

# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

## Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### Profile of Drug Indicators

July 2003



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.

## **Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

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

### **Demographics<sup>1</sup>**

- Population (2000 Census): 227,818
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 44.7% white; 49.8% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 2.6% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.1% other race; 0.8% two or more races; 1.7% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)
- Baton Rouge is located in East Baton Rouge Parish.

### **Politics**

- Mayor-President: Bobby Simpson (Mayor of Baton Rouge and President of East Baton Rouge Parish)<sup>2</sup>
- Metropolitan Council (Districts 1-12, respectively): Wayne Carter; Ulysses “Bones” Addison; Pat Culbertson; Joe Greco; Charles Kelly; Martha Jane Tassin; Byron Sharper; Mike Walker; Darrell Ourso; Lorri Burgess; David Boneno; Jim Benham<sup>3</sup>
- Chief of Police: Pat Englade<sup>4</sup>
- East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff: Elmer Litchfield<sup>5</sup>

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)<sup>6</sup>  
Designated in 1996, the Gulf Coast HIDTA is responsible for areas of Alabama, Mississippi and 7 parishes in Louisiana, including East Baton Rouge Parish.
- Anti-Drug Task Force<sup>7</sup>  
The mission of the Baton Rouge Anti-Drug Task Force is to increase public safety and improve the quality of life in Baton Rouge through collaborative efforts and community-based coalitions. These coalitions develop and implement programs to reduce the prevalence of substance abuse and decrease the incidence of violent, gun-related, and property crimes associated with drug activity.
- The Future of Baton Rouge is Up to YOUth<sup>8</sup>  
The purpose of this program is to prevent the use of underage drinking and club drugs through community outreach, speakers, drug- and alcohol-free events, trainings and other activities.

### **Federal Funding**

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program<sup>9</sup>  
Since FY 1998 when funding was first made available through Drug-Free Communities, only one coalition in Baton Rouge has received funding. In FY 2001, \$100,000 was awarded to the Baton Rouge Partnership for the Prevention of Juvenile Gun Violence.
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed<sup>10</sup>  
There are no sites in Baton Rouge that have been officially recognized as Weed and Seed sites.

- Baton Rouge did not receive any funding through the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant Program.<sup>11</sup>
- Baton Rouge did not receive any methamphetamine funding in 2002 from the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.<sup>12</sup>
- There were no recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant in Baton Rouge.<sup>13</sup>
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) FY 2002 Discretionary Funds received in Baton Rouge:<sup>14</sup>
  - Center for Mental Health Services:
    - \$100,000 to the State of Louisiana; project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04
    - \$199,692 to the Mental Health Association in Louisiana; project period: 9/30/01-9/29/03
    - \$60,000 to the Louisiana Federation of Families; project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04
  - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention:
    - \$2,786,000 to the Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse; project period: 9/30/00-9/29/04
    - \$350,000 to the City of Baton Rouge/Parish of Baton Rouge; project period: 9/30/02-9/29/03
  - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment:
    - \$100,000 to the Louisiana Office for Addictive Disorders; project period: 9/30/02-9/29/05
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts for Baton Rouge:<sup>15</sup>
  - \$26,122,623 in discretionary funds
  - \$24,775,751 in formula funds

**Crime and Drug-Related Crime**

- Preliminary data indicate that there were 59 murders known to police in Baton Rouge during 2002.<sup>16</sup>

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Baton Rouge, 2002

Offense	# of Offenses
Murder	59
Forcible rape	133
Robbery	1,107
Aggravated assault	1,371
Burglary	4,070
Larceny-theft	10,763
Motor vehicle theft	1,446
Arson	193

- A 2001 investigation by the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office involved the shipment of a case of ketamine from Panama to Baton Rouge via Florida.<sup>17</sup>
- The Baton Rouge Police Department Narcotics Unit reported 827 arrests in 1999 (448 felonies and 379 misdemeanors).<sup>18</sup>

- During 1999, the Louisiana State Police reported making 754 drug-related arrests in the Baton Rouge area.<sup>19</sup>

Number of Louisiana State Police Drug Arrests, Baton Rouge, 1999

Drug Type	Distribution	Possession	Other	Total
Cocaine	77	51	24	152
Crack	114	33	10	157
Hashish	0	1	0	1
Heroin	6	0	1	7
Marijuana	92	137	68	297
Morphine	0	0	0	0
Opium	0	0	0	0
Other narcotics	3	3	3	9
LSD	14	0	0	14
PCP	0	0	0	0
Other hallucinogens	0	0	0	0
Amphetamine/meth.	15	38	6	59
Other stimulants	2	0	1	3
Barbiturates	1	1	2	4
Other depressants	5	14	3	22
Other drugs	3	7	14	24
Unknown drugs	0	5	0	5
Total	332	290	132	754

### Drugs

- Cocaine  
Cocaine is the dominant drug of choice in East Baton Rouge Parish.<sup>20</sup> According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, powder cocaine purity levels in Baton Rouge range from a low of 17% at the retail level to 90% at the wholesale level.<sup>21</sup>
- Marijuana  
Indicators of marijuana use are increasing in East Baton Rouge Parish. An increase in the number of users ages 20-29 has been noted.<sup>22</sup>
- Club Drugs  
The use of MDMA by college-aged people in Baton Rouge may be increasing since 3 “rave bars” opened in the Louisiana State University area.<sup>23</sup>

### Juveniles

- Results of a 2001 survey of students in East Baton Rouge Parish indicate that nearly 42% of 12th grade students reported lifetime use of marijuana. In 1998, 38.4% of 12th graders reported using marijuana at least once during their lifetimes.<sup>24</sup>

Students Reporting Lifetime Drug Use, East Baton Rouge Parish, 1998 and 2001

Substance	Grade 6		Grade 8		Grade 10		Grade 12	
	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001
Alcohol	9.3%	13.2%	25.6%	27.9%	39.4%	35.5%	42.8%	45.8%
Cigarettes	22.2	22.2	46.6	41.5	55.4	48.1	54.9	55.2
Marijuana	4.7	7.0	19.7	20.2	35.9	31.9	38.4	41.5
Inhalants	9.5	12.2	16.4	14.4	13.4	11.4	11.2	11.5
Cocaine	0.8	2.5	1.9	4.0	3.8	3.1	4.2	4.9
Hallucinogens	1.3	2.4	3.9	4.6	9.7	6.1	11.4	12.3
Stimulants	1.5	2.6	2.8	3.9	6.1	5.4	7.9	10.2

- Approximately 19% of East Baton Rouge Parish 12th graders surveyed in 2001 reported past month use of marijuana.<sup>25</sup>

Students Reporting Past Month Drug Use, East Baton Rouge Parish, 1998 and 2001

Substance	Grade 6		Grade 8		Grade 10		Grade 12	
	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001
Alcohol	9.3%	13.2%	25.6%	27.9%	39.4%	35.5%	42.8%	45.8%
Cigarettes	6.8	7.1	17.2	14.6	24.2	17.2	25.7	22.6
Marijuana	1.9	4.1	10.6	11.6	17.0	15.8	14.5	18.6
Inhalants	4.3	6.3	6.7	6.2	3.5	3.1	2.1	2.8
Cocaine	0.3	1.8	0.6	2.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.9
Hallucinogens	0.6	1.5	1.6	3.1	5.0	2.1	5.2	3.8
Stimulants	0.6	1.9	1.4	2.2	2.9	2.5	2.8	4.4

**Enforcement**

- School Drug Task Force<sup>26</sup>  
The purpose of the Baton Rouge Police Department initiative is to investigate crimes involving drugs, explosives and weapons in schools, school buses and at school-sponsored events within the Parish.
- DWI Task Force<sup>27</sup>  
The purpose of the DWI Task Force is to patrol after dark to enforce laws related to impaired drivers under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- As of October 31, 2001, there were 760 full-time law enforcement employees in Baton Rouge (596 officers and 164 civilians).<sup>28</sup>

**Trafficking and Seizures**

- During 1999, the Baton Rouge Police Department seized 213,006 grams of cocaine, valued at \$6,746,663.<sup>29</sup>

Amount and Value of Drugs Seized, Baton Rouge Police Department, 1999

Drug	Amount Seized	Street Value
Cocaine	213,006 grams	\$6,746,663
Marijuana	794 pounds	\$1,166,320
LSD	70,330 units	\$491,961
MDMA	1,123 units	\$21,685
Diazepam	7,905 units	\$39,695
Xanax	65 units	\$415

**Courts**

➤ Drug Courts<sup>30</sup>

As of May 2003, there was one drug court in Baton Rouge that had been operating for more than two years and one drug court that had been implemented within the past two years. There were no additional drug courts being planned in Baton Rouge.

**Corrections**

➤ Drug-related programs within the Baton Rouge Department of Juvenile Services:

- Drug Screening Program: This is an intense supervision program that targets juvenile drug offenders, high-risk probationers, and those probationers in the substance abuse treatment program.<sup>31</sup>
- Chemical Awareness Program: This is a monthly 4-hour program designed for assessment, prevention, and educational purposes. Participants include juveniles who commit alcohol or drug-related offenses, as well as youth identified as high-risk.<sup>32</sup>
- Operation Eiger/Nova Out-Patient Substance Abuse Treatment Program: The purpose of this intensive programs is to evaluate the needs of the juvenile probationer and recommend appropriate treatment.<sup>33</sup>

**Consequences of Use**

- Autopsies performed on the 371 deceased people in East Baton Rouge Parish in 1999 showed that 61 had drugs and/or alcohol in their system at the time of death.<sup>34</sup>

**Treatment**

- In 1999, 3,504 people were admitted to publicly-funded substance abuse treatment programs in East Baton Rouge Parish. This is a 16.3% decrease from 1998.<sup>35</sup>

Admissions to Treatment, East Baton Rouge Parish, 1998-1999

Drug	1998	1999	% Change
Alcohol	1,476	1,200	-19%
Heroin	20	28	40
Cocaine	2,005	1,627	-19
Marijuana/hashish	517	491	-5
Methamphetamine	13	9	-31
Other drugs	156	149	-4
Total	4,187	3,504	-16.3

## Sources

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- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>
- <sup>2</sup> Baton Rouge-East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor-President Web site: <http://brgov.com/dept/Mayor/>
- <sup>3</sup> Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council Web site: <http://brgov.com/dept/council/>
- <sup>4</sup> Baton Rouge Police Department Web site: <http://brgov.com/dept/brpd/>
- <sup>5</sup> East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office Web site: <http://www.ebrso.org/>
- <sup>6</sup> Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site, Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area section: [http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames\\_gulf.html](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_gulf.html)
- <sup>7</sup> Baton Rouge Anti-Drug Task Force Web site: <http://brgov.com/dept/adtf/>
- <sup>8</sup> Louisiana Department of Public Safety TIGER (Traffic Issues: A Guide to Enforcement Resources) Web site, The Future of Baton Rouge is Up to YOUth section: <http://www.dps.state.la.us/tiger/UpToYOUth.htm>
- <sup>9</sup> Drug-Free Communities Support Program Web site, Louisiana section: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/states/la.html>
- <sup>10</sup> Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center, Louisiana section: <http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/map.aspx?state=LA>
- <sup>11</sup> Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs FY 2002 Drug Court Grants: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/DrugCourts/02DCgrants.htm>
- <sup>12</sup> Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, *COPS Methamphetamine Grant Announcement*, November 14, 2002: [http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/GrantAnnounce/meth\\_grantees.pdf](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/GrantAnnounce/meth_grantees.pdf)
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- <sup>14</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, FY 2002 Discretionary Funds, Louisiana: <http://www.samhsa.gov/funding/content/states/la.htm>
- <sup>15</sup> Office of Justice Programs, Louisiana FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services Grants: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fy2002grants/map/la.htm>
- <sup>16</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Preliminary Uniform Crime Report, 2002*, June 2003: [http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius\\_02/02prelimannual.pdf](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius_02/02prelimannual.pdf)
- <sup>17</sup> National Drug Intelligence Center, *Louisiana Drug Threat Assessment*, May 2001: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs0/666/666p.pdf>
- <sup>18</sup> Louisiana Office for Addictive Disorders, *Drug Abuse Patterns and Trends in Louisiana: September 2000 Proceedings*, September 2000: [http://www.dhh.state.la.us/OADA/PDF%20Files/Epid\\_2000\\_complete.pdf](http://www.dhh.state.la.us/OADA/PDF%20Files/Epid_2000_complete.pdf)
- <sup>19</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>20</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>21</sup> National Drug Intelligence Center, *Louisiana Drug Threat Assessment*, May 2001: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs0/666/666p.pdf>
- <sup>22</sup> Louisiana Office for Addictive Disorders, *Drug Abuse Patterns and Trends in Louisiana: September 2000 Proceedings*, September 2000: [http://www.dhh.state.la.us/OADA/PDF%20Files/Epid\\_2000\\_complete.pdf](http://www.dhh.state.la.us/OADA/PDF%20Files/Epid_2000_complete.pdf)
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Louisiana Office for Addictive Disorders, *Louisiana Communities That Care Survey Comparison Report: East Baton Rouge Parish*, 2001: [http://www.dhh.state.la.us/OADA/PDF%20Files/2001\\_CTC\\_Comp\\_Reports/Parish\\_Reports/2001\\_EBR\\_Parish\\_Report.pdf](http://www.dhh.state.la.us/OADA/PDF%20Files/2001_CTC_Comp_Reports/Parish_Reports/2001_EBR_Parish_Report.pdf)
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>26</sup> Baton Rouge Police Department Web site, Criminal Investigations section: <http://brgov.com/dept/brpd/criminal.htm>
- <sup>27</sup> Baton Rouge Police Department Web site, Uniform Patrol section: <http://brgov.com/dept/brpd/uniformpatrol.htm>
- <sup>28</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2001*, October 2002: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm>

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<sup>29</sup> Louisiana Office for Addictive Disorders, *Drug Abuse Patterns and Trends in Louisiana: September 2000 Proceedings*, September 2000:

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<sup>30</sup> Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, May 22, 2003:

<http://www.american.edu/spa/justice/publications/drgchart2k.pdf>

<sup>31</sup> Baton Rouge Department of Juvenile Services Web site, Special Programs section:

<http://brgov.com/dept/juvenile/specialprograms.htm>

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Baton Rouge Department of Juvenile Services Web site, Intensive Supervision Program section:

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<sup>34</sup> Louisiana Office for Addictive Disorders, *Drug Abuse Patterns and Trends in Louisiana: September 2000 Proceedings*, September 2000:

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<sup>35</sup> Ibid.



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