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

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

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

Who is the average offender outside of Cook County?
Joe N.C. is a 30-year-old, white male, who was arrested in a county with an urban center.
- For every 100 non-Cook offenders convicted in 2017, 79 were male and 21 were female.
- 62 were white, 32 black, 4 Hispanic, and 1 identified as another race.
- 39 were arrested in urban counties, 37 in rural counties, and 24 in the collar counties.
- 24 were under the age of 25 when arrested on this case and 4 were over the age of 55.
- Statewide administrative data do not describe personal characteristics of Joe N.C., making it impossible to describe his education, employment, and other important aspects of his life.

What is Joe N.C.’s criminal history prior to this case?
Before this arrest, Joe N.C. had 9 prior arrests, 3 felonies, 4 misdemeanors, and 2 unknown or other.
- While the average is 9, the median, or 50th percentile, of prior arrests for property offenders is 6.1
- 52 were first arrested before turning 19 years old, 1 had his first arrest after the age of 55.
- Those prior arrests consisted of 2 property-related arrests, 2 person-related arrests, 1 drug-related arrest, and 2 arrests for other crimes.

Those 9 prior arrests resulted in 3 convictions for Joe N.C., including 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor.
- Joe N.C.’s prior convictions included 1 property offense, 1 person offense, and 1 drug offense.
31 had prior prison sentences, 51 had prior probation sentences, 32 had prior conditional discharge dispositions, and 48 had prior jail sentences.2

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

Joe N.C. was convicted of a Class 4, possession of a controlled substance offense.
- Of every 100 non-Cook offenders, 3 were convicted for a Class X felony, 8 for a Class 1, 20 for Class 2, 26 for a Class 3, and 43 for a Class 4 felony.

What is his sentence?
Joe N.C. was sentenced to 2 years of probation, and given 53 days credit for time served prior to sentencing.
- 32 of 100 were sentenced to prison, typically for 3 years.
- The best available statewide administrative data show that the 57 who received fines were charged $1,157.

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

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1 The average number of prior arrests is influenced heavily by a small percentage of offenders many prior arrests, leading to a high average number of prior arrests.
2 Numbers are not mutually exclusive; one case may have multiple sentences imposed.