

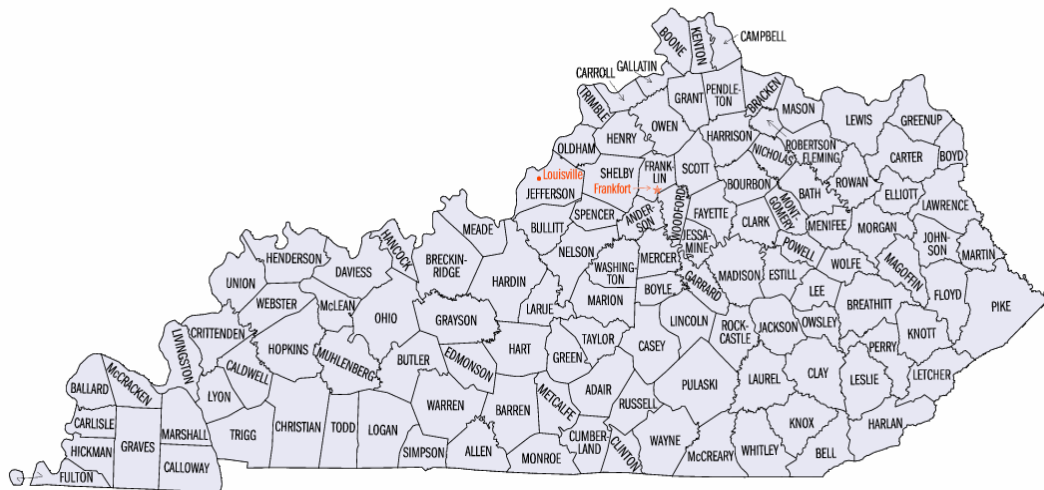
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Kentucky

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.

Kentucky

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

Demographics

- Population: 4,117,827 (July 2003 estimate);¹ 3,978,103 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- Race/ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 89.1% white; 6.6% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 0.8% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.2% other race; 1.4% two or more races; 1.6% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³

Politics

- Governor: Ernie Fletcher⁴
- Lt. Governor: Steve Pence⁵
- Attorney General: Gregory Stumbo⁶
- Secretary of State: Trey Grayson⁷
- U.S. Senate: Jim Bunning (R), Mitch McConnell (R)⁸
- U.S. House of Representatives: Edward Whitfield (R), Ron Lewis (R), Anne Northup (R), Ken Lucas (D), Harold Rogers (R), Ben Chandler (D)⁹
- Capital: Frankfort¹⁰

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)¹¹
Designated in 1998, the Appalachia HIDTA is responsible for counties in Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia, three of the five states known as the Marijuana Belt. The Kentucky counties involved in Appalachia HIDTA efforts are Adair, Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, McCreary, Magoffin, Marion, Monroe, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Taylor, Warren, Wayne, and Whitley.
- Champions for a Drug-Free Kentucky¹²
The mission of Champions for a Drug-Free Kentucky is to promote the prevention of violence as well as alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse in Kentucky communities.
- Early Intervention Program¹³
The Early Intervention Program provides intervention and intensive prevention education programs for youths at high risk for substance abuse. Targeted youth are seen by court workers due to their involvement in activities resulting in legal charges for substance abuse or violence and are eligible for court diversion through participation in the program.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Kentucky:¹⁴
 - Original award year 2003:
 - \$100,000 to Prevention Advocates for Tomorrow's Health, Bardstown

- \$100,000 to Butler-Logan-Simpson Local Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy Board, Bowling Green
- \$100,000 to Madison County Community Partnership, Richmond
- \$100,000 to Portland Now Prevention Partnership, Louisville
- \$100,000 to Calloway County Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Murray
- \$100,000 to Washington County Heartland Youth Coalition, Springfield
- \$98,309 to Lincoln County Champions for Prevention Coalition, Stanford
- Original award year 2002:
 - \$194,248 to Henry County CARE Team, Eminence
 - \$200,000 to Challengers of Oldham County, LaGrange
 - \$199,854 to Campbellsville-Taylor County Anti-Drug Coalition, Campbellsville
 - \$200,000 to Corbin Community Coalition, Corbin
 - \$200,000 to Ohio County Together We Care Community Coalition, Owensboro
 - \$200,000 to Marion County Heartland Coalition, Lebanon
- Original award year 2001:
 - \$300,000 to the Mayor's Alliance on Substance Abuse, Lexington
 - \$300,000 to Boyd and Greenup County Champions for a Drug-Free Kentucky, Ashland
- Original award year 2000:
 - \$375,000 to Youth Empowerment Services Coalition, Albany
 - \$371,160 to People Encouraging People Coalition, Beattyville
 - \$375,000 to Covington Partners in Prevention, Covington
- Original award year 1999:
 - \$422,647 to Mercer County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, Harrodsburgh
- Community Capacity Development Office¹⁵
The Smoketown/Shelby Park section of Louisville is the only site in Kentucky to receive official recognition and Federal funding as a Weed and Seed site.
- FY 2003/2004 SAMHSA Formula and Discretionary Grant Summary for Kentucky:¹⁶
 - Formula Funding - \$27,361,355
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$20,843,571
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant - \$5,755,784
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - \$352,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant - \$410,000
 - Discretionary Funding - \$4,965,648
 - Mental Health - \$1,900,531
 - Substance Prevention - \$526,704
 - Substance Abuse Treatment - \$2,538,413
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$8,418,315
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$23,908,688
 - Total Funds for Kentucky: \$32,327,003
- FY 2004 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to Kentucky: \$6,921,383¹⁷

- FY 2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to Kentucky: \$825,433¹⁸
- Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant:
 - FY 2003:¹⁹
 - \$500,000 to Adair and Casey counties for an adult drug court
 - \$500,000 to Henry County for an adult drug court
 - \$500,000 to John, Lawrence, and Martin counties for an adult drug court
 - \$500,000 to Warren County for a juvenile drug court
 - FY 2002:²⁰
 - \$500,000 to the Administration of the Courts for Trigg, Caldwell, Lyon, and Livingston counties for drug court implementation
 - \$500,000 to the Administration of the Courts for Bourbon, Woodford, and Scott counties for drug court implementation
 - \$500,000 to the Administration of the Courts for Greenup and Lewis counties for drug court implementation
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant:
 - FY 2003: \$300,000 to the Kentucky State Police²¹
 - FY 2002: no Kentucky recipients²²
- FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services total grant amounts received in Kentucky (by funding category):²³
 - Community Based (discretionary): \$0.2 million
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): \$33.1 million
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$5.5 million
 - formula: \$3.7 million
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$50.3 million
 - formula: \$11.5 million
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: \$2.1 million
 - formula: \$0.8 million
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: \$1.8 million
 - formula: \$5.6 million
 - Total OJP/COPS funds received in Kentucky in FY 2003: \$114.6 million
- There were no Kentucky recipients of the FY 2003 Bureau of Justice Assistance Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Grant.²⁴
- There were no Kentucky recipients of the FY 2003 BJA Prescription Drug Monitoring Program grant.²⁵
- FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Low Income Housing Drug Elimination Grant amount received in Kentucky:²⁶
 - \$175,218 to Jackson Woods Apartments, Louisville

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2003, the Kentucky State Police made 5,902 drug arrests. This is up from 5,545 drug arrests in 2002.²⁷

- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 254 drug violation arrests in Kentucky during 2003.²⁸

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Kentucky, 1999-2003

Year	Drug Arrests
1999	261
2000	328
2001	289
2002	276
2003	254

- During 2001, there were 36,502 arrests for drug abuse violations in Kentucky.²⁹

Number of Drug Arrests, Kentucky, 2001

Drug Type	# of Arrests
Opium/cocaine and derivatives	11,171
Marijuana	6,755
Synthetic narcotics	16,850
Other dangerous non-narcotic drugs	1,726
Total drug arrests	36,502

- There were 21 juvenile and 304 adult arrests for murder in Kentucky during 2001.³⁰

Number of Arrests, Select Offenses, Kentucky, 2001

Type of Offense	Under 18	Adult
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	21	304
Forcible rape	46	427
Robbery	181	1,388
Aggravated assault	433	4,339
Burglary	1,111	4,463
Larceny-theft	1,868	14,999
Motor vehicle theft	376	1,539
Arson	141	245
Driving under the influence	792	39,918
Liquor laws	251	4,462

Drugs

- Cocaine

Powder and crack cocaine are increasingly available, frequently abused, and pose the greatest threats to most metropolitan areas in Kentucky. The abuse of crack remains a problem in urban areas and is becoming more popular in suburban and rural areas. Law enforcement authorities indicate that cocaine abusers are increasingly purchasing powder cocaine and converting it to crack themselves as dealers attempt to avoid the stricter penalties associated with crack distribution.³¹ The price and purity of cocaine has remained relatively stable in Kentucky for the past several years. Gram quantities

sell for \$100-\$150, ounce quantities sell for \$900-\$1,200, and kilograms cost \$20,000-\$28,000. The cocaine in urban areas is in the 40-90% purity range.³²

- Heroin
Heroin poses a low threat to Kentucky. The majority of the heroin available in Kentucky originates in Mexico. According to the DEA, a gram of heroin sold for \$100-\$300 in 2000 and \$300-\$400 in 2001.³³
- Marijuana
Locally produced marijuana is generally available after the September/October harvest and through the winter months. Mexican-produced marijuana is used as a filler and supplement for the higher-grade locally produced marijuana after the previous season's supply has been exhausted. The statewide average price for marijuana is \$5/gram.³⁴
- Methamphetamine
The level of methamphetamine production, distribution, abuse, and related violence has increased substantially in Kentucky, particularly in the rural areas of the state. A recent increase in locally produced methamphetamine may have eclipsed the amount of Mexican-produced methamphetamine transported into the state. The availability of methamphetamine continues to increase in Kentucky, particularly in the northern and western areas of the state that border the Ohio River Valley. Methamphetamine is increasingly popular among adolescents and young people at raves who use it to increase and prolong their energy levels. The statewide average price per gram in 2000 was \$106.³⁵
- Club Drugs
The use of MDMA and GHB is increasing throughout Kentucky, particularly among college students. LSD is available on a limited basis and is abused most frequently in urban centers, especially on college, university, and high school campuses.³⁶
- Diverted Pharmaceuticals
The abuse of prescription drugs increased dramatically in Kentucky in 2003.³⁷ Throughout Kentucky, the use of diverted pharmaceuticals such as Lorcet, Lortab, and OxyContin continues to be a major problem. The primary source for most of the diverted pharmaceuticals are "doctor shoppers," patients who visit multiple physicians to acquire numerous prescriptions. Sources for OxyContin also include Mexico and armed robberies of pharmacies. A growing trend is for individuals to travel out of state or to purchase the drugs over the Internet. The abuse of OxyContin has also led to an increase in Medicare/Medicaid fraud.³⁸
- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA), 48.31% of Kentucky citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.³⁹

Percent of Citizens Reporting Drug Use, by Age, Kentucky, 2000-2001 Data

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	11.86%	18.16%	4.01%	6.67%
Past month use of marijuana	8.99	14.10	2.85	4.96
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	4.82	7.28	1.80	2.83
Past year cocaine use	1.49	5.88	1.15	1.81
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	40.42	30.65	52.40	48.31

- According to 2000-2001 data from the NHSDA, approximately 1.53% of Kentucky citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴⁰

Percent of Citizens Reporting Past Year Dependence, Kentucky, 2000-2001 Data

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	2.47%	4.40%	0.91%	1.53%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	4.85	6.71	1.25	2.34
Alcohol dependence	2.28	4.35	1.81	2.20
Alcohol dependence or abuse	5.78	12.66	3.76	5.15
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	8.49	15.99	4.54	6.46

Juveniles

- A 2003 survey of Kentucky high school students showed that approximately 43% reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetimes.⁴¹

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, Kentucky, 2003

Drug Type	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	41.1%	45.4%	43.3%
Current marijuana use	19.5	22.5	21.1
Lifetime cocaine use	9.3	9.8	9.8
Current cocaine use	3.0	4.5	4.0
Lifetime inhalant use	14.6	13.8	14.3
Current inhalant use	4.3	4.3	4.3
Lifetime heroin use	2.2	4.7	3.7
Lifetime methamphetamine use	8.6	10.4	9.7
Lifetime illegal steroid use	6.7	7.3	7.1
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	2.7	3.4	3.2
Lifetime MDMA use	5.9	7.2	6.7

- Half (50.3%) of Kentucky seniors surveyed in 2003 reported lifetime marijuana use.⁴²

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, by Grade, Kentucky, 2003

	9th	10th	11th	12th
Lifetime marijuana use	32.1%	43.2%	50.4%	50.3%
Past month marijuana use	15.9	21.1	21.1	27.1
Lifetime cocaine use	7.6	9.9	11.9	10.6
Past month cocaine use	2.9	4.5	5.5	3.3
Lifetime inhalant use	18.5	11.8	15.4	10.5
Past month inhalant use	7.1	4.0	3.1	2.4
Lifetime heroin use	3.3	3.4	3.6	4.3
Lifetime methamphetamine use	7.0	11.8	9.4	10.7
Lifetime steroid use	7.9	7.5	6.6	5.6
Lifetime injection of illegal drug	2.8	3.2	3.0	3.9
Lifetime MDMA use	3.3	8.0	7.9	8.4

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002, there were 10,035 full-time law enforcement employees in Kentucky (7,719 officers and 2,316 civilians).⁴³

Trafficking and Seizures

- Drugs destined for distribution in Kentucky are transported primarily to Louisville, Lexington, and Covington, which serve as distribution centers for the state.⁴⁴
- According to the Kentucky State Police, there is an increasing number of mobile meth labs being transported in vans, trailers, and SUVs, helping the processors avoid detection. The number of busts involving these labs has increased more than 150% since 1999.⁴⁵
- Approximately 108 kilograms of cocaine were seized by Federal agencies in Kentucky during 2003.⁴⁶

Federal Drug Seizures, Kentucky, 2003

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cocaine	108 kilograms
Heroin	4.7 kilograms
Methamphetamine	5.6 kilograms
Marijuana	1,702 kilograms
MDMA	3,877 pills

- The DEA and state and local law enforcement officials in Kentucky seized 476 methamphetamine laboratories in Kentucky during 2003.⁴⁷

Number of Methamphetamine Labs Seized, Kentucky, 1999-2003

Year	Labs Seized
1999	67
2000	104
2001	174
2002	371
2003	476

- During 2003, more than 500,000 outdoor marijuana plants were eradicated in Kentucky. This is a 39% increase from 2002.⁴⁸

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated, Kentucky, 2002-2003

	2002	2003	% Change
Outdoor plants	365,457	509,086	39.3%
Outdoor plots	7,310	7,753	6.1%
Indoor plants	3,930	5,190	32.1%
Indoor grows	39	45	15.4%

- The Daniel Boone National Forest in eastern Kentucky is a favored spot for marijuana cultivation. The U.S. Forest Service classified 515 acres of the Forest as “impacted environmentally because of drug activity” during 2003. Approximately 206,908 marijuana plants were eradicated in the Forest in 2003.⁴⁹
- During 2003, the Kentucky State Police removed a total of 16,403 dosage units of illegal prescription drugs from circulation. Steroids made up 34% of the top 15 illegal prescription drugs seized by the State Police during 2003.⁵⁰

Most Common Prescription Drugs Seized, Kentucky, 2003

Drug	% of Total
Steroids	34%
Xanax	16
OxyContin	14
Methadone	13
BEXTRA	6
Lortab	5
Valium	3
Morphine	2
Lorcet	2
Unknown	2
Hydrocodone	1
Percocet	1
NORVASC	1

Courts

- Drug Courts⁵¹
As of May 2004, there were 15 drug courts in Kentucky that had operating for over 2 years, 20 that had recently been implemented, and 22 that were being planned.
- During FY 2001, 47.4% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in Kentucky committed a drug offense. Thirty-four percent of the drug cases involved marijuana.⁵²

Federally-Sentenced Drug Offenders, by Drug Type, Kentucky, FY 2001

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Marijuana	148	34.3%
Crack cocaine	94	21.8
Powder cocaine	77	17.8
Methamphetamine	50	11.6
Heroin	12	2.8
Other	51	11.8

- According to the Kentucky Administrator of the Courts, 410 individuals were charged with methamphetamine production in FY 1999. The number more than doubled to 839 in FY 2000.⁵³

Corrections

- On January 1, 2003, there were 3,632 drug offenders in Kentucky Department of Corrections institutions, representing 23% of the 15,934 total population.⁵⁴
- During FY 2001-2002, the average daily probation population in Kentucky was 10,698 and the average daily parole population was 5,222.⁵⁵

Consequences of Use

- From October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003, there were 15 Kentucky methamphetamine laboratory sites reported to the El Paso Intelligence Center in which a child was present.⁵⁶

Characteristics of Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, Kentucky, FY 2003

	Number
Sites with a child affected	32
Sites with a child exposed to toxic chemicals	16
Sites with a child injured	0
Sites with a child killed	0
Sites with a child present	15
Sites with a child residing at the site	27
Number of children placed in protective custody	3

- There were 1,091 collisions in Kentucky during 2002 in which the drivers were under the influence of drugs.⁵⁷ This is down from 1,206 such collisions during 2001.⁵⁸ During 2000, there were 990 collisions in which the drivers were under the influence of drugs.⁵⁹

Number of Drug-Related Collisions, Kentucky, 2000-2002

Type of Collision	2000	2001	2002
All collisions	990	1,206	1,091
Fatal collisions	133	127	143
Injury collisions	461	576	522
Persons killed	147	142	158
Persons injured	749	943	896

- From January 2000 through May 2001, the Kentucky State Medical Examiner's Office identified the presence of oxycodone in 69 deaths. The oxycodone levels were toxic in 36 of the deaths.⁶⁰

Treatment

- During 2003, there were 31,149 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in Kentucky.⁶¹ There were 26,345 admissions to treatment in Kentucky during 2002.⁶² This is up from 25,428 admissions in 2001.⁶³

Number of Admissions to Treatment, Kentucky, 2001-2003

Drug Type	2001		2002		2003	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	5,495	21.6%	5,618	21.3%	6,588	21.1%
Alc. w/ second. drug	4,214	16.6	4,409	16.7	5,390	17.3
Cocaine – smoked	979	3.9	1,534	5.8	2,300	7.4
Cocaine – other route	665	2.6	667	2.5	814	2.6
Marijuana	3,484	13.7	3,753	14.2	4,614	14.8
Heroin	169	0.7	220	0.8	290	0.9
Other opiates	954	3.8	1,128	4.3	1,646	5.3
PCP	4	0.0	2	0.0	8	0.0
Hallucinogens	28	0.1	23	0.1	30	0.1
Amphetamines	454	1.8	455	1.7	696	2.2
Other stimulants	39	0.2	34	0.1	31	0.1
Tranquilizers	435	1.7	406	1.5	559	1.8
Sedatives	28	0.1	31	0.1	46	0.1
Inhalants	29	0.1	30	0.1	46	0.1
Other/none specified	8,451	33.2	8,035	30.5	8,091	26.0
Total	25,428	100.0	26,345	100.0	31,149	100.0

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⁵ Kentucky Lt. Governor Web site: http://governor.ky.gov/lt_gov/index.htm

⁶ Kentucky Attorney General Web site: <http://ag.ky.gov/>

⁷ Kentucky Secretary of State Web site: <http://www.sos.state.ky.us/>

⁸ U.S. Senate Web site: <http://www.senate.gov/>

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¹¹ Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site, Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area section: http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_appl.html

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- ⁶² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2002 Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions, Kentucky: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/KY02.htm>
- ⁶³ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2001 Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions, Kentucky: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/KY01.htm>

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