

Joan Doe (Female Felon)

8 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison in FY 2017 were female.

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 Jane Doe with a composite offender's experience.

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

Doe is a 36-year-old, white female, born in Illinois. She considers herself single and reported to the Illinois Department of Corrections that she graduated high school.

- For every 100 female felons released in FY 2017, 53 were white, 40 were black, and 7 were Hispanic.
- 79 were born in Illinois.
- 12 of these 100 female felons were younger than 25 and 4 were above 55.
- 64 were single like Doe; 14 reported being married, 12 divorced.
- Doe may have exaggerated on her education, but she probably completed at least half of high school (36 of every 100 reported completing high school or obtaining a GED, 29 completed less than that, 35 were missing education-level data).
- Females (38 of every 100) were most often from Cook County.

Before this incident, Doe had **4 prior arrests for felonies** and **6 prior misdemeanor arrests**, as well as 5 more arrests with an unknown or petty offense class. 6 arrests were for **property** offenses and 3 were for **drug** offenses.

- From those 15 arrests, Doe has been **convicted of 2 felonies** and **2 misdemeanors**. Two were for **property** offenses and one was a **drug** offense.

What was her sentence?

Doe was sentenced for either **theft** or a **controlled substance offense**.

- Doe was sentenced to 1 year and six months in prison for a Class 4 felony. For the women sentenced to Class 3 or higher felonies, the average sentence was 3.5 years.
- Data do not show whether there was a plea agreement.
- 22 were sentenced for theft; 19 for possession of a controlled substance; and 14 for manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance.
- 13 had been readmitted for violating the conditions of mandatory supervised release (MSR, commonly known as "parole").
- Doe was one of the 41 female offenders held on a Class 4 felony.
 - o 21 were held on Class 3 felonies.
 - o 22 were held on Class 2 felonies.
 - o 10 were held on Class 1 felonies.
 - o 5 were held on Class X felonies or first-degree murder.
- Doe was not limited in good-time credits under truth-in-sentencing (TIS) laws.
 - o 3 of every 100 female offenders had served 75% or 85% of their sentences under TIS requirements.

How long was she incarcerated?

After being arrested for possession of a controlled substance in early 2010 in Cook County, Doe spent **117 days (4 months) in jail** prior to sentencing (median).

Doe spent **9 months in state prison** (median).

Doe was **released from Logan CC** in FY 2017 after a **total of 1 year, 1 month in prison and jail**.

- 64 of every 100 female offenders released were from Logan (a multilevel security facility) and 27 from Decatur (the former women's facility, which is minimum security).
- 6 were released from adult transition centers and one from electronic monitoring.
- Individuals are typically released on a Friday.

Doe was **released to mandatory supervised release**. Past trends show that, by June 2020 (three years from release), she is likely to be **rearrested 8 times, once for a misdemeanor, once for a felony, and 6 times for petty offenses**.

- Most likely to be arrested for a felony drug, misdemeanor property crime, or other types of misdemeanors.
- Of all the arrests, likely to be reconvicted for a felony property offense within three years.
- 10 of every 100 female offenders are likely to be returned to prison for violating conditions of supervised release and 18 for a new felony sentence.