



ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

Methamphetamine in Illinois: An Examination of an Emerging Drug

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Comparing Methamphetamine and Cocaine

	Methamphetamine	Cocaine
Route of Administration	Smoked, snorted, injected, oral	Smoked, snorted, injected
Duration of Effects	8-24 hours	20 – 90 minutes
Production	Mexico/Domestic	South America
Cost/Price	\$100/gram (Higher profit margin)	\$100/gram
Availability	Evolving	Established

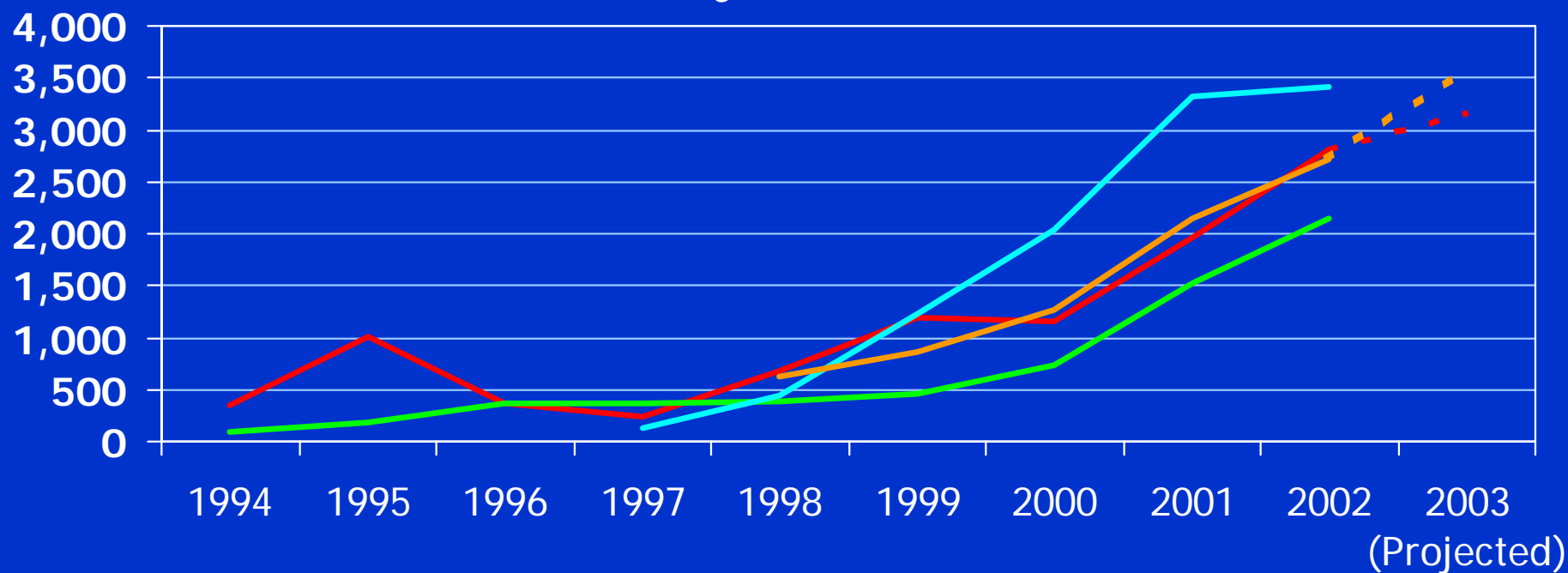
Data Available to Gauge Meth. in Illinois

- “Use” of methamphetamine
 - Survey by the Illinois Department of Human Services’ Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASA)
 - OASA-funded substance abuse treatment admissions
- Law Enforcement Detection/Justice System Impact
 - Arrests reported as violations of Illinois’ Controlled Substances Act, not the specific drug involved
 - Methamphetamine submitted to Illinois State Police Crime Labs
 - Number of clandestine methamphetamine labs seized
 - Admissions to the Illinois Department of Corrections

Methamphetamine in Perspective

- **Use (National 2001/2002 Survey Estimates)**
 - 2001/2002: 37% of people 12 and older in the U.S. have tried marijuana in their lifetime, compared to 12% trying cocaine, 4% trying methamphetamine, and less than 2% trying heroin.
- **Drug Treatment Admissions in Illinois**
 - During SFY '02: 28,000 for cocaine, 26,000 for marijuana, 22,000 for heroin, 2,100 for methamphetamine.
- **Arrests in Illinois**
 - During 2002: 47,000 for violations of Illinois' Controlled Substances Act (which include meth.) and 43,000 for violations of the Cannabis Control Act.
- **Drug Cases Submitted to ISP Crime Labs**
 - During 2002: 45,000 for marijuana, 34,000 for cocaine, 12,000 for heroin, 2,700 for methamphetamine

Measures of Methamphetamine Activity in Illinois



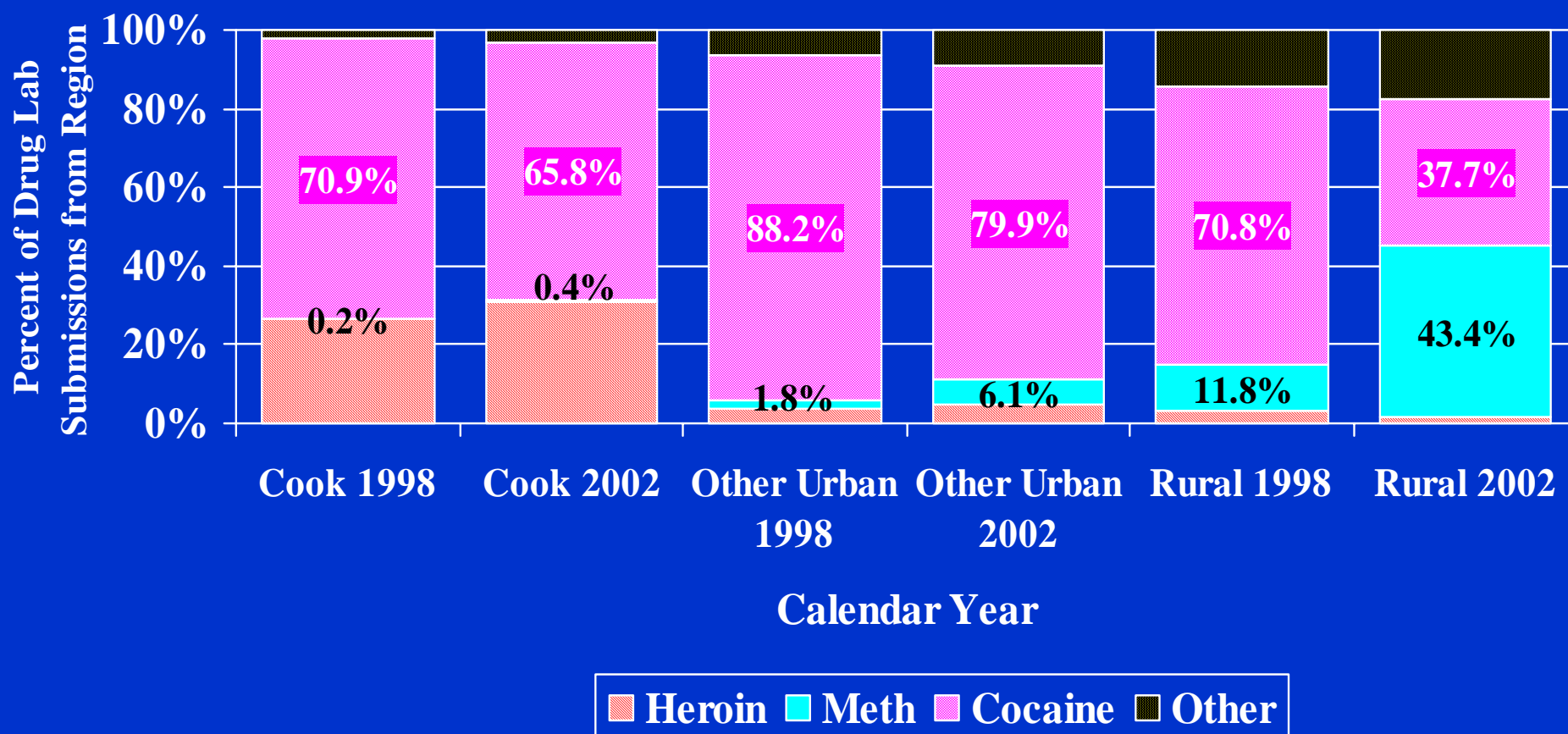
Calendar Year

- Crime Lab Submissions in grams (Divided by 10)
- Treatment Admissions
- Labs (Multiplied by 5)
- Crime Lab Cases

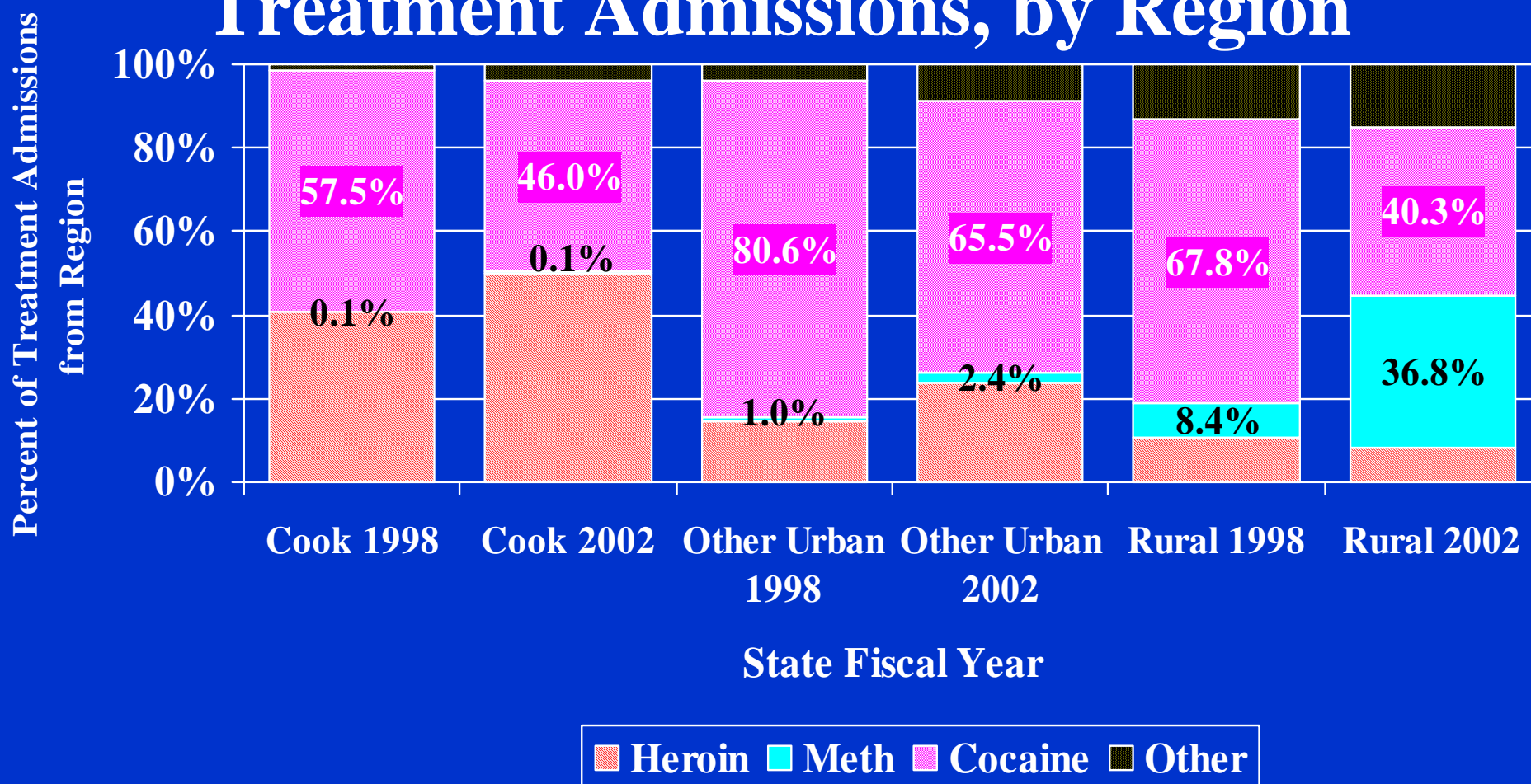
2002 Regional Comparison of Methamphetamine Measures

Region	Rural Counties	Other Counties	Statewide
Crime Lab Submissions-grams Rate per 100,000 Residents	13,268 (710.8)	14,734 (138.8)	28,002 (224.3)
Crime Lab Submissions-cases Rate per 100,000 Residents	2,034 (107.5)	683 (6.4)	2,717 (21.8)
Grams per submission	6.5 grams	21.5 grams	10.3grams
Meth. Laboratories Identified Rate per 100,000 Residents	498 (18.7)	183 (1.84)	681 (5.44)
Treatment Admissions Rate per 100,000 Residents	1,609 (86.2)	540 (5.1)	2,149 (17.2)

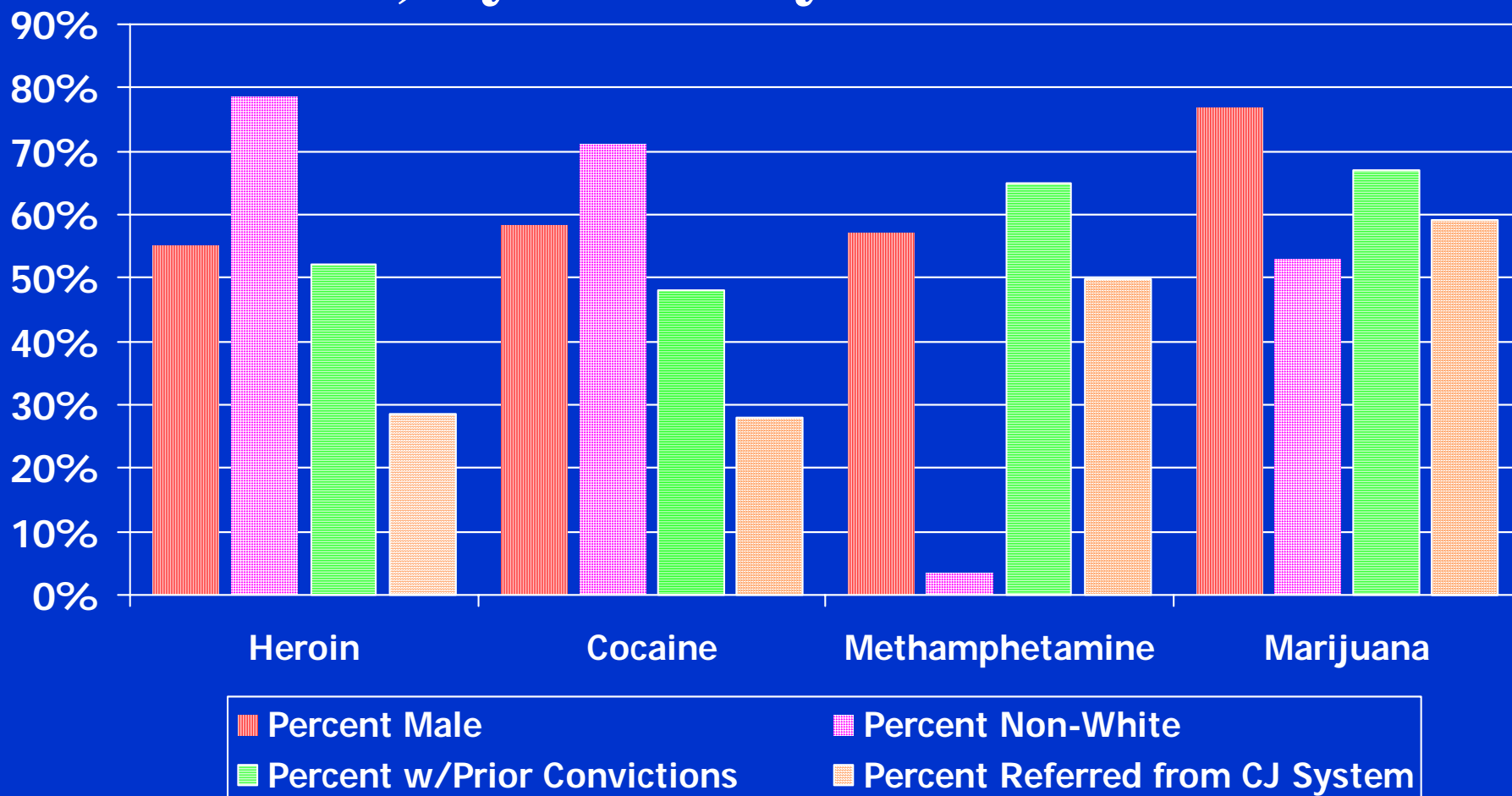
Distribution of Controlled Substances Act Drugs Submitted to Crime Labs, by Region



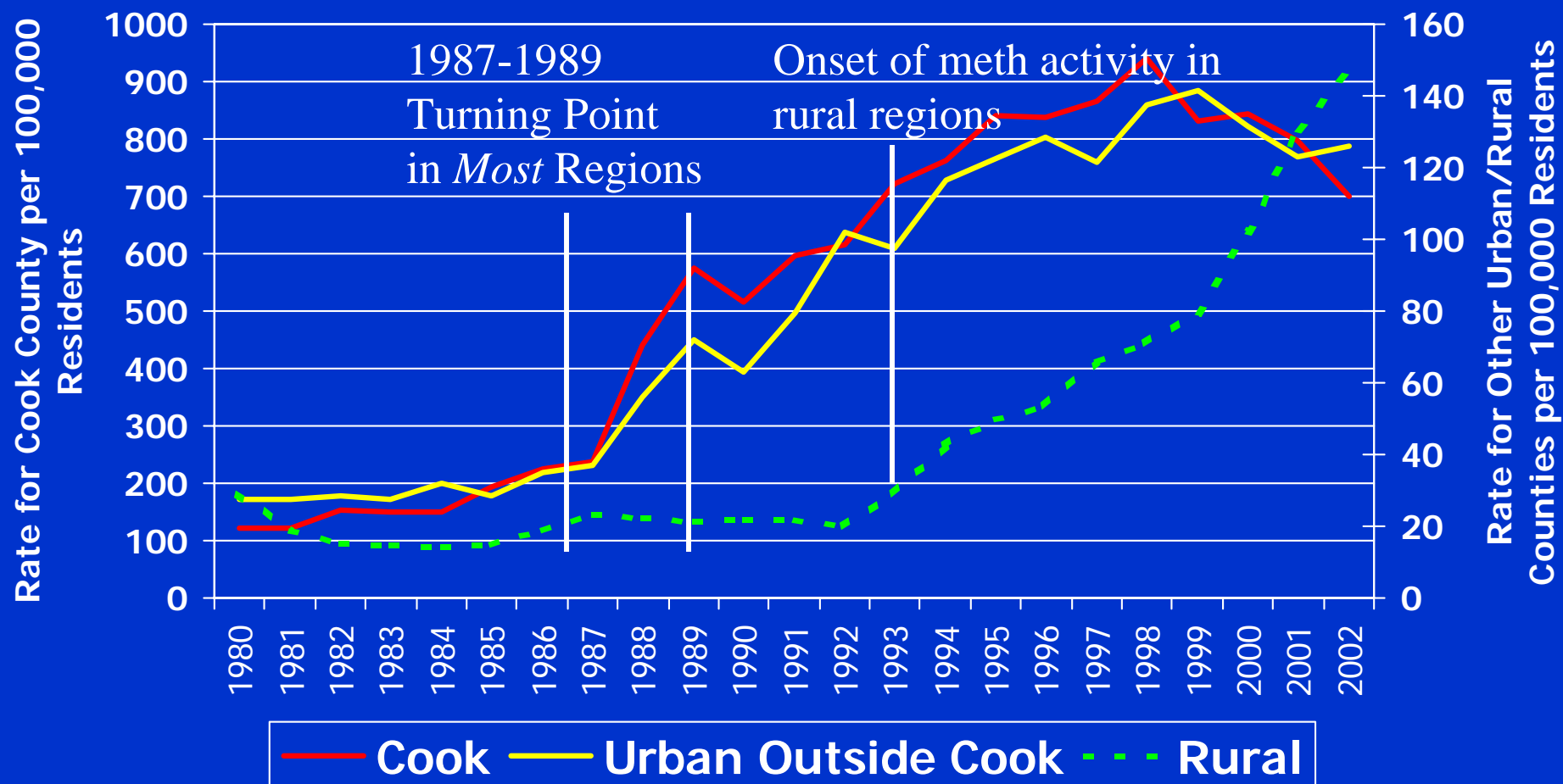
Distribution of Controlled Substances Act Treatment Admissions, by Region



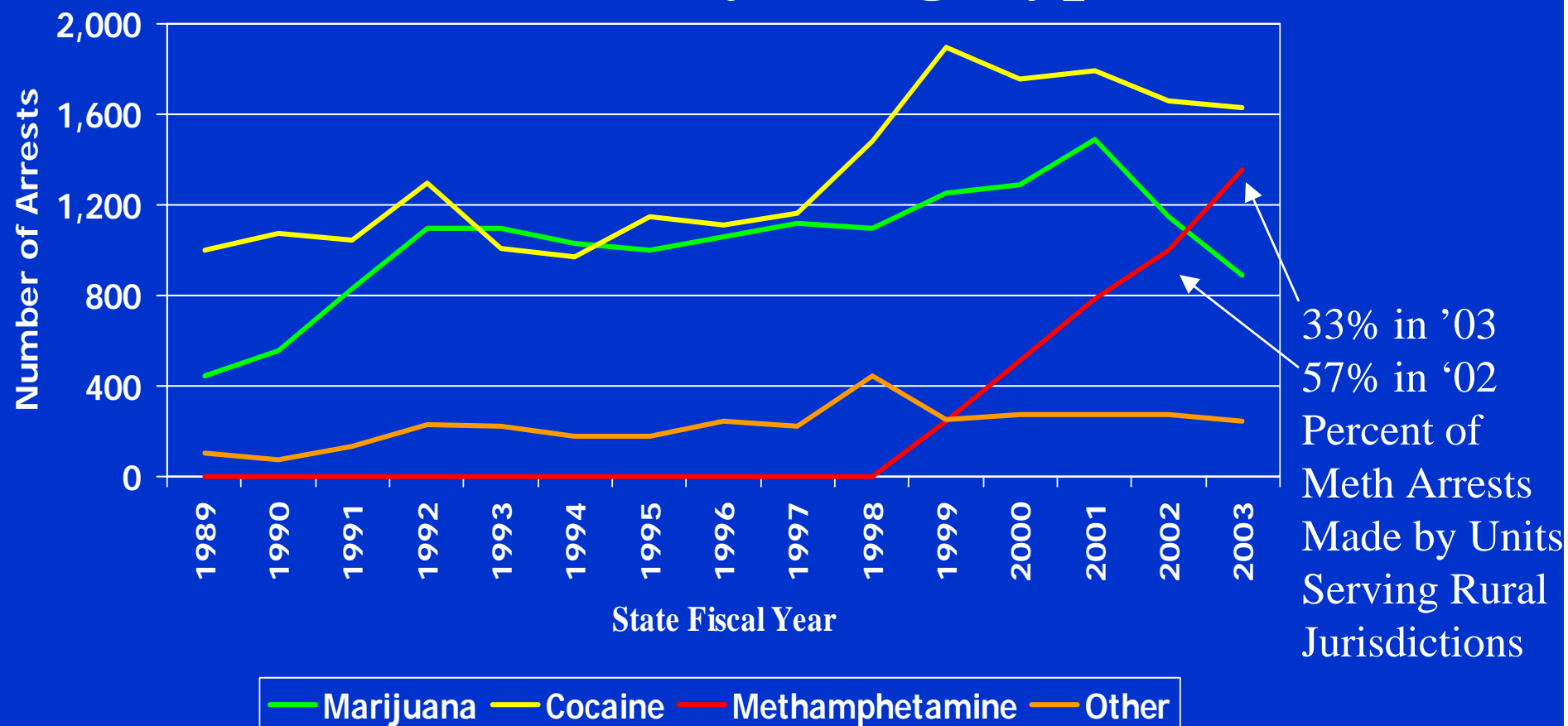
Characteristics of 2002 OASA Treatment Admission, by Primary Substance of Abuse



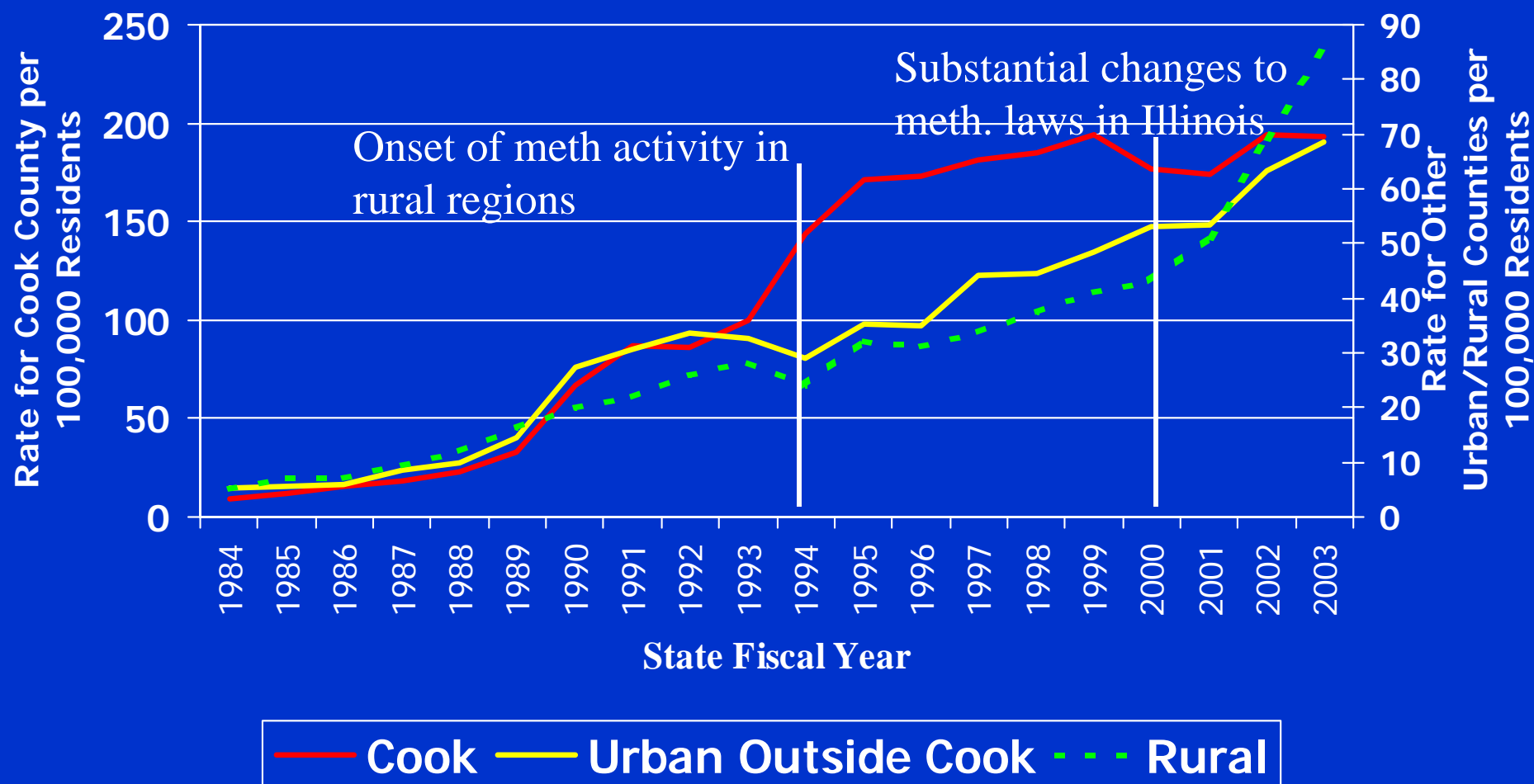
Regional Arrest Rates for the *Controlled Substances Act*



Arrests by Illinois' Multijurisdictional Drug Units, by Drug Type



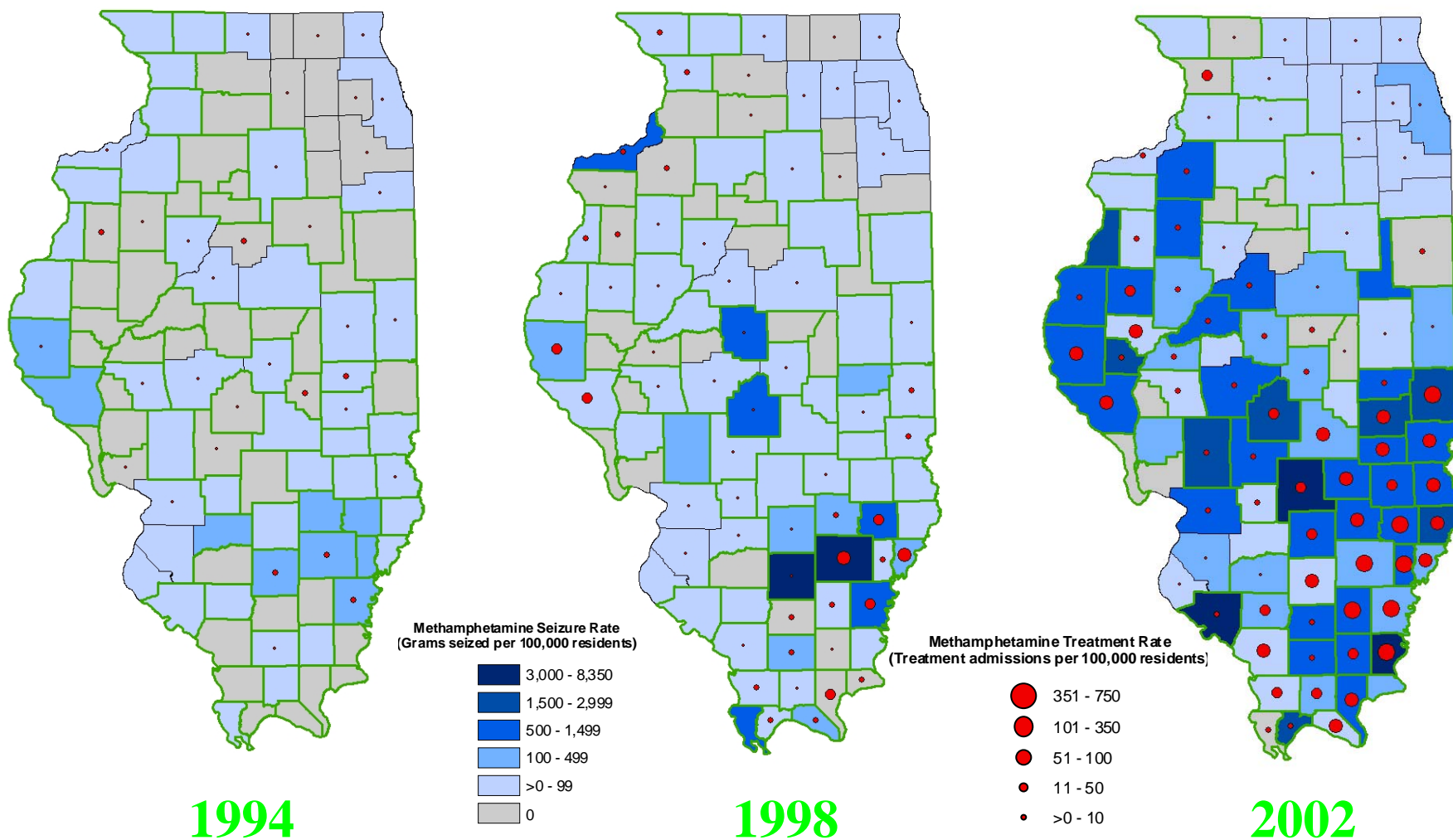
Prison Admissions Rates for Drug Offenses



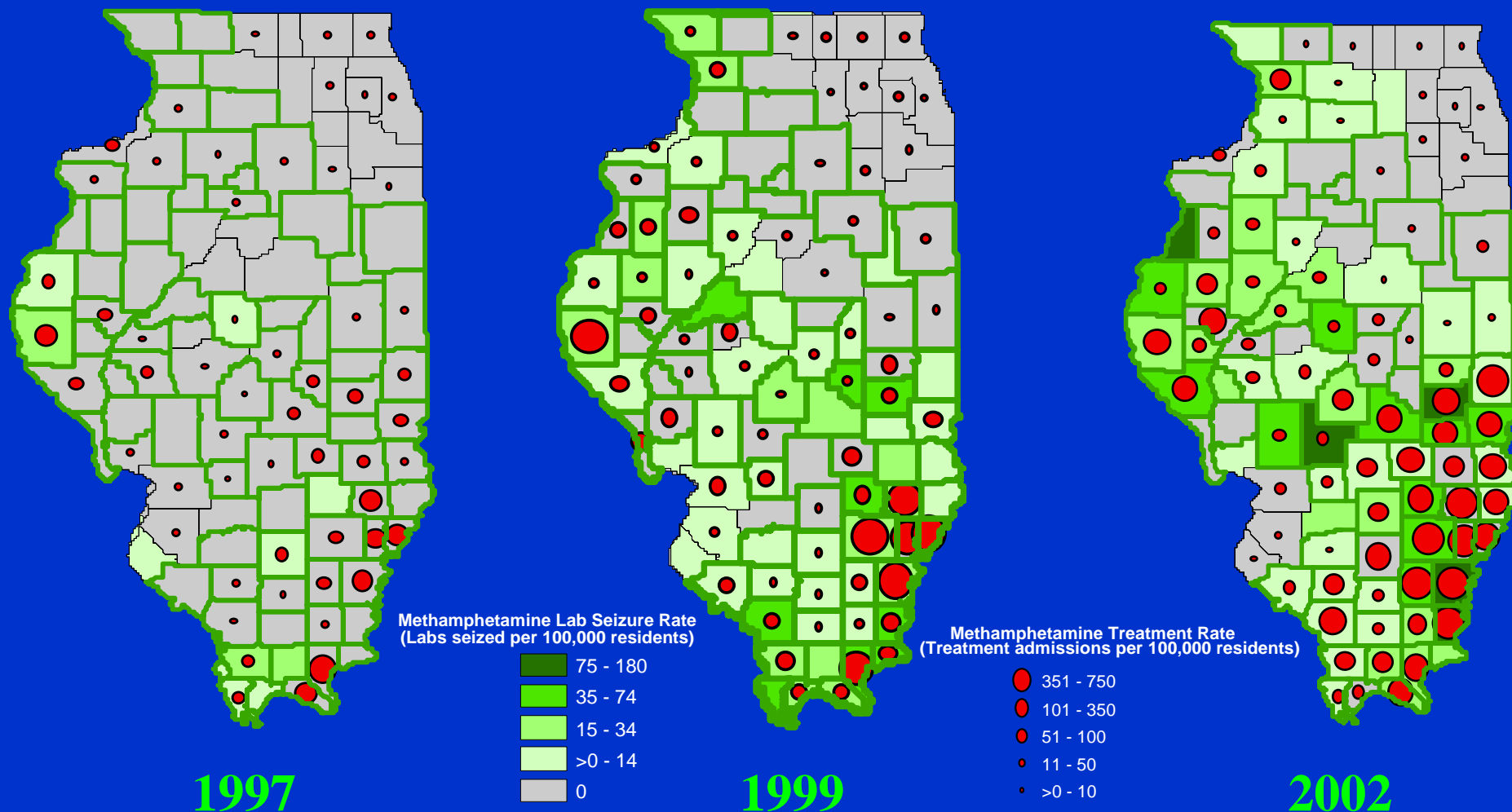
Considering Justice and Treatment Indicators Together

- Treatment providers *or* law enforcement often times are the first ones to encounter new or emerging drug abuse patterns/problems.
- Possible County Typologies
 - Methamphetamine has had relatively little impact
 - There is methamphetamine production, but little use
 - There is methamphetamine use, but little production
 - There is both methamphetamine production *and* use

Methamphetamine Seizure & Treatment Rates—*Strong Correlation*



Methamphetamine Lab and Seizure/Treatment Rates – Low-Moderate Correlation



Policy Responses, Implications and Conclusions

Changes in Policy & Practice

- **Changes to Illinois Law**

– Felony Class	Pre-2000	Post-2000	Prob/IDOC
• Class 4/Possession	< 200 gm.	< 15 gm.	30 mo. /1-3 yrs
• Class 1/Possession	200+ gm.	15+ gm.	N/A /4-15 yrs
• Class 2/Mfg/Del	< 50 gm.	< 5 gm.	48 mo. /3-7 yrs
• Class 1 /Mfg/Del	50-200 gm.	5-15 gm.	48mo./4-15 yrs
• Class X/Mfg/Del	200 + gm.	15+ gm.	N.A./6-30 yrs

- **Authority-Funded Special Emphasis Programs within Illinois' Multijurisdictional Drug Units**

- West Central Illinois Task Force, Quad-City MEG, East Central Illinois Task Force, & South Central Illinois Drug Task Force

Conclusions

- Statewide, methamphetamine still emerging, but accounts for a substantial proportion of drug activity in *rural jurisdictions*, and a number of counties *in particular*;
- Methamphetamine is the only drug where rural jurisdictions have higher rates of seizures & treatment admissions than urban parts of Illinois;
- Methamphetamine has been the primary contributor to the dramatic increase in Controlled Substance Act arrests in Illinois' rural counties, which now have rates similar to urban areas outside of Chicago. This has contributed to the dramatic increase in treatment and prison admissions from these areas.
- Examining law enforcement and treatment indicators together reveals how the problem has emerged, and the larger, more regional impact production can have on the criminal justice and treatment systems.



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For more information, please visit the Authority's
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