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**ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
July 22-25 2018 | Ft Worth TX

# Developing and Supporting Local Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils: The SAA Role

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# Obstacles and challenges to reform



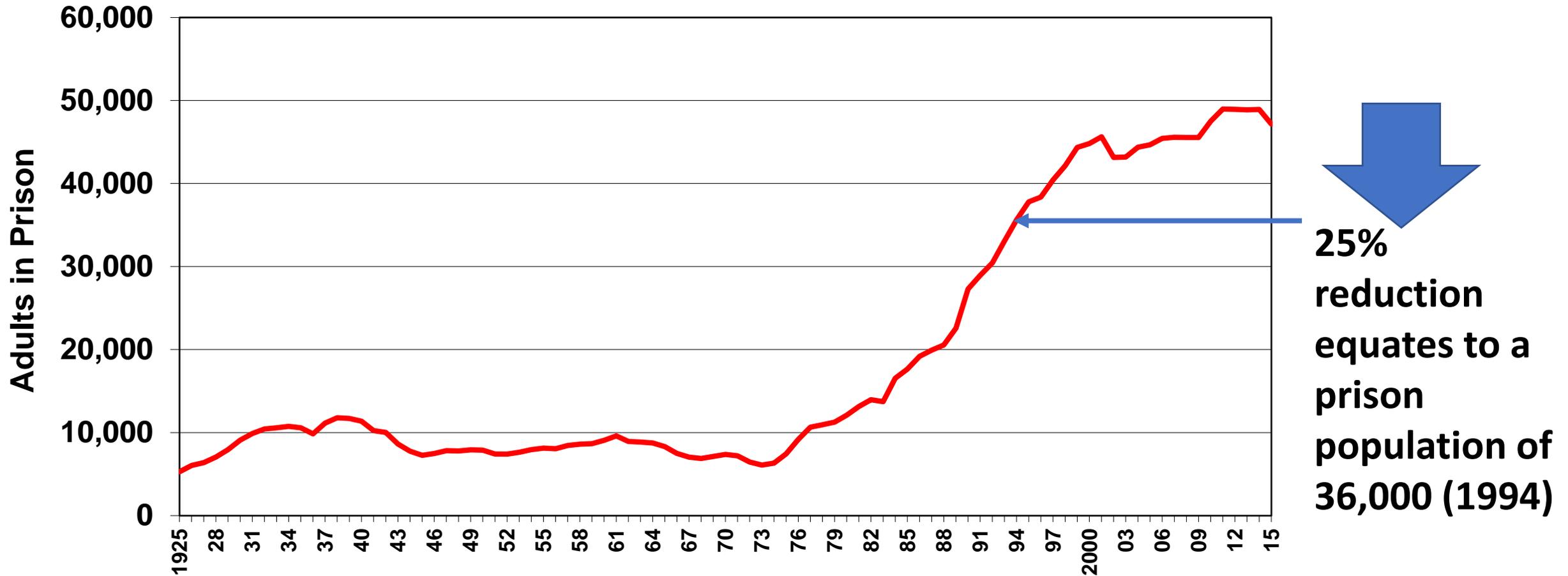
- “One size does not fit all”
  - National problems cannot be understood by lumping all states together
    - State problems cannot be understood by lumping all counties together
      - County problems cannot be understood by lumping all municipalities together
        - Municipal problems cannot be understood by lumping all neighborhoods together
          - Neighborhood problems cannot be understood by lumping all residents together
- **THUS, it is difficult to evaluate problems and craft solutions without zooming in**

# Context and Goals



- Illinois Commission on Criminal Justice & Sentencing Reform: Executive Order establishing Commission & identifying goal of 25% reduction in prison population by 2025, while improving public safety (27 specific recommendations)
  - Recommendation #3: Provide incentives and support for the establishment of local Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs) to develop strategic plans to address crime and corrections policy.
    - Recognition that **local** practice and policy influences prison utilization, practices vary from county to county, little objective research and data shared among local practitioners and policy makers, and local patterns and practices get lost in state-level planning
    - County-level (102): Elected County State's Attorney, probation is organized & partially funded by the county, judicial circuits individual or multiple counties, most cities within county borders, most funding from cities and counties
    - No single elected official, agency, level or branch of government is "in charge"

# Illinois' Adult Prison Population (48,278 January 2015)



Source: U.S. Department of Justice Historical Statistics on Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions, 1925-1986 and published IDOC data

# CJCC Collaboration

- NCJA & National Governor's Association (NGA)
  - National Criminal Justice Reform Project
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)
  - State Administering Agency (SAA) (Federal & State Grants), "State CJCC"
  - Statistical Analysis Center (SAC)
- Local jurisdictions
  - 5 pilot counties based on application & letters of commitment from all key stakeholders (McLean, Winnebago, McHenry, Lake & St. Clair counties)
  - Formally launched June 2017
- Loyola University Chicago's Center for Criminal Justice Research, Policy and Practice
  - Loyola supported by the MacArthur Foundation
  - Extensive experience with state agencies, boards and commissions
  - Academic partners in general: objective, non-political, technical skills, stable



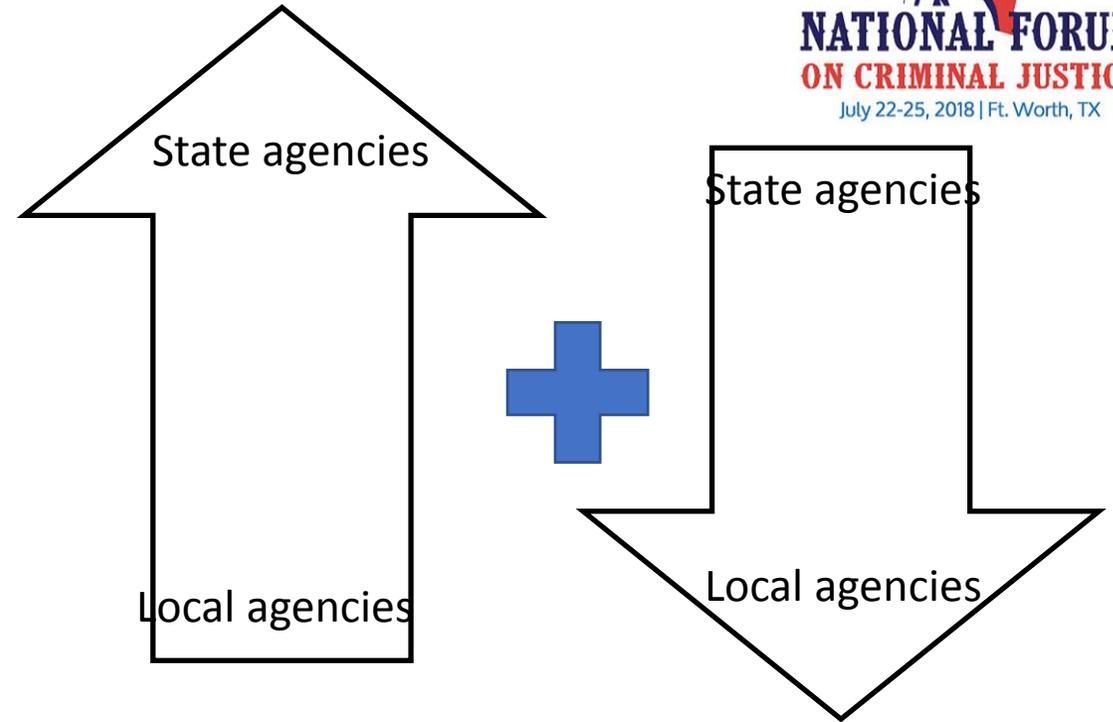
# Translating data reported by locals to state into information for local practitioners & policy makers



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- Goal is to improve understanding among local officials and groups, provide research support to examine specific topics of interest to the CJCC, increase system-wide communication/learning, & facilitate development of a local strategic plan
  - Phase 1: What can be learned from existing, statewide reporting mechanisms about local crime issues and responses?
  - Phase 2: What do local jurisdictions want to learn through objective research?
  - Phase 3: Development of strategic plan



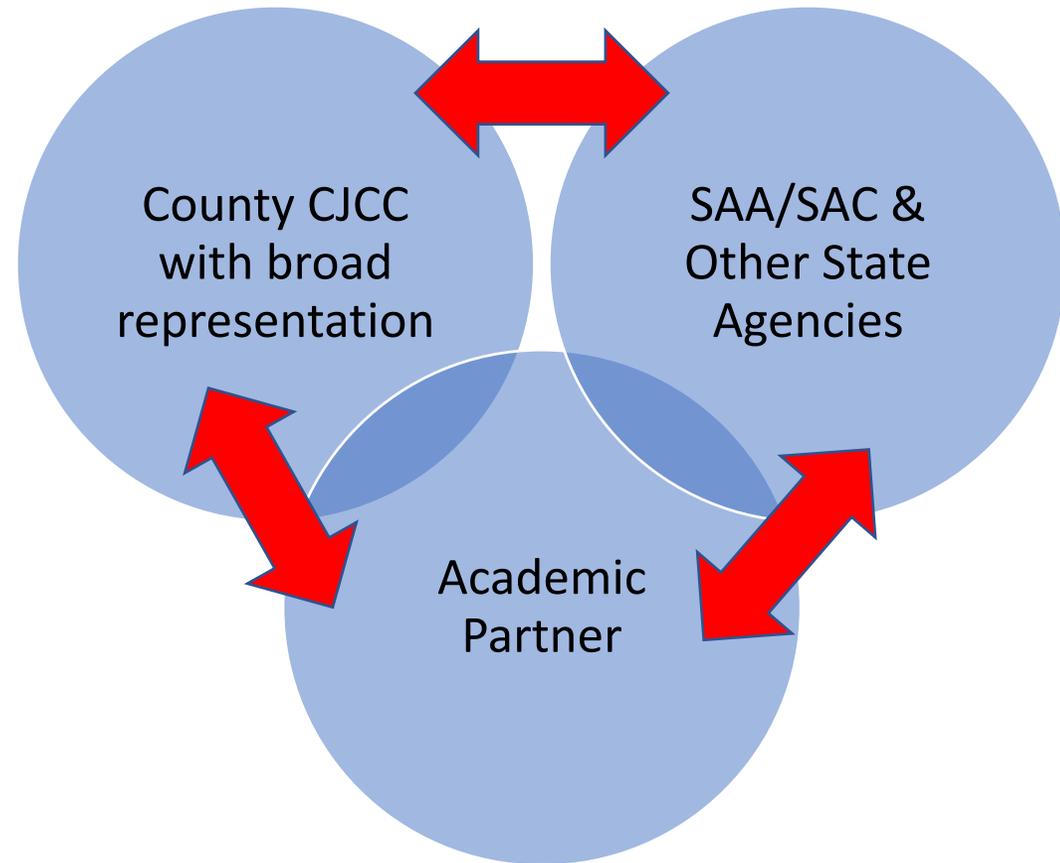
Results/ outputs get “added up” and reported to various state agencies **but ....**

Rarely do results/outputs get provided back in a useful/meaningful way, and rarely are the activities of the state in local jurisdictions shared

# Relationships, Collaboration, Learning and Outcomes



- \* Everyone involved seeks to improve public safety, efficiency, effectiveness, and use data and research to guide policy and practice
- \* Everyone involved maintains independence
- \* Everyone involved has something to contribute and give
- \* Everyone involved has something to learn and gain
- \* Everyone has access to same information
- \* Evolution from informal to formal



# The Evolution of County-Level Research by the State/ICJIA



- Early 1990s
  - Crime memos for legislators (boilerplate)
  - DuPage County Strategy to Control Drug and Violent Crime (first county-specific “profile”) (detailed)
  - 101 additional “County Profile” reports (updated periodically until 2004) (boilerplate)
- 2000s
  - On-line county-level data (spreadsheets of specific indicators)
  - On-line dynamic county-level data (ability to generate some specific data/analyses by county)
- 2017/2018
  - County-level Trends and Issues report (see <https://luc.edu/ccj/counties/>)
  - Presentation, facilitated discussion, responses to questions, & relationships

# Lessons Learned from County-Level Analyses



- Boilerplate process memos & reports
  - Economies of scale, generate large amounts of graphs and analyses for large number of jurisdictions
  - Assumes users can connect the dots, divine policy-relevance, and that they don't have any insights or questions
- Data available on web-sites
  - Can be interactive, current, and generate large amounts of graphs and analyses for large number of jurisdictions
  - Assumes users are data-literate, quantitatively oriented, and that they don't have any insights or questions
- County-Level Trends and Issues Reports & Process
  - More time consuming, longer-term process, and requires “translator” between data, information, and policy-implications
  - More useful, contextualized, accurate, collaborative, system-wide perspective

# Examples of insights & opportunities



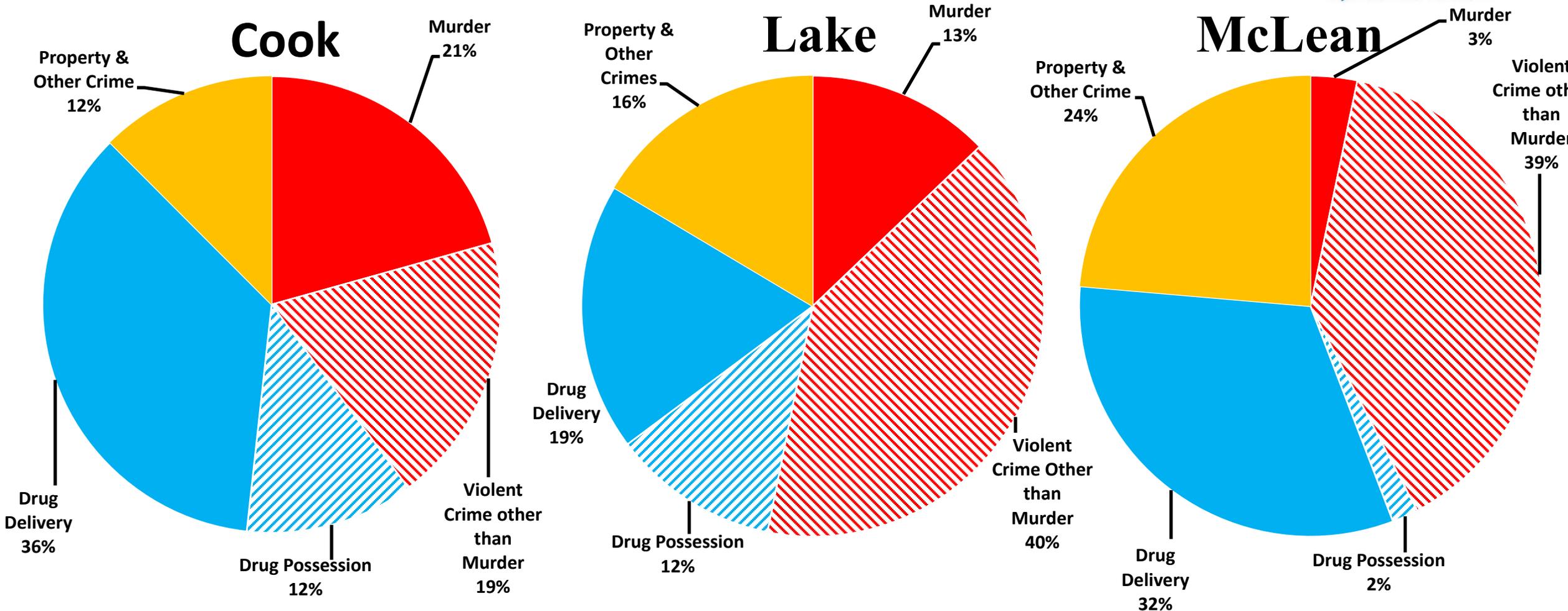
- More than just local, elected *criminal justice* practitioners need, want and benefit from this information and knowledge
  - County boards & city councils, social service providers, civic/business groups
  - Value of a delivery by a “neutral” individual
- Factors driving the increased use of prison varied across counties
- Counties changed their use of prison in recent years, but factors driving these changes vary
- Most crime does not involve violence, most recidivists don’t commit violent crime, but missing from the narrative
- Knowledge whets the appetite for more knowledge
  - Leads to additional questions, analyses, and insights into what is important

# Offenses Driving Increase in Incarceration 1989-2000



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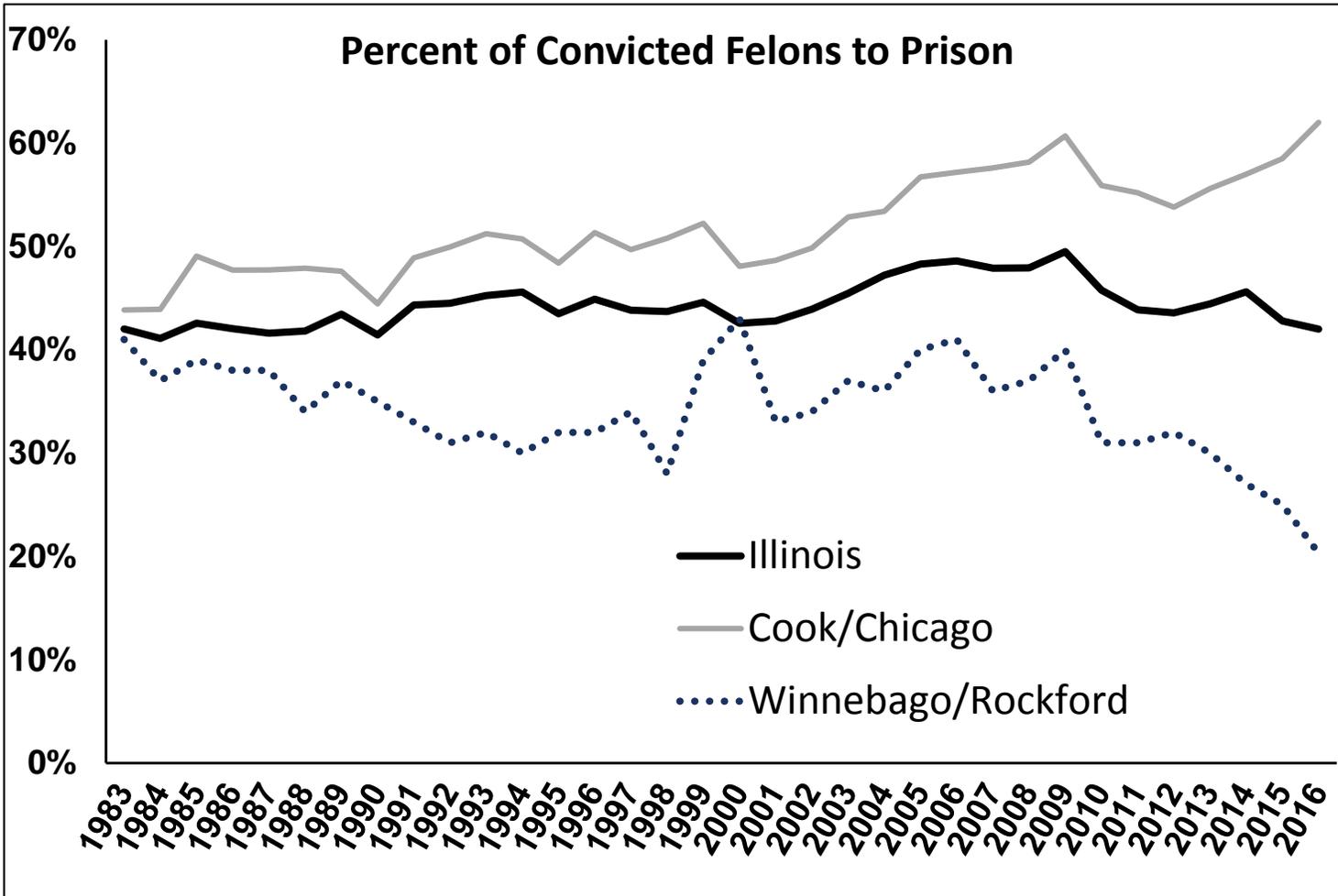
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# Illustrating the Importance of Disaggregation & Sophistication: Prison Utilization



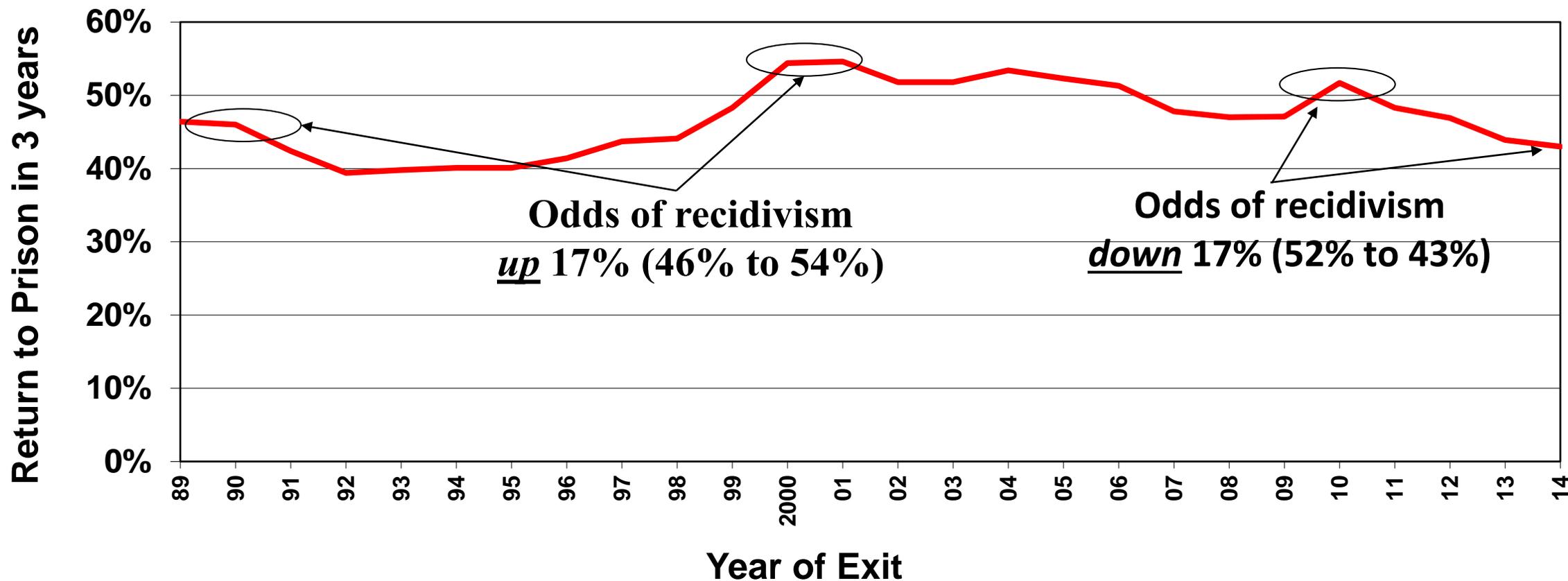
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- ***Statewide***, percent of those convicted of a felony sentenced to prison fell from 46% (2010) to 42% (2016)
  - Cook/Chicago drives narrative
  - Winnebago/Rockford (31% to 20%)
- Convicted felons in Winnebago County were ***less likely*** (Cook more likely) to be sentenced to prison than elsewhere in Illinois after taking into account offense and offender characteristics (based on analyses of 2012-2014 CHRI data by Stemen and Olson).

Source: Analyses of aggregate, published AOIC data & ICJIA-generated CHRI by Loyola's Center for Criminal Justice Research, Policy and Practice

# The Impact of Changes in Recidivism Rates on Prison Populations

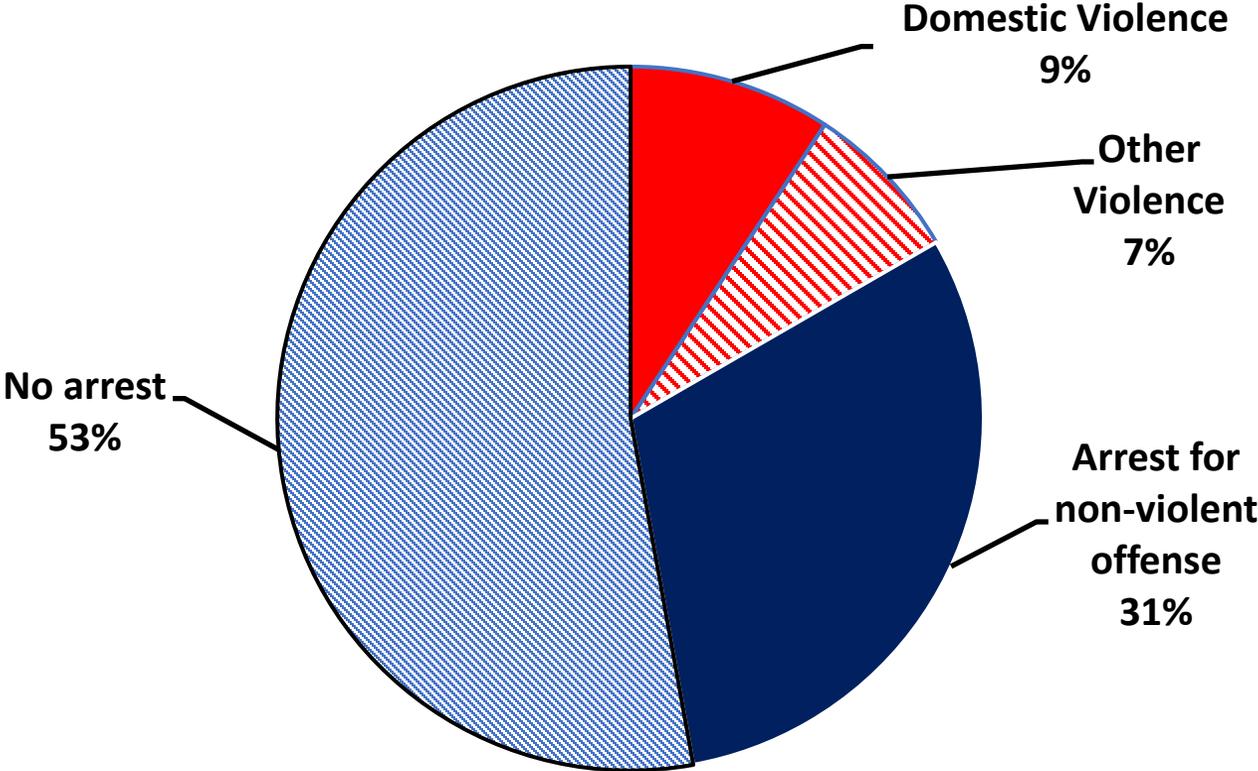


Source: Illinois Department of Corrections Planning and Research Unit

# Understanding Prison Releasee Recidivism at the Local Level



Arrest within 3 Years Post-Release

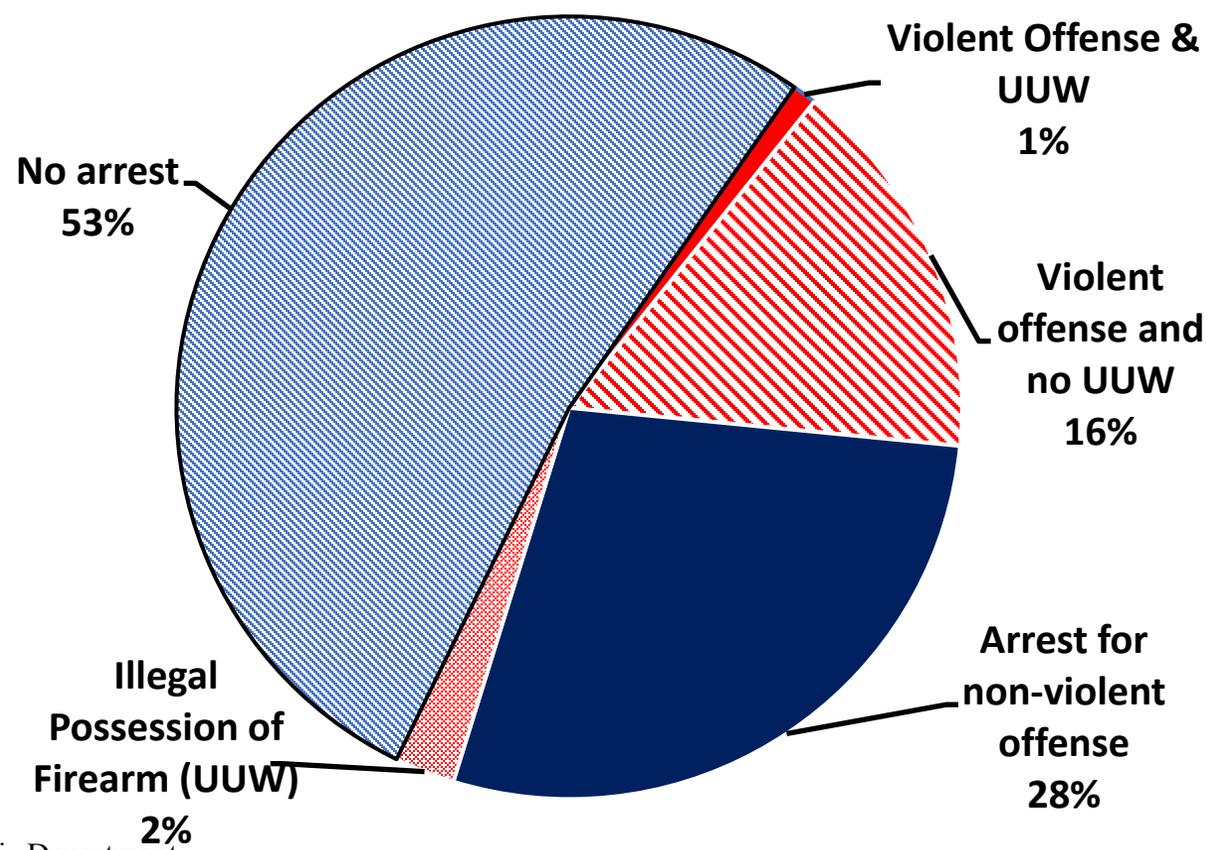
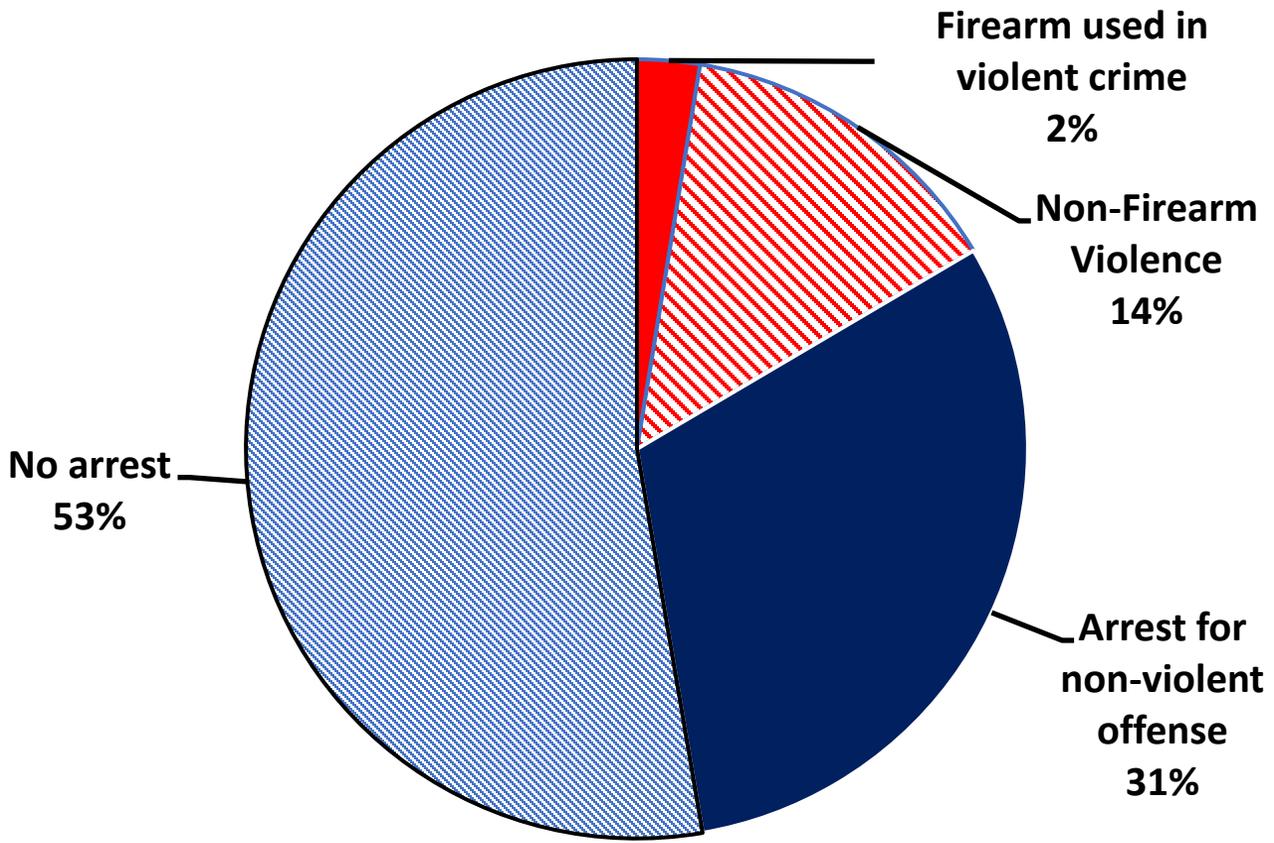


## Methodology & Findings

- Controlling for a variety of characteristics, the rearrest rate for any violent offenses among those released to St. Clair County was lower than the rest of Illinois (16% vs. 20%).
- Controlling for a variety of characteristics, the rearrest rate for domestic violence in St. Clair County was lower than elsewhere in Illinois (9% vs. 11%)

Source: Analyses by Loyola’s Center of Research, Policy and Practice of data provided by the Illinois Department of Corrections’ Planning and Research Unit and CHRI data generated and provided by the Research and Analysis Unit, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

# Understanding Prison Releasee Recidivism: But what about .....



Source: Analyses by Loyola's Center of Research, Policy and Practice of data provided by the Illinois Department of Corrections' Planning and Research Unit and CHRI data generated and provided by the Research and Analysis Unit, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

# Benefits



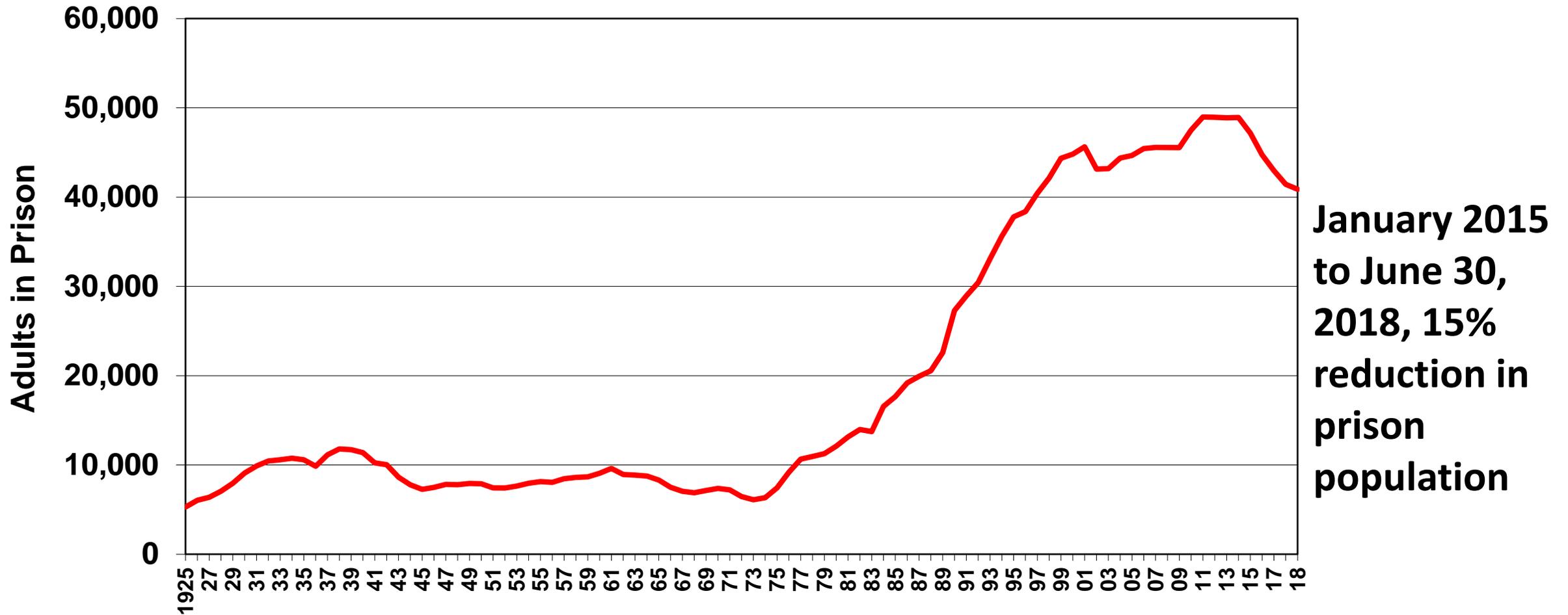
- Local Jurisdictions
  - Research and analyses that can be used to help jurisdictions understand “where they fit in” (for better or worse)
  - Research to assist in objectively answering locally derived questions (with potential for replication and economies of scale)
  - Research products that can be used to improve understanding, planning, & grants
  - A formal & informal line of communication with the state & criminologists
- State (SAA/SAC, Department of Corrections, Administrative Office of the Courts, etc)
  - Ability to objectively understand local jurisdiction’s needs and operations
  - Ability to determine accuracy and utility of data collection mechanisms
  - A formal & informal line of communication with local jurisdictions
  - A more robust state plan that takes into account variation across local jurisdictions

# Outcomes

- In-depth understanding of crime and justice system's response in 5 (6) specific Illinois counties (<https://luc.edu/ccj/counties/>)
  - Experiences to guide expansion and sustainability
  - Opportunities for incorporation into SAA grant making & monitoring processes
  - Opportunities for information exchange between local government and state
  - Opportunities to highlight local efforts & for local practitioners and policy makers to see the bigger picture
- Engagement and illumination of non-justice system policy makers
  - County boards and city councils not experts on justice system; social service providers don't always understand justice system
- What about probation?
  - Probation Outcome Research Consortium
- What about the prison population?



# Illinois' Adult Prison Population



Source: U.S. Department of Justice Historical Statistics on Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions, 1925-1986 and published IDOC data

# Questions?



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<https://luc.edu/ccj/counties/>

<https://www.luc.edu/media/lucedu/criminaljustice/pdfs/prisonpopulationgrowthbulletinjune20183.pdf>

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