Joe S.O. (Sex Offender)

8 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison in FY 2017 had sentences for a sex offense.

Who is the typical offender? To promote discussion of the common rather than the extreme case, SPAC analyzed the most common characteristics of people leaving state prison from July 2016 to June 2017 (fiscal year 2017) for each type of crime. SPAC used people exiting prison to be able to accurately reflect their length of stay and recidivism patterns. The analysis uses the most common, average, and median (50th percentile) metrics to produce a hypothetical Joe S.O. with a composite offender’s experience.

Who is the average sex offender coming out of state prison?

Joe S.O. is a 41-year-old, white male, born in Illinois. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Department of Corrections that he completed high school.
- 2 of every 100 sex offenders released in FY 2017 were women.
- 43 were white, 41 black, and 15 Hispanic.
- 82 were born in Illinois.
- 9 of every 100 sex offenders were younger than 25 and 15 were above 55, but the average was in his 30s.
- Most reported being single like Joe S.O., but 18 reported being married and 14 said divorced.
- S.O. might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (52 of every 100 reported completing high school or obtaining a GED, 37 completed less than that, and 11 were missing education-level data).

Before this incident, S.O. had 3 prior arrests for felonies, 4 prior arrests for misdemeanors, and 4 arrests for unknown or petty offenses. 3 of these arrests were for other property offenses, 1 was a drug offense, and 3 were violent offenses.
- From those 11 arrests, S.O. had been convicted of 2 felony offenses. Including misdemeanors, he had 3 total convictions, including convictions for 1 property and 1 violent offenses.

What was his sentence?

S.O. received a sentence for a Sex Offender Registry Violation in 2016.
- S.O. originally received a 3 year prison sentence as a Class 3 felon, then a 6 year sentence on a Class 2 sentence for second or subsequent registration offense.
- Data do not show whether there was a plea agreement.
- 38 of every 100 sex offenders were sentenced for a Sex Offender Registry related violation. 30 were sentenced for Criminal Sexual Assault and 23 for Criminal Sexual Abuse.
- 49 of every 100 sex offenders exiting prison in FY 2017 had been readmitted for violation the conditions of their mandatory supervised release (MSR, commonly known as “parole”).
- S.O.’s holding offense class was Class 2 (40 out of 100 sex offenders).
  - 6 were held on Class 4 felonies;
  - 22 were held on Class 3 felonies;
  - 11 were held on Class 1 felonies;
  - 20 were held on Class X felonies.
- S.O. may have been limited in good-time credits under truth-in-sentencing laws.
- 26 of 100 sex offender had to serve 85% of their sentence.

How long was he incarcerated?

After being arrested in 2016, S.O. spent 191 days (6 months) in the local jail prior to sentencing (median).
S.O. spent 22 months in state prison (median).
S.O. was released from Big Muddy River CC in FY 2017 after a total of 2 years, 4 months in prison and jail.
- 11 out of every 100 offenders were released from Big Muddy River CC (medium security) in FY 2017. 10 were released from Dixon (medium security) and 9 from Stateville (maximum security).
- Almost none were released from adult transition centers or from electronic monitoring.
- Individuals are typically released on a Friday.
S.O. was released on Mandatory Supervised Release. Past trends show that, by June 2020 (3 years from release), S.O. may be expected to be rearrested 1 time.
- Most likely to be rearrested for an “other” offense such as a registry violation. S.O. is unlikely to have a new conviction within 3 years.
- 48 of every 100 sex offenders released in 2017 will be returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release, for which they will serve the remainder of the supervision period before being fully discharged.