

# Impact of the New Drug Trafficking Law on the Delaware Criminal Justice System

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STATE OF DELAWARE  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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129498

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## INTRODUCTION

The revised drug trafficking law of July 1989 (SB 142) lowered the mandatory sentencing thresholds for drug trafficking, with the lowest sentence threshold (mandatory three years) being reduced from 15 grams to 5 grams of an illicit drug. This move would increase the risk of being charged with drug trafficking, rather than the lesser charge of drug delivery or possession, because as little as 5 grams would be assumed to be drug trafficking. That charge would carry with it a minimum sentence of three years, with the mandatory sentences increasing with the amount of illicit drugs being trafficked.

What effects would this new law have? This law would affect not only the number of mandatory sentences, but also affect prison populations as well, and possibly even the incidence of drug trafficking in Delaware. This report addresses the latest findings of the effects of SB 142, including the increase in mandatory sentencing and the resulting need for extra detention and prison beds to house the increase in mandatory sentences. The report also explores whether the law has caused an increase in cases directly below the five gram threshold, as well as addressing the overall effect of the new law on the total picture of drug trafficking in Delaware. This report is meant to provide information on the effects to date of the new drug trafficking law, and as further effects become understood, more concrete conclusions about the significance of SB 142 can be made.

The Statistical Analysis Center is very grateful for the assistance from the Chief Examiner's Office in providing access to their databases. Without their help, this report would not have been as thorough.

Impact of the New Drug Trafficking Law on the  
Delaware Criminal Justice System

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Did the new drug trafficking law (SB 142) cause an increase in drug trafficking cases?

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The answer is yes, they almost doubled.

The number of potential drug trafficking charges that are identified in the Medical Examiner's database almost doubled when the before and after counts were examined. Prior to the new drug trafficking law, there were about 158 drug trafficking charges identified per year. Afterwards, 311 drug trafficking charges per year were identified.

The primary reason for the increase is the reduced drug weight thresholds needed for mandatory sentences that have been established by the new drug trafficking law. Most significantly, the lowest mandatory sentence (3 years) threshold was reduced from 15 grams of an illicit drug to 5 grams. The 5 year mandatory sentence threshold was reduced from 50 grams to 15 grams, and the 15 year mandatory sentence threshold was reduced from 250 grams to 100 grams.

The table on the facing page entitled "Number of Potential Charges For C.A.M.P. and Heroin" classifies illicit drugs into six weight strata that allow a time series comparison of the changes in the weight-sentencing thresholds.

The first finding is: The count of illicit drugs in each of the weight strata, on average, is not different when a pre-post analysis is calculated. In other words, the number of cases in the 15 to 50 weight strata is the same before and after the implementation of the new drug trafficking law.

The second finding is: The reduced thresholds for drug weight resulting in a mandatory sentence have caused an increase in mandatory sentencing cases (e.g. arrest, detention admissions, Medical Examiner cases, and mandatory sentences). Most significant is the increase in the number of potential 3 year sentences (due to 5-15 grams of illicit drug). In the pre-period, 134 three year mandatory cases could be expected per year. In the post-period (based on the first five quarters), 302 three year mandatory cases could be expected per year.

## NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR C.A.M.P. AND HEROIN BY MONTH AND YEAR

DRUG WEIGHTS	1 9 8 9												1 9 9 0											
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
250 >	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0
100 - 249.9	1	0	1	3	2	2	0	7	1	0	1	0	3	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
50 - 99.9	0	0	5	3	0	5	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	5	0	0	1	6	6	1	3	0
15 - 49.9	1	4	23	15	9	3	15	7	1	7	15	7	13	6	11	9	15	2	16	6	1	3	3	3
5 - 14.9	13	15	20	21	23	21	5	17	17	21	26	23	21	18	10	17	16	16	9	12	18	10	11	5
< 5	116	113	106	150	171	138	94	161	80	160	171	93	178	143	132	142	161	133	129	158	192	150	188	102

← SB142 INTRODUCED

### PRE SB142

250 + gms: 15 years.  
 100 - 250 gms: 5 years.  
 15 - 100 gms: 3 years.  
 < 15 gms: nontrafficking sentence.

### POST SB142

100 + gms: 15 years.  
 50 - 100 gms: 5 years.  
 5 - 50 gms: 3 years.  
 < 5 gms: nontrafficking sentence.

**NOTES:** Drug weights in grams.

Heroin uses different weight ranges for sentences.

Heroin defendants are grouped into the closest weight range for their appropriate sentence length.

**DATA SOURCE:** MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE.

**STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER FEBRUARY 1991.**

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Did the new drug trafficking law (SB 142) cause a diversion of drug trafficking cases to weights just below 5 grams?

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The answer is no.

One of the hypotheses related to the implementation of the new drug trafficking law was that the mandatory sentence coupled with no plea bargaining would send a signal to drug traffickers that carrying more than 5 grams would carry too heavy a price and therefore would create a bulge of cases directly below the 5 gram threshold.

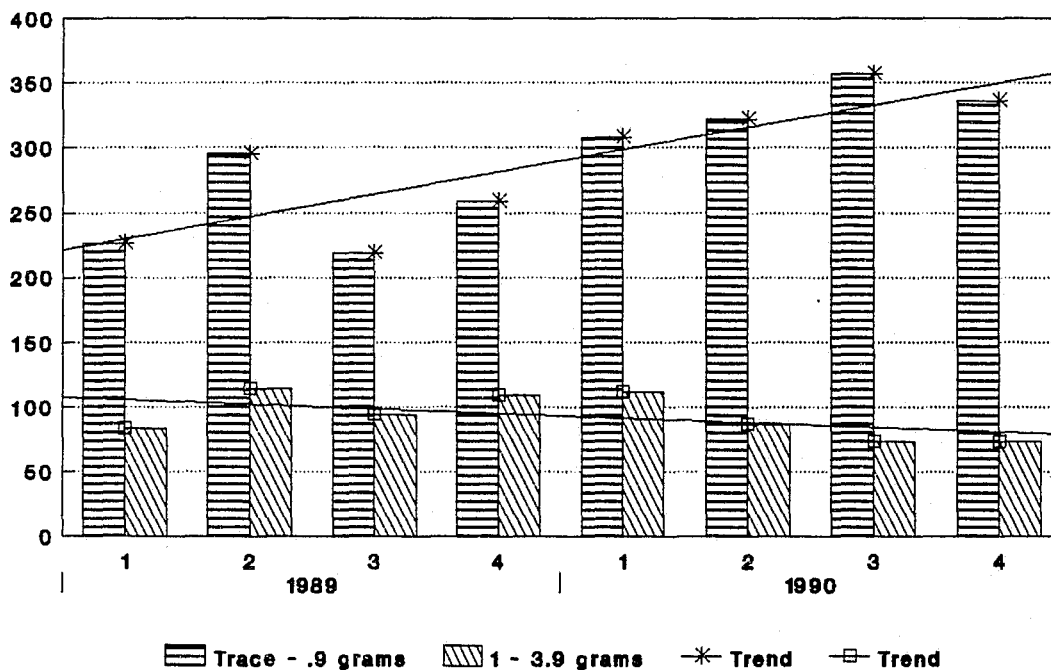
The table on the facing page entitled " Number of Potential Charges for Cocaine" classifies cocaine into eleven cocaine weight strata. Cocaine is the drug that has enough potential charges to allow for an analysis. The strata are constructed with enough detail so as to allow an examination of the diversion hypothesis.

Prior to the implementation of the new mandatory drug law a bulge of cases directly below the 15 gram threshold (the old lowest mandatory sentence threshold) did not exist.

After the implementation of the new mandatory drug law a bulge did not appear directly below the 5 gram threshold (the new lowest mandatory sentence threshold). Prior to the implementation of the new law the number of cases in 4 to 4.9 grams drug weight strata averaged 4.33 per month. After the implementation of the new law the number of cases in this drug weight strata averaged 3.5 per month. (The difference between the two averages is not statistically significant.)

There is also a gradually declining number of potential charges in the 1 to 4 gram stratum. In fact, the only stratum increasing in the lower weight strata is the trace to 1 gram strata. (See the graph on the facing page.) These data do not support the hypothesis that drug traffickers would reduce the amount of cocaine they move about because of the reduced weight threshold for mandatory sentences.

**Quarterly Comparison for the Number  
of Potential Charges for Cocaine:  
Trace - .9 and 1 - 3.9 Grams.**



**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR COCAINE**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	PRE SB142		POST SB142					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	226	295	219	259	308	322	357	336
1 - 3.9	83	114	94	109	112	87	73	73
4 - 4.9	6	20	6	11	17	6	15	8
5 - 7.9	25	27	20	29	26	36	24	16
8 - 12.9	15	24	13	24	18	5	7	6
13 - 14.9	7	9	4	13	3	6	1	1
15 - 19.9	2	9	5	5	4	3	2	2
20 - 49.9	23	14	18	15	26	22	12	6
50 - 99.9	5	6	2	1	3	5	13	4
100 - 249.9	2	6	8	0	7	1	1	1
> 250	2	2	0	0	3	0	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>453</b>

← SB142 INTRODUCED

DATA SOURCE: MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE.  
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER MARCH 1991.



## Impact of the New Drug Trafficking Law on the Delaware Criminal Justice System

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Did the new drug trafficking law (SB 142) reduce drug trafficking in Delaware?

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The answer is, it may have contributed.

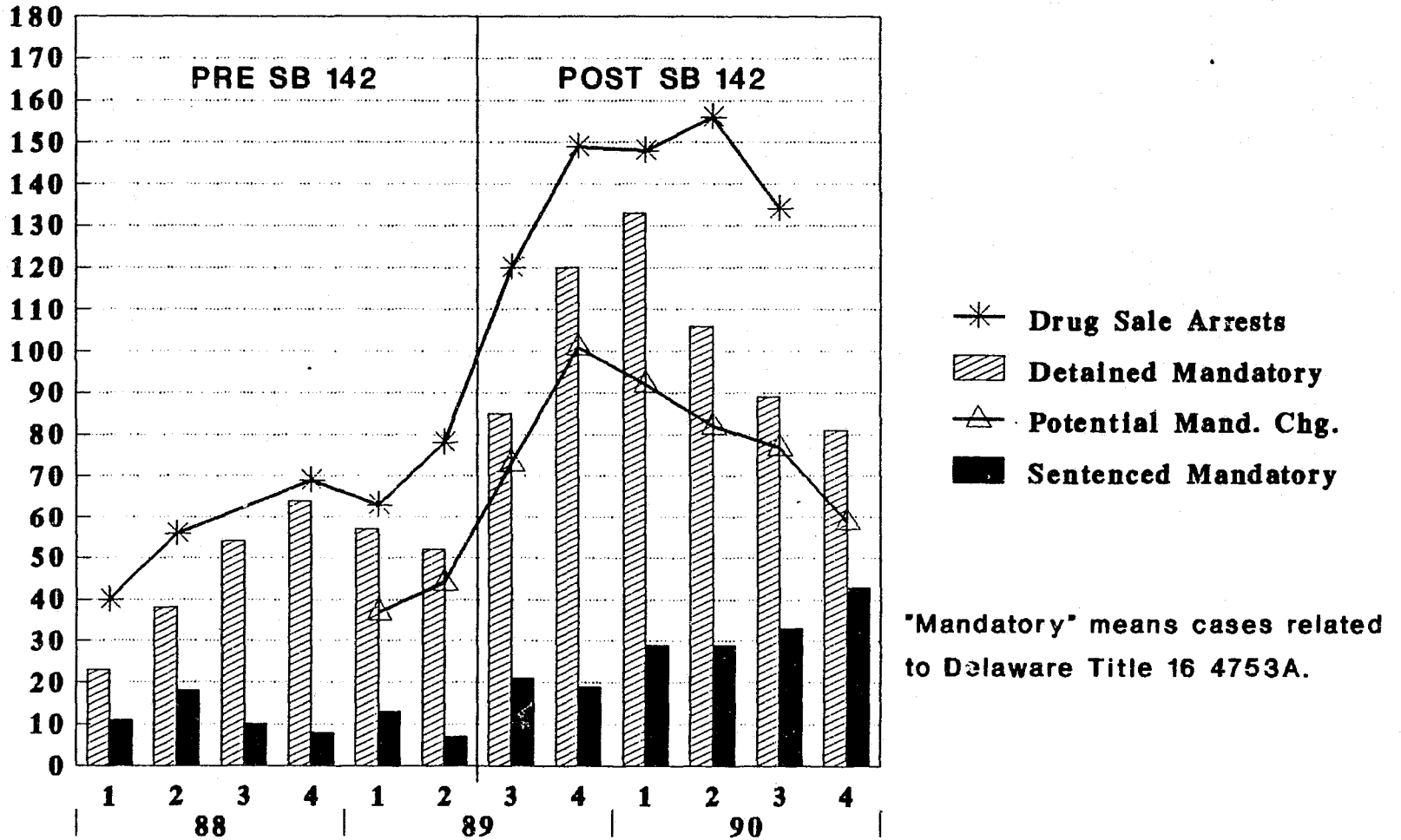
Drug trafficking cases have been declining since the second quarter of 1990. This, however, is not the case for non-drug trafficking felony and misdemeanor cases.

The graph on the facing page entitled "Drug Sales Arrests, Potential Trafficking Charges, Trafficking Detainees, and Trafficking Sentences" shows a declining pattern relating to new drug trafficking cases. After the implementation of the new drug trafficking law, all indicators relating to drug trafficking cases increased significantly (drug sales arrests, detention, Medical Examiner cases with more than 5 grams of illicit drugs, and mandatory trafficking sentences). In the second and third quarters of 1990, however, three indicators -- sales arrests, Medical Examiner cases, and detention -- began showing a declining pattern of drug trafficking cases. Mandatory trafficking sentences, to a significant degree are still on the increase and appear to be lagging the detention pattern.

The decline in drug trafficking is not mirrored in the possession with intent to deliver cases. These cases are increasing, (see the graph on the following page entitled "Potential Non-Trafficking Drug Charges, Detainee and Sentenced Admissions"). Medical Examiner cases have held steady throughout 1990, yet the detention and sentenced admissions to Department of Corrections continues to increase.

A number of possible theories can be proposed to explain the decline in drug trafficking cases. First, casual or recreational use of illicit drugs is down so much that it has drastically effected the illicit drug marketplace. For instance, it is shown in the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) survey that the number of casual users has declined significantly in the past few years. As the NIDA survey of high school seniors shows, the percentage of high school seniors using cocaine within a year has decreased from 13.1 percent in 1985 to 6.5 percent in 1989 (1). This type of decrease, it is argued, has made it much more competitive for those wishing to sell illicit drugs. The competition has increased to the point that casual and opportunistic drug traffickers have found the business to be too competitive and dangerous. Therefore, the gainfully employed part time seller who sells drugs to

## Drug Sales Arrests, Potential Mandatory Charges, Mandatory Detainees, and Mandatory Sentences



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supplement his income, and who is typically a non-user, has dropped out of the illicit drug market.

A second theory is that increased law enforcement manpower added to the state police and the local police via increased state and local aid, has increased the policing resource to the point that the number of traffickers is actually being brought under control. In Washington, D.C., for example, increased law enforcement activity decreased the level of drug activity in the District of Columbia. As the local drug traffickers were arrested and detained they were replaced by out-of-town dealers.

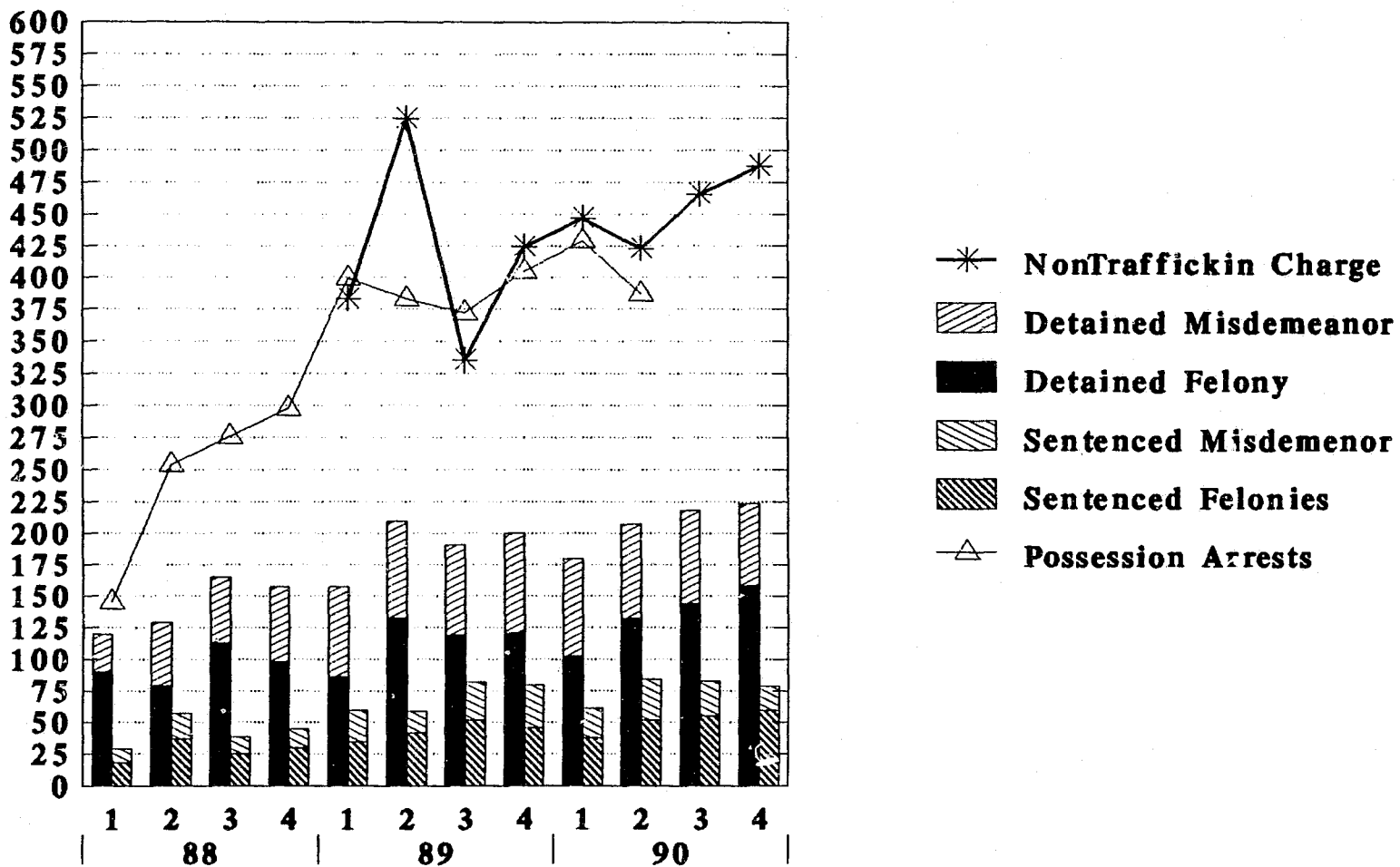
Another theory is that mandatory sentences have added to the risk of trafficking drugs in Delaware. Furthermore, it is possible that the detention and imprisonment of drug traffickers has actually helped reduce the number of drug traffickers.

The number of potential trafficking charges and detention admissions decreased in 1990 (down from 133 detentions in the first quarter to 81 in the fourth quarter). The number of "other felony detention" increased from 103 in the first quarter to 158 in the fourth. This switch in the volumes of drug trafficking and "other drug felony" detention admissions may indicate that the drug market is now operating below the 5 gram "trafficking" threshold and that more suspects are being detained for felony delivery or possession with the intent to deliver.

The information in this report neither proves nor disproves any of these theories. The fact is, in the fourth quarter of 1990 42 cases of potential trafficking charges were identified by the Medical Examiners Office compared to 101 identified in the fourth quarter of 1989 -- a 58 percent decrease.

(1) HHS News: U.S. Department of Health & Services. February 1990.

## Possession Arrests, Potential Non-Trafficking Drug Charges, Detainee and Sentenced Admissions



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## Impact of the New Drug Trafficking Law on the Delaware Criminal Justice System

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What is the impact of the trafficking law on the DOC detained and sentenced populations?

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In the fourth quarter of 1990 about 13 extra detention beds were needed and about 356 extra prison beds were needed.

The estimate for determining the impact on the Department of Corrections (DOC) beds is based on the assumption that the increase in admissions after the implementation of SB 142 is attributable to the revised drug trafficking law. Prior to the revised drug trafficking law there were about 57 drug trafficking admissions to detention. After the implementation of the revised law, the number of admission was as high as 133 in the first quarter of 1990 and most recently as low as 81 in the fourth quarter of 1990. Since July 1989 an average of 45 additional drug trafficking admissions to detention resulted per month.

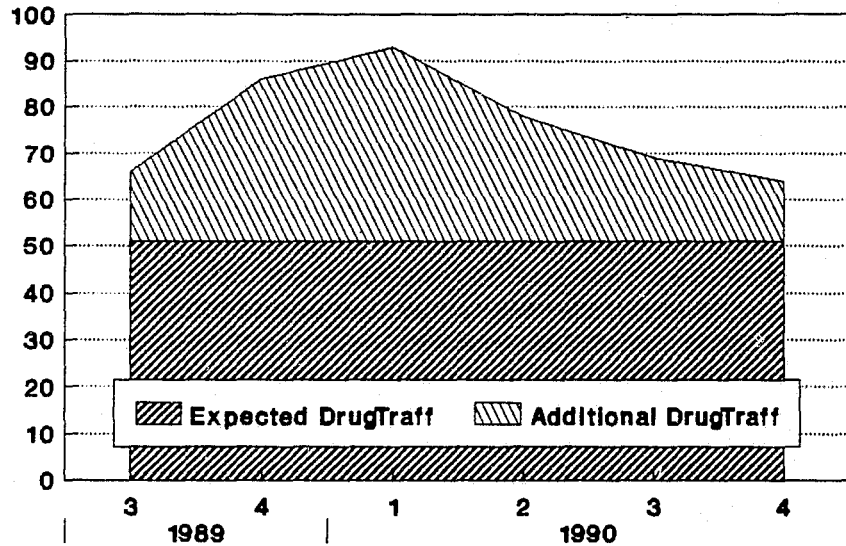
It is assumed that each additional drug trafficking case under the revised drug trafficking law would have been detained or sentenced to an average 'other drug felony' length of stay. The average length of stay for detained 'other drug felonies' was 31 days. The average length of stay for drug trafficking detainees is about 80 days. The difference between the two is about 49 days.

The additional DOC population caused by the change in the drug trafficking law is estimated by using the product of new drug trafficking admissions and the difference between the length of stay for 'other drug felonies' and drug trafficking.

The two graphs and tables on the facing page entitled "Impact of SB 142 on Quarterly .... Population/Beds," show the impact of the revised drug trafficking law on the DOC populations. The detention drug trafficking population peaked in the first quarter of 1990 at 93 (13.4 percent) of the total of 694 detainees. By the fourth quarter of 1990, as drug trafficking admissions decreased, the drug trafficking population was at 64 (9.5 percent) of the total of 667 detainees.

As drug trafficking cases have moved through the judiciary, the need for DOC sentenced beds has increased significantly. If the current trend continues, as estimated 527 beds are required to house drug trafficking admissions in the fourth quarter 1990. 356 of the beds were due to the revised drug trafficking law.

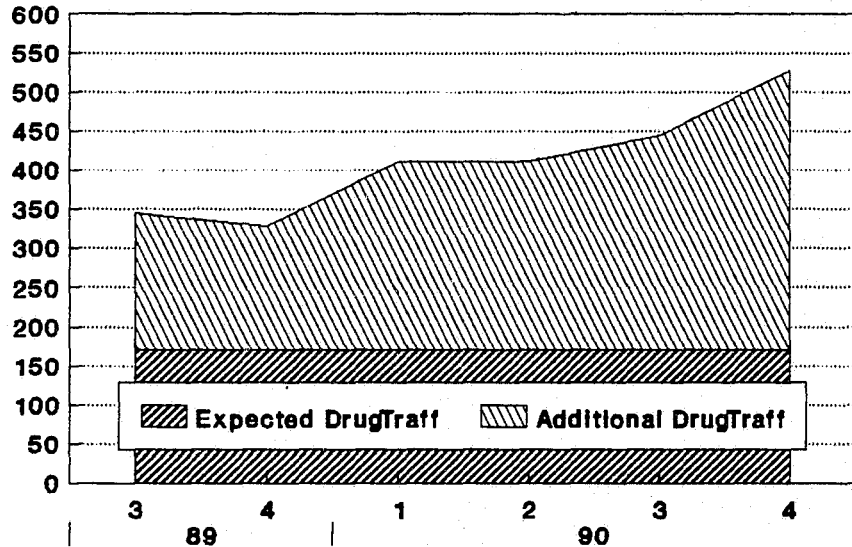
### Impact of SB 142 on Quarterly Detention Drug Trafficking Population



	3	4	1	2	3	4
	1989		1990			
<b>Total</b>	66	86	93	78	69	64
<b>Additional DrugTraff</b>	15	35	42	27	18	13
<b>Expected DrugTraff</b>	51	51	51	51	51	51

Additional pop. are based on the product of additional trafficking admissions and time served > 'other drug felonies.'

### Impact of SB 142 on Quarterly Drug Trafficking Sentenced Beds



	3	4	1	2	3	4
	89		90			
<b>Total</b>	345	328	411	411	444	527
<b>Additional DrugTraff</b>	174	157	240	240	273	356
<b>Expected DrugTraff</b>	171	171	171	171	171	171

Additional pop. are based on the product of additional trafficking admissions and time served > 'other drug felonies.'

Impact of the New Drug Trafficking Law on the  
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Distribution of Drugs by Weight: 1989 and 1990

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This section provides summaries of the weights in grams on an 11 step scale for heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, methamphetamines, P.C.P., marihuana, and "All Other Drugs". The source of this data is the Medical Examiner's Office.

The measurement used in the distribution of drugs by weights is a "potential charge" which takes into account multiple suspects on a single case, and multiple drugs. Therefore, if a case has two suspects and two types of drugs, two charges -- one for each person -- for each drug type will be counted resulting in a total of four potential charges. This will differ somewhat from other presentations of the Medical Examiner's illicit drug data.

The drug weight distributions used in this report take into account the old and the revised weight thresholds in the Delaware drug laws. They also include weight categories directly below the old and the SB 142 thresholds for mandatory drug sentences, which help determine the extent of the displacement effect to new lower minimum thresholds.

Another advantage of the weight distributions is that they constitute a time series. These quarterly data are the beginning of a Drug Identification Tracking System. As these tables are updated, Delaware will have a unique tool by which changing drug weight frequencies and the type of drugs being examined by the Medical Examiner's Office can be monitored. This information could also be used as a tool to help identify Delaware's problem drugs and to inform resource allocation decisions.

**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR HEROIN**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	PRE SB142		POST SB142					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	11	13	8	26	4	13	13	9
1 - 3.9	1	1	0	5	2	0	0	0
4 - 4.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
5 - 7.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 - 12.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 - 14.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 19.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 - 49.9	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
50 - 99.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 - 249.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
> 250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>

← SB142 INTRODUCED

**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR COCAINE**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	PRE SB142		POST SB142					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	226	295	219	259	308	322	357	336
1 - 3.9	83	114	94	109	112	87	73	73
4 - 4.9	6	20	6	11	17	6	15	8
5 - 7.9	25	27	20	29	26	36	24	16
8 - 12.9	15	24	13	24	18	5	7	6
13 - 14.9	7	9	4	13	3	6	1	1
15 - 19.9	2	9	5	5	4	3	2	2
20 - 49.9	23	14	18	15	26	22	12	6
50 - 99.9	5	6	2	1	3	5	13	4
100 - 249.9	2	6	8	0	7	1	1	1
> 250	2	2	0	0	3	0	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>453</b>

← SB142 INTRODUCED

DATA SOURCE: MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE.  
 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER FEBRUARY 1991.



**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR AMPHETAMINE**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	PRE SB142		POST SB142					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 - 3.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 - 4.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 - 7.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 - 12.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 - 14.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 19.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 - 49.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50 - 99.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 - 249.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
> 250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

← SB142 INTRODUCED

**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR METHAMPHETAMINE**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	PRE SB142		POST SB142					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	1	1	1	0	0	3	4	4
1 - 3.9	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0
4 - 4.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
5 - 7.9	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
8 - 12.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
13 - 14.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 19.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 - 49.9	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
50 - 99.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 - 249.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
> 250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>

← SB142 INTRODUCED

DATA SOURCE: MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE.  
 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER FEBRUARY 1991.

**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR P . C . P**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	<u>PRE SB142</u>		<u>POST SB142</u>					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	6	11	6	7	6	2	7	4
1 - 3.9	1	2	1	6	4	1	5	4
4 - 4.9	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5 - 7.9	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
8 - 12.9	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	3
13 - 14.9	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
15 - 19.9	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
20 - 49.9	1	4	0	3	0	0	9	1
50 - 99.9	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
100 - 249.9	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
> 250	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>

<-- SB142 INTRODUCED

**NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR MARIHUANA**

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	<u>PRE SB142</u>		<u>POST SB142</u>					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	87	142	109	124	104	113	82	82
1 - 3.9	65	80	54	101	100	79	48	61
4 - 4.9	9	13	9	10	14	11	12	8
5 - 7.9	27	26	16	32	38	32	20	20
8 - 12.9	12	13	11	22	28	13	7	6
13 - 14.9	0	3	4	6	8	2	2	3
15 - 19.9	6	5	6	8	6	7	9	2
20 - 49.9	12	15	9	7	24	15	19	10
50 - 99.9	4	0	1	5	10	9	1	3
100 - 249.9	12	5	3	1	11	6	3	2
> 250	9	9	1	7	13	3	4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>199</b>

<-- SB142 INTRODUCED

DATA SOURCE: MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE.  
 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER FEBRUARY 1991.

## NUMBER OF POTENTIAL CHARGES FOR ALL OTHER DRUGS

WEIGHT IN GRAMS	PRE SB142		POST SB142					
	89-Q1	89-Q2	89-Q3	89-Q4	90-Q1	90-Q2	90-Q3	90-Q4
TRACE - 0.9	1	3	0	2	2	5	4	5
1 - 3.9	16	0	1	0	2	3	3	1
4 - 4.9	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
5 - 7.9	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
8 - 12.9	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
13 - 14.9	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
15 - 19.9	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
20 - 49.9	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
50 - 99.9	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
100 - 249.9	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0
> 250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>

<-- SB142 INTRODUCED

NOTE: "All Other Drugs," includes the following Medical Examiner categories:  
LSD, Benzodiazopines, Barbituates, Other Controlled Substance.

DATA SOURCE: MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE.  
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER FEBRUARY 1991.

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Background Data for Drug Related Activities in Delaware

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This section provides summaries of drug trafficking for 1988 through 1990 and movement of persons suspected or convicted of drug related activity through detention, jail and prison.

The table entitled "Comparison of Potential Drug Trafficking Charges and Detention, Jail and Prison Drug Admissions..." shows the summary of Delaware drug activities from the perspective of arrests, the Medical Examiner's Office, and Department of Corrections detention and sentenced admissions. Drug admissions for the Department of Corrections are divided into three groups: (1) "4753A", which is the trafficking statute by which offenders are sentenced to three year mandatory sentences, (2) "Other Felony", which includes all non-4753A felony cases, and (3) misdemeanor drug cases.

The table entitled "Delaware Drug Admissions and Length of Stay" provides an overview of the number of admissions, average length of stay and the population in detention, jail and prison.

**Comparison of Potential Drug Trafficking Charges and,  
Detention, Jail, and Prison Drug Admissions  
1988, 1989, and 1990**

	88 Q1	88 Q2	88 Q3	88 Q4	89 Q1	89 Q2	89 Q3	89 Q4	90 Q1	90 Q2	90 Q3	90 Q4
<b>Potential Drug Trafficking Charges</b>												
15 Year Sentence					2	2	8	1	10	2	2	3
5 Year Sentence					2	7	3	1	3	5	13	4
3 Year Sentence					33	35	62	90	70	75	62	35
<b>Potential Trafficking Charges</b>					37	44	73	101	92	82	77	42
<b>Potential NonTrafficking Charges</b>					383	524	335	424	453	438	479	440
									Medical Examiner update 2/11/91			
<b>Detained Admissions</b>												
4753A	23	38	54	64	57	52	85	120	133	108	89	81
Other Felony	40	79	113	98	86	132	119	121	103	132	144	158
Misdemeanors	30	50	52	59	71	78	72	79	77	75	74	66
<b>Total</b>	93	167	219	221	214	262	276	320	313	313	307	305
<b>Sentenced Admissions</b>												
4753A	11	18	10	8	13	7	21	19	29	29	33	43
Other Felony	18	37	25	30	35	42	52	46	38	52	55	60
Misdemeanors	11	20	14	15	25	17	30	34	23	33	28	19
<b>Total</b>	40	75	49	53	73	66	103	99	90	114	116	122
<b>Jail Admissions</b>												
4753A	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1
Other Felony	11	13	14	7	15	20	25	21	21	29	30	34
Misdemeanors	8	13	8	10	10	13	20	16	17	21	22	14
<b>Total</b>	19	28	23	17	25	33	45	37	39	51	54	49
<b>Prison Admissions</b>												
4753A	11	16	9	8	13	7	21	19	28	28	31	42
Other Felony	7	24	11	23	20	22	27	25	17	23	25	26
Misdemeanors	3	7	6	5	15	4	10	18	6	12	6	5
<b>Total</b>	21	47	26	36	48	33	58	62	51	63	62	73
<b>Drug Arrests (FBI Definition) by Quarter -- Adults</b>												
Sales	40	56	149	69	63	78	120	149	148	158	134	
Possession	146	254	276	298	399	383	372	405	429	387		
<b>Total</b>	186	310	425	367	462	461	492	554	577	543		

Delaware Statistical Analyst's Center  
March 1991

**DELAWARE DRUG ADMISSIONS AND LENGTH OF STAY  
1980 to 1990**

**ADMISSIONS**

Year	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
<b>System Total</b>	311	311	382	316	358	470	571	577	917	1413	1679
<b>Detained</b>	193	216	273	236	286	365	404	417	700	1072	1238
<b>Sentenced</b>	118	95	109	80	72	105	167	160	217	341	441
Sentenced-Jail	36	49	47	32	35	41	46	57	87	140	193
Sentenced-Prison	82	46	62	48	37	64	121	103	130	201	248

**AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY**

Year	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
<b>Detained (Days)</b>	18.1	21.7	31.9	29.3	25.6	27.3	49.9	31.3	*	40.5	47.1
<b>Jail (Days)</b>	128.5	122.9	124.5	167.8	139.6	132.2	134.1	108.8	145.8	169.7	128.5
<b>Prison (Months)</b>	18.8	16.8	20.3	19.2	27.1	28.7	20.8	22.1	26.9	27.5	

**POPULATION (June 30)**

Year	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
<b>System Total</b>	61	84	105	125	139	147	228	261	336	455	583
<b>Detained</b>	8	14	24	14	26	30	65	44	54	111	157
<b>Sentenced</b>	53	70	81	111	113	117	163	217	282	344	426
Sentenced-Jail	11	11	14	16	11	13	12	14	35	44	61
Sentenced-Prison	42	59	67	95	102	104	151	203	247	300	365

Notes: Sentenced — Jail, the sentence was less than one year.  
 Sentenced—Prison, the sentence was one year or greater.  
 Sentenced equal Jail plus Prison.  
 Length of Stay is measured by time served for persons released within the stated time period.  
 Population as reported June 30, of each year.

\* Unknown