Coalition and oversees the Weed and Seed program.

Mission: Decatur Community Partnership is committed to promoting collaborative programming among community organizations and individuals, and encouraging the integration of services to effectively improve the quality of life and the health of Macon County residents.

Vision: To improve the overall health and quality of life for Central Illinois' residents

Goals:

- To establish and strengthen community collaboration
- To increase the quality of life by reducing substance abuse, crime, violence, and other negative behaviors among youth and over time, among adults in the community
- To Increase Marketing and Visibility
- To Sustain Decatur Community Partnership

Services Provided:

- To establish and strengthen community collaboration
 - Assess community service needs and resources

- Facilitate collaboration among community service providers to eliminate gaps in services, acquire additional resources, and/or combine existing resources to promote community health
- Enhance training and recruitment and capitalize on networking opportunities

To increase the quality of life by reducing substance abuse, crime, violence, and other negative behaviors among youth and over time, among adults in the community

- Implement substance abuse prevention strategies through community collaboration
- Reduce crime and violence through police/community relationships

Diminish other negative behaviors through community collaboration and wrap-around services

Decatur Police Department

333 S. Franklin St.

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-424-2711

Fax: 217-424-2766

www.decaturil.gov

MCJJC Member: Detective Brad Allen, 217-424-2738

Mission: The Decatur City Code identifies the responsibility of the Decatur Police Department as the protection of life and property, the protection of rights of persons, the enforcement of ordinances and regulations and the preservation of peace, order and safety.

Services Provided:

- To prevent and repress crime
- To detect criminal activity and to apprehend offenders
- To protect life and property
- To facilitate the safe movement of people and vehicles
- To assist those in danger, those who cannot care for themselves and those in need of assistance
- To protect individual constitutional rights
- To resolve conflict threatening to life and property
- To create and maintain a feeling of security in the community.

Decatur Public Schools Student Services

1900 E. Cleveland Ave.

Decatur, IL 62521

Phone: 217-424-3026

Fax: 217-424-3063

MCJJC Members: Lawrence Trimble, Dropout Prevention Coordinator

History:

Decatur Public School District 61 was established in 1865 and is the 22nd largest unit district in the state of Illinois, serving more than 9,000 students. The District consists of one Pre-Kindergarten/early learning center, 13 K-6 elementary schools, three K-8 schools, two middle schools, two high schools, and an alternative education program.

The District also operates a regional Technical Academy and is the administrative agent for the Macon-Piatt

Special Education District. Five of our facilities are magnet schools, including a Montessori school and balanced calendar "year-round" school that both provide Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade programming. Approximately 68% of our students qualify for free or reduced priced meals. We are a diverse district with approximately 1,800 staff members. 47% of our student population is White, 43% African American, 7% Multiracial, 2% Hispanic and 1% Asian.

Mission:

Student Services is committed and dedicated to providing quality and innovative programs that adapt to the various learning styles of all our students.

Vision:

Student Services focuses on the well-being of the child - from academics to attendance, and everything in between. Services are available for students, parents, and the general community, with emphasis on eliminating barriers to ensure student success.

Goals:

Everything we do is driven by our desire to support our students and create an environment that promotes their wellness, learning, and achievement.

Services Provided:

- Homeless assistance
- Truancy intervention
- Dropout prevention services
- Community collaboration
- Family consultations
- Student intervention services
- Discipline analysis and interventions
- School-Agency collaboration
- Other services as needed

Department of Child and Family Services

Disproportionate Minority Contact

151 N. Main St.

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-362-6262

Fax: 217-362-6291

MCJJC Member: Gwen Riddle

History: In 2007, Macon County Justice Council pursued funding from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission to become "Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) site. Our application was successful and we were selected to participate in a "readiness assessment" process, which was conducted by The Burns Institute. The readiness assessment involved the collection and analysis of local criminal justice data, which served to establish a DMC baseline and has guided our strategic planning to reduce DMC. We recognized that minority youth are disproportionately represented at all levels of the Juvenile Justice system and that issues surrounding

DMC must be addressed to be successful in our efforts to reduce juvenile detention and confinement. Improvement in the Juvenile Justice system with the goal of reducing commitments to detention and the Juvenile Department of Juvenile Justice is a *community* commitment in Macon County, as evidenced by the united efforts of a number of juvenile justice initiatives (ex. Juvenile Redeploy IL/Community ACCESS; Teen Court; Truancy Court, etc.).

Mission: As a collaborative effort between the Juvenile Justice System and community participants, Macon County DMC will promote data-driven practices, community based programming, and system reform initiatives to reduce disproportionate contact of youth of color in our community.

Goal: To reduce disproportionate minority contact in the Macon County Juvenile Justice System.

Service Provided:

- Establish coordinating bodies to oversee efforts to reduce disparities;
- Identify key decision points in the system and the criteria by which decisions are made; Collect local data at every point of contact youth have with the juvenile justice system (disaggregated by descriptors such as race, ethnicity, gender, geography and offense) to identify where disparities exist and the causes of those disparities;
- Develop and implement plans to address disparities that include measurable objectives for change;
- Publicly report findings; and
- Evaluate progress toward reducing disparities.

Gateway Foundation Alcohol & Drug Treatment

2200 Lake Victoria Dr.

Springfield, IL 62703

Phone: 217-529-9266

24-hour toll-free HelpLine: 877-321-7326

Fax: 217-529-9151

Website: www.recovergateway.org

MCJJC Member: Lou Douglas

History: Gateway Foundation, Inc. is a Chicago-based not-for-profit organization committed to the fight against alcohol and other substance abuse and drug addiction. Since 1968, we have been an industry leader in providing community-based [outpatient treatment](#), [residential treatment](#), DUI Evaluations, Risk Education, Early Intervention, and Treatment Services that is innovative, effective and cost-efficient. We provide drug rehab and alcohol treatment services to help individuals with or without the ability to pay. We work hand-in-hand with healthcare providers, local communities, schools, businesses and government agencies to respond to the ever-changing needs of people seeking drug rehab and alcohol treatment. We specialize in designing innovative drug rehab and alcohol treatment programs to serve the special needs of [teens](#), adult men and women and the [elderly](#) including those with a concurrent mental health diagnoses. We treat more than 29,000 clients per year.

Services Provided: 60 Residential beds Adolescent Male 12 to 18 years of age, Co-Ed Outpatient Services for Adolescents. 16 Residential beds for Adult Females ages 18 and over and 26 Residential beds for Adult Men ages 18 and over, Co-Ed Outpatient Services for Adults. Dui Evaluations, Risk Education, Early Intervention, and Treatment

Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce

111 E. Main Ave. Suite 110

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-422-2200

Fax: 217-422-4576

www.decaturchamber.com

History: Chartered in 1903, the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce is technically the second oldest chamber of commerce in the state of Illinois. However, the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce was created by the Decatur Board of Trade, which was founded in 1887. In 1937, the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 50th anniversary, which was based on the date that the Board of Trade was formed.

Since its inception, the officers of the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce have included the leaders of nearly every business, professional and industrial group of Decatur for well over one hundred years.

Along with other founding members, the Decatur Chamber name is proudly displayed in the lobby of the U.S. Chamber on a floor to ceiling plaque. The U.S. Chamber is located in Washington, D.C. on Lafayette Square across from the White house.

Mission: The Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce is a pro-business network providing service, political advocacy, and leadership to strengthen education, community image, and local businesses.

Vision: The Chamber supplies the Greater Decatur community with the leadership, resources, and enthusiasm needed to strengthen EDUCATION, POLITICAL ADVOCACY, COMMUNITY IMAGE, NEIGHBORHOODS, and TRANSPORTATION. These improvements enhance our regional quality of life and help area businesses attract and retain the highest caliber workforce.

Goals:

Education: The Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce is focused on education. We work diligently to improve our community's work force by offering educational programs such as quarterly Ag Cafes, business seminars, and the Decatur Leadership Institute. The Chamber also fully supports the Decatur Area Education Coalition's mission to make Decatur and Macon County one of the most educated communities in Illinois.

Political Advocacy: The Chamber takes care of politics so you can take care of your business. We are a respected voice when it comes to protecting and promoting free enterprise and minimizing government interference and taxation. The Chamber monitors and informs members about issues of importance to business. From City Council to Congress, we make sure the people who make the laws hear your concerns. Through organizations such as CIPAC and PARAGON, the Chamber continually promotes the best interests of the community.

Community Image: Improving community image is at the core of everything we do at the Chamber. We sponsor groups such as the Community Image Taskforce and the Chamber Ambassadors to build and promote a positive perception of Decatur and Macon County. We also organize activities such as the Greater Decatur Community Awards and the Community Thanksgiving Luncheon to recognize significant civic contributions.

Services Provided: The Chamber of Commerce sponsors a variety of events and programs that are designed to support the local business community.

Heritage Behavioral Health Center

151 N. Main St.

PO Box 710

Decatur, IL 62525

Phone: 217-362-6262

Fax: 217-362-6290

www.heritagenet.org

MCJJC Member: Bruce Angleman

History: Heritage Behavioral Health Center, Inc. traces its origin to March 1, 1956, when the Mental Health Clinic of Macon County was founded by a group of area residents created by the local Mental Health Association. The Mental Health Clinic accepted its first client on April 10 and has been providing continuous service ever since. In 1967, the Alcoholism Advisory Council for the Decatur Area was established to provide substance abuse services. In 1970, the Mental Health Clinic became the Decatur Mental Health Center (DMHC) and established an inter-locked relationship with the Alcoholism Advisory Council. In 1987, the Alcoholism Advisory Council was merged into Decatur Mental Health Center. DMHC continued its steady growth and became the primary provider of community-based behavioral health care in Macon County. In 1998, Decatur Mental Health Center became Heritage Behavioral Health Center, Inc.

Mission: The purpose of Heritage Behavioral Health Center, in partnership with the consumers, families and diverse communities we serve, is to assist people with mental illnesses, and substance use disorders reclaim their lives by providing treatment and supportive services in a community setting. We prioritize the delivery of care to individuals and families who are high risk, believing that recovery is the truest measure of our progress as a society.

Vision: Exercising foresight, courage, and a willingness to enter uncharted territory, Heritage is committed to improving the behavioral healthcare services provided to clients, enhancing not only their clinical outcomes, but their relationships with families, significant others and friends. Heritage will create a working environment that nurtures the growth and professionalism of its staff and will exhibit levels of corporate citizenship that contribute to the highest quality of life for our community.

Goals:

Increase Financial Viability and Sustainability

Heritage will have Safe, Attractive Professional Environments

Personnel Practices Will Support and Foster Continuous Learning

Meet Changing Needs in Service Development and Delivery Based on a Person-Centered Recovery Model

Increased Coordination with Primary Health Care

Continue to Strengthen Compliance Activities and a Cultivate a Culture of Compliance

Services Provided: Heritage provides the following range of mental health and substance abuse services: 24-hour crisis intervention; innovative outreach; case management; 24-hour residential crisis stabilization for the seriously mentally ill; psychiatric services; psychiatric hospital discharge planning; a drop-in center for the homeless; and prevention services in schools and in the community; substance abuse services include outpatient and intensive outpatient treatment, detoxification, and residential rehabilitation; treatment includes individual, group, and family counseling; case management; and educational groups.

Heritage is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and is recognized by the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) as a licensed provider of substance abuse services and a certified provider of Medicaid mental health and substance abuse services.

Macon County Board

Macon County Health Department

1221 E. Condit

Decatur, IL 62521

Phone: 217-423-6988

Website: www.maconcountyhealth.org

MCJJC Member: Julie Aubert, Administrator

217-423-6988 ext 1105

History: Founded in 1962, we strive to enhance the quality of life for residents of Macon and surrounding counties by offering health and wellness programs, providing treatment and education, encouraging prevention, promoting inclusion, and being sensitive to individual differences. We have doubled our staff and services over the last 15 years and continue to assess the needs of the community. We moved into our current facility in 1991 and added over 16,000 sq feet in 2003. We currently employ 104 people and have a budget of near \$6,000,000.

Mission: To enhance the quality of life for residents of Macon and surrounding counties by offering health and wellness programs, providing treatment and education, encouraging prevention, promoting inclusion, and being sensitive to individual differences.

Services Provided: Maternal, child health services, dental clinic, senior services, environmental health, immunizations, TB prevention and treatment, communicable disease prevention/surveillance, health education and promotion, laboratory, WIC and health clinic services.

Macon County Probation Department

141 S. Main Street

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-424-1444

Fax: 217-424-9813

MCJJC Member: Lori Long, Director of Court Services ext 8666

Amy Smith, ext 8793

History: According to Illinois Criminal Law and Procedure, “the Supreme Court of Illinois may establish a Division of Probation Services whose purpose shall be the development, establishment, promulgation, and enforcement of uniform standards for probation services in Illinois.”

Mission: The mission of the Macon County Probation and Court Services is to serve the Court and citizens of Macon County within a sound framework of offender accountability and community protection.

In accordance with the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice and Evidence-based Practices, the Department is committed to providing close supervision, appropriate structure, community-based interventions, and healing services to offenders and their families.

In partnership with the community, Macon County Probation and Court Services promotes the healing of victims, restoration of the community, and accountability of offenders with the goal of returning them to useful citizenship.

Services Provided: Macon County Court Services (MCCS) is under the direct supervision of the Macon County 6th Judicial Circuit Court. MCCS provides the Court and the community with a full range of probation services for juvenile offenders. Services include, but are not limited to, the preparation of juvenile social history court reports that provide the Court with detailed, verified information, which is also used for prioritized case planning and community-based interventions with juvenile offenders and their families. Supervision strategies are based upon evidenced based risk/need assessments that prompt referrals and linkages to other community resources and support.

MCCS facilitates cognitive intervention & education groups with medium to high risk juvenile offenders. MCCS educates juvenile offenders about restorative justice & provides them with opportunities to perform public community service that is either directly or symbolically related to the harm caused by their crime. MCCS is an active partner with Community Restorative Boards (CRB), which are used with select juvenile offenders. CRBs are comprised of trained community volunteers who work closely with the offender to assist him/her repair the harm that resulted from their criminal behavior.

Juvenile offenders who require increased supervision, short of secure detention, are monitored by MCCS in the community via a “home detention” program. Home detention involves more frequent in-person contacts with the juvenile at home and in the school, and includes a surveillance component. MCCS provides specialized supervision services for juvenile sex offenders and works closely with local sex offender treatment providers to enhance community safety & influence offender accountability. Additional services either provided by or coordinated through MCCS include alcohol & drug testing and some limited assistance with transportation.

Macon County Public Defender’s Office

253 E Wood St.
Decatur, IL 62523
Phone: 425-7011
Fax: 425-7012

MCJJC Member: Greg A. Mattingley, Macon County Public Defender

History: The inception of a Public Defender in Macon County occurred sometime after the 1963 decision in *Gideon vs. Wainwright*. Originally, the Public Defender position and those of the assistant public defenders was part-time, with the attorneys maintaining their own offices and a private practice. In 2008, the part-time model was abandoned with the adoption of a full-time Public Defender’s Office staffed with full-time attorneys and support staff, with the office located in the Macon County Court House.

Mission: To provide legal representation to indigent defendants in Macon County.

Vision: To collaborate, where possible, with others involved in criminal justice to develop and implement more problem solving courts and resolution of cases; and, when not possible, to vigorously defend and protect the rights of our clients.

Goals: To provide quality legal services to those charged with violations of Illinois Criminal or Juvenile laws who can not afford counsel, seeking the most favorable outcome possible for our clients.

Services Provided: Felony defense, Misdemeanor defense, Traffic defense for non-petty offenses, Juvenile case defense in Delinquency and Neglect and Abuse cases, termination of parental rights and adoptions, and mental commitments.

Macon County Sheriff's Department

Macon County State's Attorney's Office

253 E. Wood St., 4th floor

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-424-1400

Fax: 217-424-1402

Website: www.maconcounty-il.gov

MCJJC Members: Jack W. Ahola, Macon County State's Attorney
Mary Bolton

History: Formed in 19th Century when Illinois became a state.

Mission: Chief Law Enforcement Officer & Legal Advisor for County.

Vision: To make sure all citizens are treated with justice.

Goals: To retain and attract a professional staff of Attorneys, Investigators, and support personnel. To be accountable to victim. To be accessible to the public.

Services Provided: As chief law enforcement officer, the State's Attorney has the following duties:

- To commence and prosecute all criminal actions in the name of the People of Illinois, whether they be misdemeanor offenses or felonies. The State's Attorney may begin an action by Information or Complaint in matters which are felony or misdemeanor or he may appear before the Grand Jury and request an Indictment.
- To prosecute all violations, filed in name of the People of Illinois by duly commissioned peace officers pursuant to the Illinois Vehicle Code including offenses related to driving under the influence.
- To attend the examination of all persons brought before any judge on any habeas corpus within Macon County.
- To commence actions to extradite persons who are charged in other states and held by lawful warrant issued by another State and to cause to be brought to Macon County all persons charged in the Circuit Court of Macon County who are in another State or jurisdiction in order to stand trial.
- To provide legal advice to all local and state police departments operating in Macon County concerning police functions and duties in criminal matters and investigations.
- To provide counsel to the Grand Jury and to commence and prosecute all investigations before the Grand Jury.
- To request the sentence of death in any felony wherein capital punishment is provided by law and is warranted by the circumstances.

- To commence and prosecute all matters pursuant to the Juvenile Court Act of Illinois, including actions to adjudicate minors to be wards of the Court as a result of abuse, neglect or delinquency and, further, to advise the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services concerning their duties and functions as they occur in Macon County.

To proceed on behalf of private persons and the Illinois Department of Public Aid in causes to assure the support of minor children in Macon County, or elsewhere by reciprocal action with other states.

Macon County Teen Court

State's Attorney's Office

253 E Wood St.

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-424-1400

Fax: 217-424-1402

MCJJC Member: David Kidd, Teen Court Administrator

History:

The Macon County Teen Court began with the first cases being heard on Thursday, September 28, 2004. The W. K. Kellogg Foundation initially provided the funding for the Macon County Teen Court. Current funding is from an assessment of traffic violations, misdemeanor, and felony cases along with Redeploy Illinois.

Mission:

The Macon County Teen Court is committed to successfully deterring youth from committing further criminal acts through the creation of uniquely tailored sentences for each case by incorporating Balanced and Restorative Justice Principles and peer mentoring.

Vision:

To give youth defendants an opportunity to take steps to repair the harm they have caused by their actions, thereby avoiding a criminal conviction.

Goals:

- For youth offenders to take steps to repair the harm they have caused by their actions
- Establish positive relationships between the community and its youth, promoting increased understanding and communication
- To provide opportunities for youth to become involved in the resolution of crime in their community
- To help youth learn the benefits of law-abiding behavior and community service work

Services Provided:

Teen Court is a diversion program designed for youth offenders to avoid criminal records. Youth between the ages of 9-17 in Macon County are eligible for Teen Court and are offered alternative sanctions to repair the harm they have caused to the community. A group of trained teenage volunteers act as the jury, and through listening to the cases, they agree on a sentence that allows the defendant to repair the harm done to the victim, the family, and the community. Apologies to the victim or family, community service, essays, and behavioral programs are just a few of the ways the youth may work to make restitution. This process is unique from a traditional trial in that the offenders become aware of the harm they have done to the people directly and indirectly affected by their actions. The jury does not determine if the offender is innocent or guilty. Instead, the youth offender must plead no-contest to their wrongdoing and appear along with their parents or guardians. A youth who completes the assigned sentence before their return Teen Court date, has the offense removed from

their record. If the sanctions are not completed, the defendant returns to the justice system. Sex offenders, and traffic violations are not allowed in Teen Court.

Macon-Piatt County Regional Office of Education

1690 Huston Drive

Decatur, IL 62526

Phone: 217-872-3721

Fax: 217-872-0239

Website: www.maconpiattroe.org

MCJJC Members: Matt Snyder, Regional Superintendent
Matt Andrews
Keyria Rodgers

History: In 1829, the Sixth General Assembly made it the duty of the body known as the County Board to appoint a competent and responsible person to act as commissioner and agent for educational purposes. In 1865, the legislature called for the election of the County Superintendent of Schools. Until 1973, there were 102 County Superintendents in Illinois, one for each county. In 1995, by consolidation of smaller counties into regions, the number was reduced to 45. At that time, Macon and Piatt Counties joined to form the Macon Piatt County Regional Office of Education.

Mission: “To provide excellent service and programming with the improvement of education as the ultimate goal.”

Services Provided: Truancy, Right Track, Health Life and Safety, Compliance Visits, GED, Resource Library, Professional Development, RESPRO, ARRA (School Improvement) and Alternative Education: Futures, Safe School, Regional Safe School, St. Mary’s Adolescent Hospital, Baby Talk, and Bus Driver Training.

NAACP

Spotlight/ Behavioral Interventions (BI)

Truancy Courts

Weed and Seed

2000 N. Main St.
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone: 217-433-6412
Fax: 217-875-2933
Website: www.weedseed.richland.edu

MCJJC Member: Sheryol Threewit, Site Director

History: Weed and Seed is a community-based program/strategy sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), is an innovative, comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.

The strategy involves a two-pronged approach: 1) Law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" violent criminals and drug abusers and public agencies 2) Community-based private organizations collaborate to "seed" much-needed human services, including prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood restoration programs.

The Weed and Seed program is a multilevel strategic plan that includes four basic components: law enforcement; community policing; prevention, intervention, and treatment; and neighborhood restoration. Four fundamental principles underlie the Weed and Seed strategy: collaboration, coordination, community participation, and leveraging of resources.

In most Weed and Seed sites, joint task forces of law enforcement agencies from all levels of government aim to reduce both crime and fear of crime, which gives back hope to residents living in distressed neighborhoods and sets the stage for community revitalization.

Community policing embraces two key concepts—community engagement and problem solving. Community policing strategies foster a sense of responsibility within the community for solving crime problems and help develop cooperative relationships between the police and residents.

The prevention, intervention, and treatment component concentrates an array of human services such as health, children and family services, truancy prevention and after school programs, special events and more, on the designated neighborhoods and links law enforcement, other social services agencies, the private sector, and the community to improve the overall quality of services to residents.

Every Weed and Seed site is required to establish a Safe Haven, a multi-service center often housed in a school or community center, where many youth- and adult-oriented services are delivered.

Through coordinated use of federal, state, local, and private-sector resources, neighborhood restoration strategies focus on economic development, employment opportunities for residents, and improvements to the housing stock and physical environment of the neighborhood. Promoting the long-term health and resilience of the community is a true goal of Weed and Seed, so sustainability must be a key part of a site's structure.

Mission: Weed and Seed is a community-based program/strategy sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), is an innovative, comprehensive multiagency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.

Vision: The strategy involves a two-pronged approach: 1) Law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" violent criminals and drug abusers and public agencies 2) Community-based private organizations collaborate to "seed" much-needed human services, including prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood restoration programs.

Goals: Through coordinated use of federal, state, local, and private-sector resources, neighborhood restoration strategies focus on economic development, employment opportunities for residents, and improvements to the housing stock and physical environment of the neighborhood. Promoting the long-term health and resilience of the community is a true goal of Weed and Seed, so sustainability must be a key part of a site's structure.

Services Provided: Four fundamental principles underlie the Weed and Seed strategy: collaboration, coordination, community participation, and leveraging of resources.

Youth Advocate Program

202 E. Eldorado St., Suite A

Decatur, IL 62523

Phone: 217-422-7864

Fax: 217-422-1324

Website: youthadvocateprogram.org

MCJJC Member: Michael Warner

History: Youth Advocate Program is a non-profit, State Licensed, and Medicaid Certified, private welfare agency for youth and families.

Mission: The purpose of the Youth Advocate Program is to provide a wide range of rehabilitative services to at-risk children and their families.

Goals: Through our family intensive programming, the agency strives to maintain the family unit whenever possible.

Services Provided:

1. Advocacy Program

This program provides intensive one-on-one services to youth referred by the Department of Child and Family Services. Some of these services include mentoring, role modeling, and social skills building.

2. Family Habilitation Program

This program promotes permanency by maintaining, strengthening, and safeguarding the functioning of families. These in-home services work to increase the parent's ability to provide adequate childcare and to improve parenting skills. This includes helping families during times of crisis.

3. Visitation Program

Service provided to DCFS clients who are working towards reunification with their children who have been removed from the household due to abuse and/or neglect. Services include transportation to and from visitation and supervision of visitation between family members.

4. Extended Family Support Program

Services offered to homes that are not open DCFS cases but are relative placements that require intervention to maintain the placement. These services include assistance with court proceedings, purchase of supplies or necessities for children, and referral linkages.

5. Youth in Transition Program

Case management program designed for adolescents who are at risk of becoming homeless upon emancipation from the Department of Children and Family Services. These services include: assistance with locating housing, employment, and other items necessary to sustain independence within the community.

6. Norman Housing Advocacy

This program provides services to DCFS clients who lack adequate housing. A home interventionist helps families by locating and securing appropriate housing.

7. Family Advocate/SARs

This program provides intensive in-home services for abused and neglected children and their families. This 6-9 month contract serves intact families in order to prevent out-of-home placements.

8. Basic Center/Crisis Shelter

Temporary shelter for youth ages 12-17. Including housing and structured programming for up to 21 days, intended to begin re-building family connections to avoid future runaways, lock-outs, or youth homelessness.

9. Comprehensive Youth Development/Crisis Intervention

Twenty-four hour services offered to youth who are runaway, locked-out, or considered beyond control within their household. Referrals are made through the Police Departments, local County Sheriff's Departments, and schools.

10. Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services/Crisis Intervention

In addition to the 24 hour crisis intervention services that are available to youth and their family, this program provides community-based interventions including: formal assessment, counseling, case management, weekly teen groups, and linkages with other services in Macon and Piatt Counties.

11. Unified Delinquency Intervention Service (UDIS)

This program works with moderate to high risk juvenile offenders and is a community-based alternative to the Department of Corrections. Services include one-on-one advocacy, groups, case management, linkage services, individual/family counseling, and educational consultation.

12. Community Access/ReDeploy

Community based program designed to deliver intensive in-home services to high-risk juvenile offenders and their families. Some of these services include assistance with housing, budgeting, paying bills, housekeeping, etc. Services also include assessment, treatment planning, and family counseling. This program stabilizes the family in order to reduce the number of commitments to the Department of Corrections.

13. Safety NetWorks

Short-term in-home interventions for youth ages 6-17. Services will address family problems that have destabilized the household due to youth's illegal behavior and police contact. Special emphasis is placed on youth living in the target geographical location and residing with relatives or non-parent caregivers.

Youth With a Positive Direction

2000 N. Main St.

Decatur, IL 62526

Phone: 217-330-7432 or 217-875-1633

Fax: 217-875-2933

Website: www.ywapd.com

MCJJC Member: Margaret A. Walker, CEO, 217-972-0488

History: Youth With A Positive Direction (YWAPD) is an after-school/summer program that works in conjunction with parents, schools, and neighborhood organizations to send a consistent set of positive messages to encourage and train at-risk youth and young adults to live positive and productive lives. It has operated out-of-school programs for teens and families for 18 years. It focuses on older teens, and 90% of its enrollees are African Americans. YWAPD is well-regarded for its community volunteers, cultural and artistic activities.

Mission: Youth With A Positive Direction (YWAPD) is an after-school program that works in conjunction with parents, schools, and neighborhood organizations to send a consistent set of positive messages to encourage and train at-risk youth and young adults to live positive and productive lives.

Vision: To be a premier grassroots community organization empowering, building and training youth and young adults for the now and the future.

Goals:

Help improve academic performance

Create and increase parental involvement in schools and in after-school programs

Increase life skills to help youth/young adult to promote positive decision making

Train up positive adult mentors

Services Provided:

- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Youth Development
- Parent & Family-Based Mentoring
- Economic, Vocational-Educational & Community-Oriental Safety
- Target Intervention-Truancy Court
- Life skills education
- Parental involvement
- Recreation, sports and cultural/artistic activities
- Positive adult mentors
- Service Learning
- Music Production Entrepreneurship
- Stop the Violence marches and rallies
- Community events
- Organizational collaboration with other COBs, Decatur Police Department and churches
- Case management
- The Digital Divide Program provides computer literacy skills training for low-income, less educated diverse audiences of all ages, including persons with disabilities
- Transportation

APPENDIX

- Juvenile Detention Screening Instrument

Point Total

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERRIDE (Supervisory approval is required) ___ YES ___ NO REASON _____ FINAL DECISION: ___ DETAIN ___ RELEASE ___ RELEASE WITH REFERRAL	
---	--

Macon County Detention Screening Instrument

Screen Date: _____ Screen Time: _____ A.M./P.M. PO Screener: _____
 Arresting Officer _____ School/Grade: _____
 Minor Respondent: _____ D.O.B. _____ Age: _____
 Sex: M / F Race: _____

Current Medications _____

Was parent/guardian notified to bring medication (who) _____
 Any physical injuries, emotional/psychological concerns, or drug/alcohol impairment?
 Yes/No(circle one) Describe: _____ Treatment Provided _____
 Did the minor give any indication that he/she is a risk to harm self? (Y) (N)
 Explain: _____

(Choose only One Item indicating the most serious presenting offense & circle it)

1. MOST SERIOUS INSTANT OFFENSE:(list)	
Automatic Transfer Case, Warrant, Violent Felonies—(Murder, Armed Robbery with Hand Gun, Home Invasion, Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault, Any Offense Where the Juvenile Is In Actual Possession of a Firearm, Aggravated Battery-Bodily Harm, Aggravated Vehicular Invasion, Aggravated Discharge of a firearm)	15
Other Forcible Felonies—(Robbery, Residential Burglary, Kidnapping, Intimidation, Criminal Sexual Assault, Hate Crime, Aggravated Battery, Vehicle Invasion) Other Offenses: Felony Sale of Cannabis on School Grounds (class 1 or 2 Felony Amount, Arson, Delivery of Controlled Substance)	10
Possession of Controlled Substance w/Intent to Deliver on School Grounds, Burglary, UUW (not a gun), Possession of Explosives	7
Felony Possession of Narcotics/Drugs for Sale or Other Felonies	5
Misdemeanor Possession of Narcotics/Drugs or Other Weapons Possession	3
Other Misdemeanors	2
Notes:	

<p>(This information may be available to the law enforcement officer initiating custody.)</p> <p>2. PRIOR COURT REFERRALS (Choose Only One Item)</p> <p>Prior Court Referral (this includes court appearances, notice to appear, or arrests without detainment) <u>within last 24 hour period</u>-----8</p> <p>Active Parole-----8</p> <p>Prior IDOC/IDJJ Commitment-----5</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8</p> <p>5</p>
<p>3. CURRENT CASE STATUS (Choose Only One Item)</p> <p>Active Community ACCESS /UDIS -----10</p> <p>Active Probation/CUS case -----8</p> <p>Active Pickup, Hold, and Notice to Appear (FTA) -----5</p> <p>Probation within last 12 months-----5</p> <p>Not an Active Case -----0</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8</p> <p>5</p> <p>0</p>
<p>4. Under Pre-Adjudicatory Order of Home Detention</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>5. Violation of Juvenile Electronic Monitoring</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>6. AGGRAVATING FACTORS (Can add 1 point per factor up to 3): Senior or Very Young Victim, Likelihood of Retaliation, Serious Injury to Victim, Poor or No School Attendance, Multiple Offenses are Alleged For This Referral, Accelerated Contacts w/Police for Criminal Offenses in last 30 days</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(add)</p>	<p>(+)_____</p>
<p>7. MITIGATING FACTORS (Can subtract 1 point per factor up to 3): Positive Parental Supervision/Stable Home Environment, Good School ,Attendance & Behavior, Young in Age at Time of Presenting Offense, Strong Positive Connections to Community</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(subtract)</p>	<p>(-)_____</p>
<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <p>8. TOTAL SCORE</p> <p>DECISION SCALE</p> <p>Score 0-9 AUTHORIZE RELEASE</p> <p>Score 10-14 ELIGIBLE FOR NON-SECURE DETENTION</p> <p>Score 15+ AUTHORIZE DETENTION (for minors 10 and older)</p>	<p>Total_____</p>

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Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force Final Report

Appendix E

- Illinois State Police Brochure: “Viewing and Challenging Your Criminal History Record”

Mail the items listed above to the following address:

FBI CJIS Division - Record Request
1000 Custer Hollow Road
Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306

Please Note: *If any of the above items are missing or incomplete, the request will be returned unprocessed. Allow approximately 8 to 10 weeks for processing, upon receipt to the FBI.*

What You Will Receive From the FBI

- If you have no record on file, the original fingerprint card will be stamped "No Record" and returned to you.
- If you have a criminal record on file, your FBI criminal history record will be forwarded to you.

How to Challenge Your FBI Record

The FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division is not the source of the data appearing on Identification Records and obtains all data thereon from fingerprint submissions or related identification forms submitted to the FBI by local, state and federal agencies. The responsibility for authentication and correction of such data rests upon the contributing agencies. Therefore, the rules set forth for changing; correcting or updating such data requires that the subject of an Identification Record make application to the original contributing agency

An individual may challenge the information contained in the FBI Identification Record by contacting the original agency that submitted the information to the FBI or the state central repository in the state in which the arrest occurred. These agencies will be able to furnish the guidelines for correction of the record. The FBI is not authorized to modify the record without written notification from the appropriate criminal justice agency.

To obtain additional information regarding the FBI's processing procedures, please contact the FBI at (304) 625-5590 or visit their website at <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/fprequest.htm>

Questions regarding this information or program may be addressed to:

Illinois State Police
Division of Administration
Bureau of Identification
260 North Chicago Street
Joliet, Illinois 60432

Phone: (815) 740-5160

Fax: (815) 740-4401

E-mail:

boi_customer_support@isp.state.il.us



State of Illinois
Illinois State Police

Viewing and Challenging Your Criminal History Record



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ISP 2-577 (8/10) M
www.illinois.gov www.isp.state.il.us



Illinois State Police

Access and Review for Illinois



The Access and Review process was established to allow individuals to review their Illinois criminal history record and provides a means to challenge the accuracy of any information contained on the record. The following procedures describe how an individual can obtain a copy of their Illinois record as well

as a copy of their Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history record. All of the information contained herein can also be found on the Illinois State Police Internet Home Page (www.isp.state.il.us).

The procedure for conducting an Access and Review inquiry to review Illinois criminal records is as follows:

- Any individual may request any law enforcement agency or correctional facility to initiate a fingerprint based inquiry to the Illinois State Police for the purpose of allowing the individual to access their state criminal history record transcript. This process can not be used to obtain a criminal history record transcript for licensing or employment purposes. Title 20 Part 1210 of the Illinois Administrative Code requires law enforcement agencies and correctional facilities within Illinois to facilitate Access and Review inquiries upon request. Such requests must be made during the agency's regular business hours.
- In response to a request, the law enforcement agency or correctional facility is required to obtain fingerprints from the individual along with other identification information, and submit it within 30 days to the Illinois State Police on an Access and Review Fingerprint Card provided by the Illinois State Police.
- Within 60 days after receiving the Access and Review form, the Illinois State Police is required

to provide the law enforcement agency or correctional facility with a copy of the individual's complete Illinois criminal history transcript or, if no criminal history record is found, a written statement so stating. If a criminal history transcript is disseminated to the law enforcement agency or correctional facility, it will contain all conviction as well as non-conviction information reported to the Illinois State Police regarding the individual.

- Once the Access and Review fingerprint form is processed, the Illinois State Police will forward a copy of the individual's criminal history transcript to the law enforcement agency or correctional facility. The criminal history transcript will be accompanied by a Record Challenge form which the individual can complete and return to the Illinois State Police to request corrections or modifications be made to the criminal history record.
- The law enforcement agency or correctional facility is required to contact the individual and allow the individual to view their criminal history transcript at the facility only. Individuals exercising their right to Access and Review their criminal history record are not permitted to leave the law enforcement agency or correctional facility with their criminal history transcript unless it has been redacted to exclude all identifiers and references to the individual. This will prevent the use of the transcript for employment or licensing purposes.
- After receiving the Record Challenge form, the Illinois State Police will provide a written response informing the individual of any action taken to correct the individual's criminal history record. If it is determined that no corrections are to be made, a statement to that fact will be provided to the individual.

The Illinois State Police does not charge a fee for processing Access and Review or Record Challenge submissions. However, police agencies and correctional facilities are permitted to charge a nominal fee to cover their costs for facilitating Access and Review requests.

Requesting your FBI Record

- To receive a copy of your FBI criminal history record, the request must be made directly to the FBI. To do this, complete and forward a letter to the FBI requesting a copy of your FBI criminal history record. If the request is for a couple, or family, etc., all persons must sign the request letter and provide a legible set of fingerprints. Include your complete mailing address. If you have a deadline (e.g., an immigration deadline), please include the deadline in your request letter and on the outside of the envelope. The request letter must be accompanied by a legible set of fingerprints.
- Obtain proof of identity, which consists of a set of your fingerprints on an original card with your name, date of birth and place of birth. Fingerprints should be placed on a standard fingerprint form (FD-258) commonly used for applicant or law enforcement purposes. Copies are not accepted.
- Include rolled impressions of all ten fingerprints and impressions of all ten fingerprints taken simultaneously (these are sometimes referred to as plain or flat impressions.)
- If possible, have your fingerprints taken by a police agency or commercial live scan fingerprinting vendor. Previously processed fingerprint cards will not be accepted.
- Include \$18 U.S. dollars in the form of a money order or certified check made payable to the Treasury of the United States, or you may pay by credit card. Be sure to sign where required. No personal checks or cash are accepted. Payment must be the exact amount. If for a couple, family, etc., include \$18 for each person. If paying by credit card you must include the completed credit card payment form. Credit cards will not be used for expedited mail services.