

# Virginia State Crime Commission



## Illegal Immigrants in Virginia Jails and Prisons

August 28, 2007

## Agenda



- **Virginia Jails**
  - Defining proxy illegal immigrants
  - LIDS data
  - Preliminary analysis
  
- **Virginia Prisons**
  - Defining proxy illegal immigrants
  - DOC data
  - Preliminary analysis



## **Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Virginia Jails: FY2007**



### **LIDS**

- Requested records from the Virginia State Compensation Board
  - Local Inmate Data System (LIDS)
  - FY2003-FY2007
- Received over 1.8 million records

## LIDS: FY2007



- Each record represents an offense committed by an individual; hence, far more offenses listed than individuals.
- Specifically, in FY2007:
  - 925,834 records (offenses)
  - 215,769 individuals in a jail at some point in FY2007.

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants



- To determine proxy illegal immigrant status, a record had to meet each of the following criteria:
  1. Born in a country other than U.S.;
  2. Citizenship in a country other than U.S.; and,
  3. No valid Social Security Number.
    - Specifically, a 900-series number\*

\* n=42, 635 offenses by 21,364 individuals

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants (cont.)



- Of the 215,769 individuals who were in a jail at some point in FY2007:
  - 13,735 were proxy illegal immigrants (6%); and,
  - 202,034 were proxy legal residents or citizens (94%).

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants (cont.)



- 6% is the most conservative estimate.
- The percentage of proxy illegal immigrants in jails would be raised to 10% (additional 7,629 individuals) if the following were included:
  - Those born in foreign country with unknown citizenship status (n=887 offenses); and,
  - Those with unknown birth country and citizenship status (n=12,793 offenses).

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants (cont.)



- Of the 925,834 offenses committed by individuals who were in a jail at some point in FY2007:
  - 27,148 were committed by proxy illegal immigrants (3%); and,
  - 898,686 were committed by proxy legal residents and citizens (97%)

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Gender



- Of the 27,148 offenses committed by 13,735 proxy illegal immigrants:
  - 95% offenses (25,757) were committed by 12,852 males; and,
  - 5% of offenses (1,391) were committed by 883 females.

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Country of Birth



Top 5 Countries of Birth for Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Jail During FY2007

Rank	Country of Birth	Number of Proxies (N=13,735)	% of Total Proxies	Number of Offenses (N=27,148)
1	Mexico	5,589	40.7%	11,617
2	El Salvador	2,814	20.5%	5,472
3	Honduras	1,694	12.3%	3,113
4	Guatemala	1,649	12.0%	3,625
5	Bolivia	239	1.7%	445

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Offenses



### ■ Of the 27,148 offenses:

- 46% (12,546) were misdemeanors;
- 39% (10,649)\* were felonies; and,
- 15% (3,953) were local ordinance violations.

\* Includes felony conspiracy (n=42) and felony attempt (n=59).

# Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Offenses



Top 12 Offenses by Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Jail During FY2007

Rank	Type of Offense	Number of Offenses (N=27,148)	% of Total Offenses
1	Held on both state and federal felony charges	4,078	15.0%
2	DUI- Misdemeanor	3,209	11.8%
3	Driver's license violation- Misdemeanor	3,086	11.3%
4	Drunk in Public	1,749	6.4%
5	Held on federal felony	1,532	5.6%
6	Local ordinance-related offenses	1,526	5.6%
7	Larceny- Felony	798	2.9%
8	Held on federal misdemeanor	777	2.9%
9	Fraud- Misdemeanor	623	2.3%
10	Fraud- Felony	600	2.2%
11	Reckless Driving	565	2.0%
12	Traffic- Misdemeanor	507	1.9%

# Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Jurisdiction



Top 10 Court Jurisdictions for Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Jail During FY2007

Rank	Court Jurisdiction	Number of Individuals (N= 13,735)*	% of Total Individuals	Number of Offenses (N= 27,148)
1	INS (ICE)	4,875	35.5%	5,690
2	Prince William	1,872	13.6%	3,895
3	Chesterfield	893	6.5%	2,993
4	Arlington	765	5.6%	1,635
5	Loudoun	672	4.9%	1,686
6	U.S. Marshall	563	4.1%	714
7	Alexandria	488	3.6%	1,297
8	Manassas	457	3.3%	861
9	Out of State/Federal	312	2.3%	355
10	Henrico	229	1.7%	463

\* 971 individuals appeared in more than one court for an offense resulting in jail in FY2007.

# Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Jail



Top 10 Jails Where Proxy Illegal Immigrants Were Held During FY2007

Rank	Jail	Number of Individuals (N= 13,735)*	% of Total Individuals	Number of Offenses (N= 27,148)
1	Prince William/Manassas Regional	2,409	17.5%	5,134
2	Piedmont Regional	1,970	14.3%	2,406
3	Arlington	1,465	10.7%	2,561
4	Hampton Roads Regional	1,088	7.9%	1,233
5	Chesterfield	835	6.1%	2,746
6	Alexandria	687	5.0%	1,632
7	Pamunkey Regional	655	4.8%	923
8	Loudoun	636	4.6%	1,378
9	Riverside Regional	464	3.4%	717
10	Rockingham	446	3.2%	836

\* 448 individuals spent time in more than one jail in FY2007.

# LIDS: Initial Findings



- Proxy illegal immigrants comprise anywhere from 6-10% of Virginia's jail population.
- Individuals born in Mexico comprise the largest group of individuals held in jails across the Commonwealth.
- Majority of offenses for which proxy illegal immigrants are being held for involve alcohol-related offenses and possession of fake identification documents.



# Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Virginia Prisons



## Virginia Prisons

- Requested records from the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC)
  - FY2003-FY2007
- Received over 100,000 records

## DOC: FY2007



- Each record represents the most serious offense from an individual's last event that occurred.
- Specifically, from FY2003-2007:
  - 129,876 individuals under DOC Supervision
    - FY2007: 23,958 individuals

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants



- To determine proxy illegal immigrant status, an individual had to meet the following criteria:
  1. Born in a country other than the U.S.; and,
  2. Citizenship in a country other than the U.S.

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants



- Of the 129,876 individuals under DOC supervision between FY2003-2007:
  - 6,936 were foreign nationals
    - 44% (3,064 of 6,936) met the proxy standards for an illegal immigrant.
  - Hence, proxy illegal immigrants comprised 2% (3,064 of 129,876) of individuals under DOC supervision in FY2003-2007
    - FY2007: 1.5% (368 of 23,958) of individuals under DOC supervision met the proxy standards for an illegal immigrant.

## Proxy Illegal Immigrants: Gender



- FY2003-FY2007:
  - 92% (2,818 of 3,064) of proxy illegal immigrants in prison were male; and
  - 8% (246 of 3064) were female.
- FY2003:
  - Same as FY2003-FY2007
- FY2007:
  - 96% (353 of 368) were male; and,
  - 4% (15 of 368) were female, indicating a slight increase in males under DOC supervision.

## DOC: Country of Birth



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ FY2003 (N=384):</li> <li>1. El Salvador- 34%</li> <li>2. Mexico- 12%</li> <li>3. Honduras- 8%</li> <li>4. Guatemala- 6%</li> <li>5. Vietnam- 5%</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ FY2007 (N= 368):</li> <li>1. El Salvador- 25%</li> <li>2. Mexico- 19%</li> <li>3. Honduras- 6%</li> <li>4. Guatemala- 5%</li> <li>5. Germany- 5%</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

\* The remaining proxy illegal immigrant population under DOC supervision were born in a wide-array of countries spanning from South America, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Pacific/Oceania and Far East Asia.

## DOC: Court Jurisdiction



Top 5 Court Jurisdictions for Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Prison During FY2003

Rank	Court Jurisdiction	Number of Individuals (N= 383)	% of Total Individuals
1	Fairfax County	171	45%
2	Arlington	45	12%
3	Prince William County	28	7%
4	Alexandria	21	5%
5	Loudoun	12	3%

Top 5 Court Jurisdictions for Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Prison During FY2007

Rank	Court Jurisdiction	Number of Individuals (N= 356)	% of Total Individuals
1	Fairfax County	81	23%
2	Prince William County	77	22%
3	Arlington	19	5%
4	Chesterfield	14	4%
5	Virginia Beach	12	3%

## DOC: Most Serious Offense



### Top 5 Offenses for Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Prison During FY2003

Rank	Court Jurisdiction	Number of Individuals (N= 383)	% of Total Individuals
1	Grand Larceny	39	10%
2	Drug Possession	37	10%
3	Robbery	25	7%
4	DUI	18	5%
5	Kidnapping/Abduction	17	4%

### Top 5 Offenses for Proxy Illegal Immigrants in Prison During FY2007

Rank	Court Jurisdiction	Number of Individuals (N= 303)	% of Total Individuals
1	Drug Possession	26	9%
2	DUI	22	7%
3	Robbery	19	6%
4	Residential Burglary	18	5%
5	Grand Larceny	14	4%

## DOC: Initial Findings



- Proxy Illegal Immigrants comprise approximately 2% of our prison population
- Individuals born in El Salvador comprise the largest group of proxy illegal immigrants in prison, followed by an increasing number of individuals from Mexico.
- Majority of cases are handled in Northern Virginia; however, it does appear to be “spreading out” across other court jurisdictions across the Commonwealth.
- The offenses committed by proxy illegal immigrants remained fairly consistent over the past five fiscal years: grand larceny, drug possession, robbery, DUI, and kidnapping/abduction.



# Questions