

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Oakland, California

Profile of Drug Indicators

August 2004



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

Oakland, California

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics¹

- Population (2002 American Community Survey): 370,736
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 24.57% white; 31.88% black/African American; 0.10% American Indian/Alaska Native; 14.20% Asian; 0.28% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.32% other race; 2.63% two or more races; 26.01% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)
- The city of Oakland is located in Alameda County.

Politics

- Mayor: Jerry Brown²
- City Manager: Deborah Edgerly³
- City Council (Districts 1-7, respectively): Jane Brunner; Danny Wan; Nancy Nadel; Jean Quan; Ignacio De La Fuente; Desley Brooks; Larry Reid; Henry Chang (At-Large)⁴
- Police Chief: Richard Word⁵

Programs/Initiatives

- Northern California High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁶
The Northern California HIDTA, formerly referred to as the San Francisco Bay Area HIDTA, was designated in 1997. This HIDTA includes ten northern California counties that are situated on the San Francisco Bay.
- Alameda County Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)⁷
The Alameda County D.A.R.E. is a joint project of the Sheriff's Office, the community, and the Castro Valley and San Lorenzo Unified School Districts. The program's emphasis is to help students recognize and resist the many subtle pressures that influence them to experiment with alcohol and drugs. The program's strategies also focus on feelings relating to self-esteem, interpersonal and communication skills, decision making and positive alternatives to alcohol and drug abuse.
- Alameda County Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program⁸
The Alameda County Alcohol and Drug Prevention program is a community-based program using primary prevention strategies to alleviate alcohol and other drug problems. One of the programs' accomplishments is the East Oakland Boxing Association which provides a safe, supportive, caring, alcohol and drug free environment in one of Oakland's highest crime/poverty areas. Hundreds of school children participate monthly in the tutoring program, drama productions, computer training and special events.

Funding

- Drug Free Communities Support Program⁹
Since 1999, only one coalition in Oakland has received funding for the Drug-Free Communities Support Program. Since FY 1999, the Asian Community Mental Health

Services -- RACE Project has received \$425,000 from the Drug-Free Communities Support Program.

- Community Capacity Development Office¹⁰
Oakland has received funding and been officially recognized as a Weed and Seed site.
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) FY 2003 Discretionary funds received in Oakland:¹¹
 - Center for Mental Health Services: \$1,740,669
 - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention: \$2,145,011
 - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment: \$5,215,001
- Oakland did not received funds for the FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant Program.¹²
- Oakland did not receive any methamphetamine funding in 2003 from the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.¹³
- FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received by Oakland recipients:¹⁴
 - Community Based (discretionary): 1 award valued at \$225,000
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): 1 award valued at \$976,498
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: 3 awards valued at \$675,000
 - formula: 0 awards
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: 7 awards valued at \$1,904,098
 - formula: 3 awards valued at \$1,302,045
 - Substance Abuse: 0 awards
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: 1 award valued at \$450,000
 - formula: 0 awards
- FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant amount received in Oakland:¹⁵
 - \$137,000 to Satellite Housing, Inc.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2003, there were 28,243 offenses reported to police in Oakland.¹⁶

Offenses Known to Law Enforcement, Oakland, 2001-2003

Offense Type	2001	2002	2003
Murder	84	108	109
Forcible rape	295	249	268
Robbery	2,125	2,452	2,474
Felony assault	2,826	2,852	2,762
Burglary	3,696	4,252	4,568
Larceny	13,081	13,703	12,551
Theft	5,520	6,258	5,511
Total	27,627	29,874	28,243

- During 2003, there were 2,273 heroin/cocaine arrests recorded by the Oakland Police Department.¹⁷ As of June 2004, there were 1,443 heroin/cocaine arrests.¹⁸

Number of Drug Arrests, Oakland Police Department, 2002-June 2004

Drug Type	2002	2003	June 2004
Heroin/cocaine total	2,544	2,273	1,443
Possession	1,423	1,294	759
Possession for sale	594	543	324
Sales	527	436	360
Marijuana total	929	564	422
Possession	280	138	89
Possession for sale	396	291	181
Sales	243	130	145
Cultivation	10	5	7
Dangerous drug total	184	199	154
Possession	129	160	125
Possession for sale	42	37	26
Sales	13	2	3
Addict under the influence	1,075	507	280
Miscellaneous drugs	818	724	370
Total drug arrests	5,550	4,267	2,669

- During 2002, there were 6,414 felony drug offenses in Alameda County.¹⁹

Number of Drug Offenses, Alameda County, 2000-2002

Offense Type	2000	2001	2002
<i>Felony drug arrests</i>			
Total drug offenses	7,414	6,486	6,414
Narcotics	4,301	3,589	3,507
Marijuana	1,206	958	1,108
Dangerous drugs	1,830	1,893	1,738
Other	72	46	61
<i>Misdemeanor drug arrests</i>			
Marijuana	1,503	1,400	1,363
Other drugs	3,910	4,488	4,577

- During 1999 in Alameda County, there were 77,260 total reported crimes; 13,444 total adult arrests for drug violations; 6,760 total adult arrests for driving under the influence (DUI); and 8,740 adult arrests for alcohol violations.²⁰

Drugs

- Methamphetamine is available in large quantities in the Oakland area and usually sells for \$3,800 a pound with purity levels ranging from 4-5%. Heroin sells for \$500-\$600 per ounce in the Oakland area and ranges from 22-25% in purity. Cocaine prices range from \$15,000-\$18,500 per kilogram and purity ranges from 85-92%.²¹

- Heroin and crack cocaine continue to have an impact in the Oakland area.²²

Juveniles

- During 2002, there were 390 juvenile felony drug offenses in Alameda County.²³

Number of Juvenile Drug Offenses, Alameda County, 2000-2002

Offense Type	2000	2001	2002
<i>Felony drug arrests</i>			
Total drug offenses	576	447	390
Narcotics	239	181	160
Marijuana	279	215	196
Dangerous drugs	56	49	53
Other	2	2	1
<i>Misdemeanor drug arrests</i>			
Marijuana	296	252	236
Other drugs	79	84	82

Enforcement

- As of October 2002, there were 1,232 law enforcement employees in Oakland, 814 officers and 418 civilians.²⁴

Trafficking and Seizures

- In West Oakland, the Black Guerrilla Family distributes heroin and commits violent crimes such as contracting murders and robberies. The Black Guerrilla Family is a prison-based gang that was involved in the 1970s radical prison movement in California and is considered to be extremely violent.²⁵
- From June to July 1999 (a 10 day period), the United States Customs Service seized over 800 pounds of opium at its Oakland mail facility. Most opium was seized from parcels originating in Laos or Thailand and was ultimately destined for Central and Northern California.²⁶
- Local gangs control street level distribution of crack in Oakland. The majority of dosage-unit sales of cocaine are in crack form. About 75% of crack is sold on the street and the rest is sold in stash houses and other residences.²⁷
- The U.S. Customs Service reported two seizures of MDMA tablets during 2000 at the Oakland mail facility. The shipments were from Germany and consisted of 10,000 and 8,500 tablets. These shipments were ultimately destined for the Central Valley of California.²⁸

Courts

- Drug Courts²⁹
As of May 2004, there were 2 drug courts operating for over 2 years and one drug court being planned in Oakland.
- The Dept. 111 adult drug court has been operating since 1991 and currently has over 1,000 participants. To date over 3,000 participants have graduated from this drug court. The Dept. 108 adult drug court has been operating since 1995 and currently has

over 3,000 participants. To date, 350 participants have graduated from this drug court.³⁰

Consequences of Use

- In 1999, there were 761 alcohol-involved motor vehicle accidents in Alameda County. During 1998 in Alameda County, there were 2,710 hospital discharges for alcohol and drug disorders and 604 deaths due to alcohol and drug use.³¹
- A total of 844 AIDS cases associated with injection drug use (IDU) have been reported in Alameda County since the beginning of the epidemic in 1980. The number of annual AIDS cases associated with IDU increased through the 1980s to peak in 1992 with 102 cases. By 2000, the number of new cases reported each year had fallen to 28.³²
- Of the 923 AIDS cases associated with IDU, over 70% were of African American.³³

IDU Associated AIDS Cases by Race, Alameda County, 2002

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
African American	682	74%
Asian/Pacific Islander	11	1
Hispanic	60	7
Native American	4	< 1
White	165	18
Unknown	1	< 1

Treatment

- In 1999, there were 9,729 adults and 282 adolescents admitted to alcohol and drug treatment in Alameda County.³⁴

Sources

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² Oakland Mayor’s Web site: <http://www.oaklandnet.com/government/mayor/mayorhp.cfm>

³ Oakland City Manager’s Web site: <http://www.oaklandnet.com/government/cmo/cmohp.cfm>

⁴ Oakland City Council’s Web site: <http://www.oaklandnet.com/government/council/city-officials.html>

⁵ Oakland Police Department Web site: <http://www.oaklandpolice.com/>

⁶ Office of National Drug Control Policy, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, Northern California HIDTA: http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_northca.html

⁷ Alameda County Sheriff’s Office, Crime Prevention Unit: <http://www.co.alameda.ca.us/sheriff/CrimeP.shtml>

⁸ Alameda County Public Health Department, Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program: <http://www.co.alameda.ca.us/PublicHealth/organization/programs/alcohol.htm>

⁹ Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grantees: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/grantee/index.asp>

¹⁰ Community Capacity Development Office, California Weed and Seed sites: <http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/map.aspx?state=CA>

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- ¹⁹ California Department of Justice, 2002 Criminal Justice Profiles, Alameda County: http://justice.hdcdojnet.state.ca.us/cjsc_stats/prof02/index.htm
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- ²² Drug Enforcement Administration, California State Factsheet: <http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/states/california.html>
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- ²⁵ National Drug Intelligence Center, *California Northern and Eastern Districts Drug Threat Assessment*, January 2001: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs/653/653p.pdf>
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