

Joe D.O. (Drug Felon)

26 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison had controlled substance sentences in SFY 2009.

Who is the average inmate coming out of state prison? What crime did he or she commit? How long did he or she spend in the system? What was his or her experience? To begin answering these questions, SPAC analyzed state prison releases from July 2008 to June 2009 (SFY 2009) to create an average “profile” using the most often occurring characteristics, as well as average and median (50th percentile) lengths of stay. The composite result, the hypothetical Joe, follows one average offender’s experience to promote discussion of the regular DOC inmate released from state prison.

D.O. is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 31. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Department of Corrections (DOC) that he completed high school.

- For every 100 drug felons released in SFY 2009, 10 were women.
- 75 were black, 17 white, 8 Hispanic.
- 84 were born in Illinois, 96 born in the United States.
 - o After Illinois, the next largest birthplaces were Mississippi (3) and Mexico (3).
- 25 of these 100 drug felons were younger than 25, but the average was in his 30s.
- 76 were single like D.O.; 15 reported being married, 6 divorced.
- D.O. might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (20 of the 100 reported completing high school, another 15 GEDs, and 9 some college, graduate, or technical schooling).

After being arrested for possession of a controlled substance in early 2008 in Cook County, D.O. spent **92 days (3 months) in local jail** prior to sentencing.

- A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards to 132 days (4 months).

Before this incident, D.O. had been **arrested 18 times before** (at least 6 of which were for drug offenses, 5 were property offenses, and 3 were person (i.e., violent) offenses).

- From those 18 arrests, D.O. has been convicted of 2 felony drug offenses, 1 felony property, and 1 felony person offenses. D.O. has at least 2 other convictions (for misdemeanors).

D.O. was charged with felony drug possession and received a **1-year-and-3-month sentence for a Possession of a Controlled Substance violation, a Class 4 felony**.

- 58 of 100 drug offenders released in SFY 2009 received a sentence for Possession while 41 received a sentence for Manufacture or Delivery.
- 23 of 100 drug offenders had returned to prison on technical violations of their mandatory supervised release (MSR) terms prior to their release in SFY 2009.
- D.O. was one of the 52 of the 100 felons whose highest holding offense-class was a Class 4 felony.
 - o 23 were held on Class 1 felonies;
 - o 17 were held on Class 2 felonies;
 - o 6 were held on Class X felonies.

D.O. was not limited in good-time credits under Truth-In-Sentencing laws.

- 1 of every 100 drug offenders faced TIS terms in SFY 2009 (same as admissions in SFY 2012).

D.O. spent **6 months in state prison**. DOC credited D.O. 3 months for his 92 days in local jail.

- A few of the 100 released drug offenders with long sentences brought the average up to 12 months of actual time served.

D.O. was **released from Stateville CC** on Friday, August 8, 2008.

- 10 of the 100 drug offenders released were from Stateville (a maximum security facility). 10 were from Pinckneyville (medium) and 7 from Vienna (minimum) CCs. Sheridan (medium) released 4 in SFY 2009.
- 6 were released from adult transition centers (ATC) and 1 from electronic monitoring by DOC.

D.O. was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**, as required by statute, for 1 year. By June 2012 (3 years from release), D.O. was **rearrested 3 times**.

- Most likely arrested for drug, property, or other (category) offenses.
- Of all the arrests, likely to be convicted for 1 drug offense.
- 12 of drug offenders released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release where they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.

Joey M. (Murderer)

2 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison had sentences for murders in SFY 2009.

Who is the average inmate coming out of state prison? What crime did he or she commit? How long did he or she spend in the system? What was his or her experience? To begin answering these questions, SPAC analyzed state prison releases from July 2008 to June 2009 (SFY 2009) to create an average “profile” using the most often occurring characteristics, as well as average and median (50th percentile) lengths of stay. The composite result, the hypothetical Joey, follows one murder offender’s experience to promote discussion of the regular DOC inmate released from state prison.

M. is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 35. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Dept of Corrections (DOC) that he finished his junior year in high school.

- For every 100 murderers released in SFY 2009, 8 were women.
- 67 were black, 16 Hispanic, 16 white.
- 78 were born in Illinois, 83 born in the United States.
 - o After Illinois, next largest birthplaces were Mexico and Mississippi (4 each).
- 8 of these 100 murderers were younger than 25.
- Most reported being single like M., but 13 reported being married and 5 divorced.
- M. might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (64 of the 100 reported completing more than 10th grade; 16 said 11th grade level, 11 said GED).

After being arrested for the murder in 1996, M. spent **501 days (1.5 years) in the local jail** prior to sentencing.

- A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards.

Before this incident, M. had been **arrested 6 times before** (1 was for a violent felony).

- From those 6 arrests, M. has been convicted of 1 felony for a person (i.e., violent) offense.

M. received a **sentence for First Degree Murder** in 1997.

- Data do not show whether there was a plea agreement.
- 43 of every 100 homicide offenders released in 2009 had sentences for First Degree Murder while 22 had sentences for Attempted Murder.
- 27 murderers had been admitted to state prison due to mandatory supervised release (MSR) technical violations prior to their release in SFY 2009.
- M. was one of the 55 of these 100 whose highest holding offense-class was a Murder Class felony.
 - o 24 were held on a Class X felony;
 - o 10 were held on a Class 1 felony;
 - o 6 were held on a Class 2 felony;
 - o 4 were held on a Class 3 felony.

M. received Day-for-Day good-time credits and received a determinate sentence.

- 2 of the 100 murderers released in SFY 2009 were still on indeterminate sentences.
- 3 had served 100% of their sentence under TIS laws (16 served on TIS-85% rules).

M. **spent 9 years and 11 months in state prison.**

- A few of every 100 murderers have longer sentences and brought the average up to 10 years and 8 months of time served.

M. was **released from Stateville CC** on Friday, September 26, 2008.

- 11 of the 100 murderers released were from Stateville (maximum security) and another 11 were from Dixon (medium). 9 were from Illinois River (medium) and 7 from Danville (medium).
- No murder offenders were released from adult transition centers (ATC) or IDOC’s electronic monitoring.

M. was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**. By June 2012 (3 years from release), M. was **rearrested once**.

- Most likely arrested for a misdemeanor person offense.
- M. is unlikely to be convicted again.
- 16 of every 100 murderers released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release were they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.

Prop Joe (Property Felon)

7 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison had sentences for burglary in SFY 2009.

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Prop Joe is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 35. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Department of Corrections (DOC) that he completed high school.

- For every 100 property offenders released in SFY 2009, 12 were women.
- 49 were black, 41 white, 10 Hispanic.
- 78 were born in Illinois, 96 born in the United States.
 - o After Illinois, the next largest birthplaces were Mississippi (3), Missouri (2), and Mexico (2).
- 25 of every 100 exiting burglars were younger than 25, but the average was in his 30s.
- Most reported being single like Prop Joe, but 16 reported being married and 11 said divorced.
- Prop Joe might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (70 of every 100 reported completing more than 10th grade; 19 reported graduating high school and 18 reported a GED).

After being arrested in 2007, Prop Joe spent **118 days (4 months) in the local jail** prior to sentencing.

- A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards to 156 days (5 months).

Before this incident, Prop Joe had been **arrested 16 times before** (at least 8 of which were for other property offenses, 3 were “other” offenses, and 3 were person (i.e., violent) offenses). 5 were felony arrests.

- From those 16 arrests, Prop Joe had been convicted of 2 felony property offenses. He had 5 total convictions, including those property convictions.

Prop Joe received a **sentence for a Burglary offense, a Class 2 felony** in 2008.

- Data do not show whether there was a plea agreement.
- 36 of every 100 property offenders were sentenced for burglary or residential burglary (mostly Class 2 and 1 felonies, respectively) while 32 were sentenced for Theft or Retail Theft (Class 3 and 4 felonies). 12 were sentenced for Motor Vehicle Offenses (DUIs).
- 21 of every 100 burglars had been admitted to state prison due to mandatory supervised release (MSR) technical violations prior to their release in SFY 2009.
- Prop Joe was one of the 86 of these 100 whose highest holding offense-class was a Class 2 felony.
 - o 10 were held on Class 3 felonies;
 - o 2 were held on Class 4 felonies;
 - o 2 were held on Class 1 felonies.
- Prop Joe was not limited in good-time credits under Truth-In-Sentencing laws.

Prop Joe **spent 10 months in state prison.**

- A few of the 100 burglars released with long sentences brought the average up to 1 year and 3 months of time served.

Prop Joe was **released from Pinkneyville CC** on Friday, March 13, 2009.

- 7 of the 100 burglars released were from Vienna (minimum). Illinois River CC (high medium) and Vandalia CC (minimum) were the next largest with 6 out of the 100 in SFY 2009.
- Very few offenders were released from adult transition centers (ATC) and none from DOC’s electronic monitoring.

Prop Joe was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**. By June 2012 (3 years from release), Prop Joe was **rearrested 2 times**.

- Most likely arrested for a property offense or, less likely, a category “other” offense.
- From these two arrests, he may have 1 additional conviction (likely another property offense).
- 12 of every 100 burglary offenders released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release where they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.

J.T. (Joe Retail Theft)

6 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison had sentences for retail theft in SFY 2009.

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J.T. is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 40. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Dept of Corrections (DOC) that he finished his junior year in high school.

- For every 100 retail theft offenders released in SFY 2009, 21 were women.
- 66 were black, 27 white, 7 Hispanic.
- 80 were born in Illinois, 98 born in the United States.
 - o After Illinois, next largest birthplaces were Mississippi (4), Missouri (3), and Arkansas and Tennessee (1 each).
- 9 out of every 100 exiting retail theft offenders were younger than 25.
- Most retail theft offenders reported being single like J.T., but 15 reported being married, 12 divorced.
- J.T. may have exaggerated on his education, but he probably has completed at least half of high school (79 of every 100 reported completing more than 10th grade; 20 said 11th grade level, 16 said GED).

After being arrested in 2008, J.T. spent **53 days (2 months) in the local jail** prior to sentencing.

- A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards to 79 days (3 months).

Before this incident, J.T. had **7 arrests for felonies** and **13 arrests for misdemeanors** (most were property or drug offenses).

- From those 20-plus arrests, J.T. has been convicted of 1 felony property offense.

J.T. received a **sentence for a Retail Theft offense, a Class 4 felony**.

- Data do not show whether there was a plea agreement.
- 22 out of every 100 property offenders were sentenced for Retail Theft under Class 3 and 4 felonies.
- 17 of every 100 retail thieves had been admitted to state prison due to mandatory supervised release (MSR) technical violations prior to their release in SFY 2009.
- J.T. was one of the 58 of these 100 whose highest holding offense-class was a Class 4 felony.
 - o 42 were held on Class 3 felony.
- J.T. was not limited in good-time credits under Truth-In-Sentencing laws.

J.T. spent **4 months in state prison**.

- A few of the 100 retail theft offenders with longer sentences brought the average up to 6 months of time served.

J.T. was **released from Vandalia CC** on Thursday, July 3, 2008.

- 20 of the 100 retail theft offenders released were from Vandalia (minimum security facility) and Vienna (minimum). 15 releases were from East Moline (minimum), Lawrence (medium), and Shawnee (medium) CCs.
- Very few were released from adult transition centers (ATC) and none from DOC’s electronic monitoring.

J.T. was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**. By June 2012 (3 years from release), J.T. was **rearrested 3 times**.

- Most likely arrested for property or “other” offenses.
- Of all the arrests, J.T. is likely to be convicted for 1 more property offense (possibly a felony).
- 10 of every 100 retail theft offenders released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release where they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.

Joe V. (Violent Felon)

8 of every 100 inmates leaving prison had sentences for assault, battery, or forcible harm in 2009.

Who is the average inmate coming out of state prison? What crime did he or she commit? How long did he or she spend in the system? What was his or her experience? To begin answering these questions, SPAC analyzed state prison releases from July 2008 to June 2009 (SFY 2009) to create an average “profile” using the most often occurring characteristics, as well as average and median (50th percentile) lengths of stay. The composite result, the hypothetical Joe, follows one average offender’s experience to promote discussion of the regular DOC inmate released from state prison.

V. is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 31. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Dept of Corrections (DOC) that he finished his junior year in high school.

- For every 100 violent offenders released in SFY 2009, 6 were women.
- 49 were black, 39 white, 12 Hispanic.
- 80 were born in Illinois, 95 born in the United States.
 - o After Illinois, next largest birthplaces were Mississippi, Missouri, and Mexico (2 each).
- 28 of every 100 battery offenders released were younger than 25.
- Most reported being single like V., but 15 reported being married and 11 divorced.
- V. might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (70 of the 100 reported completing more than 10th grade: 22 said 11th grade level and 17 said GED).

After being arrested in 2008, V. spent **104 days (3.5 months) in the local jail** prior to sentencing.

- A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards to 155 days (5 months).

Before this incident, V. had been **arrested 15 times before** (at least 4 of which were for other person offenses, 4 were property, and 4 were “other” offenses). 4 were felony arrests.

- From those 15 arrests, V. has been convicted of 1 felony property offense. V. has at least 4 other convictions (for misdemeanors).

V. received a **sentence for Aggravated Battery, a Class 3 felony** in 2008.

- Data do not show whether there was a plea agreement.
- 43 of every 100 violent offenders were sentenced for Assault, Battery, or Forcible Harm, 24 of these 43 were specifically for aggravated battery.
- 27 of every 100 battery offenders had been admitted to state prison due to mandatory supervised release (MSR) technical violations prior to their release in SFY 2009.
- V. was one of the 42 of these 100 whose highest holding offense-class was a Class 3 felony.
 - o 37 were held on a Class 4 felony;
 - o 15 were held on a Class 2 felony;
 - o 5 were held on a Class X felony;
 - o 1 was held on a Class 1 felony.

V. was not limited in good-time credits under Truth-In-Sentencing laws.

- 5 of these 100 aggravated battery offenders were sentenced under the 85% TIS rules.

V. **spent 5 months in state prison.**

- A few of the 100 aggravated battery offenders released with longer sentences brought the average up to 10 months of time served.

V. was **released from Vienna CC** on Friday, June 19, 2009.

- 8 of the 100 battery offenders released were from Vienna (minimum security facility) and 8 were from Vandalia (minimum). 15 came from Shawnee (medium), Lawrence (medium), and Stateville (maximum) CCs.
- No aggravated battery offenders were released from adult transition centers (ATC) or DOC’s electronic monitoring.

V. was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**. By June 2012 (3 years from release), V. was **rearrested twice**.

- Most likely arrested for other (category) or person (i.e., violent) offenses.
- Of all the arrests, V. has a chance of having 1 person felony conviction.
- 16 of every 100 aggravated battery offenders released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release where they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.

Joe Wey Ponn (Weapon Felon)

6 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison had a sentence for a weapon violation in SFY 2009.

Who is the average inmate coming out of state prison? What crime did he or she commit? How long did he or she spend in the system? What was his or her experience? To begin answering these questions, SPAC analyzed state prison releases from July 2008 to June 2009 (SFY 2009) to create an average “profile” using the most often occurring characteristics, as well as average and median (50th percentile) lengths of stay. The composite result, the hypothetical Joe, follows one average offender’s experience to promote discussion of the regular DOC inmate released from state prison.

Ponn is a black male, born in Illinois as a U.S. citizen, and is 27. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Dept of Corrections (DOC) that he finished his junior year in high school.

- For every 100 weapons offenders released in SFY 2009, 1 was a woman.
- 77 were black, 14 Hispanic, 9 white.
- 89 were born in Illinois, 99 born in the United States.
 - o After Illinois, next largest birthplaces were Mississippi and Mexico (2 each).
- 41 of these 100 weapon offenders were younger than 25.
- Most reported being single, although 11 reported being married, 4 divorced.
- Ponn might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (66 of the 100 reported completing more than 10th grade, 29 said 11th grade, 14 said GED).

After being arrested in 2007, Ponn spent **117 days (4 months) in the local jail** prior to sentencing.

- A few of the 100 with long pre-custody jail time pulled the average upwards to 160 days (5 months).

Before this incident, Ponn had been **arrested 15 times before** (at least 2 of which were for felony drug arrests and 1 for a felony “other” arrests).

- From those 15 arrests, Ponn has been convicted twice for a felony “other” offense, once for a felony drug offense.

Ponn received a **sentence for UYW-Felon, a Class 2 felony** in 2007.

- 56 of the 100 weapon offenses were sentenced for UYW-Felon while 35 were for aggravated UYW.
- 36 of the 100 weapon offenders had returned to prison on technical violations of their mandatory supervised release (MSR) terms prior to their release in SFY 2009.
- 6 had received completely new sentences during their supervision.
- Ponn was one of the 67 of the 100 weapons offenders held as a Class 2 felon.
 - o 33 were held on a Class 3 felony.
- Ponn was not limited in good-time credits under Truth-In-Sentencing laws.

Ponn spent **6 months in state prison**.

- A few of the 100 weapons offenders with longer sentences brought the average up to 10 months of time served.

Ponn was **released from Stateville CC** on Friday, May 15, 2009.

- 10 of the 100 weapons offenders released were from Stateville (maximum security). Vienna (minimum) and Pinckneyville (medium) had 9 each.
- 1 of these offenders was released from an adult transition center (ATC) and none from DOC’s electronic monitoring.
- For most weeks, Friday is the most typical date for individuals to be released.

Ponn was **released to Mandatory Supervised Release**. By June 2012 (3 years from release), Ponn was **rearrested 3 times**.

- Most likely arrested for “other,” drug, or person (i.e., violent) offenses.
- Of all the arrests, has a small chance of being convicted of an “other” offense.
- 14 of the weapon offenders released in 2009 had been returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release where they served the remainder of their time before being discharged without further supervision.