Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Utah

Profile of Drug Indicators

May 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.

<u>Utah</u>

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

Demographics

- Population: 2,351,467 (July 2003 estimate); 2,275,861 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- ➤ Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 84.43% white; 0.7% black/African American; 0.72% American Indian/Alaska Native; 1.77% Asian; 0.77% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.12% other race; 1.81% two or more races; 9.68% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)³

Politics

- ➤ Governor: Olene Walker⁴
- Lt. Governor: Gayle McKeachnie⁵
- ➤ Attorney General: Mark Shurtleff⁶
- ➤ U.S. House of Representatives: Rob Bishop (R); Jim Matheson (D); Chris Cannon (R)⁷
- ➤ U.S Senate: Robert Bennett (R), Orrin Hatch (R)⁸
- > Capital: Salt Lake City⁹

Programs/Initiatives

- ➤ High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)¹⁰
 The Rocky Mountain HIDTA was designated in 1996 and consists of counties in Colorado, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. The following counties in Utah are included: Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, Utah, Washington and Weber.
- Strengthening Families Program¹¹
 Conducted by the University of Utah, the Strengthening Families Program is a prevention intervention for families from high-risk populations and includes parent training, children skills training and family skills training. The program reduces the use of alcohol and tobacco among older children and the expectations to use alcohol and tobacco among non-using children.
- ➤ Prevention Dimensions¹²
 - The mission of Prevention Dimensions, which was started in the early 1980's, is to provide a strong foundation of effective violence and substance abuse prevention strategies in Utah Schools. Teachers receive effective prevention resources and a positive prevention attitude they can implement in the classroom. The foundation of this prevention strategy has been enhanced and updated based on current research in effective school-based prevention.

Federal Funding

- ➤ Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Utah:¹³
 - FY 2003:
 - \$100,000 to Salt Lake City Corporation, Salt Lake City
 - \$99,960 to the University of Utah, Salt Lake City

- \$51,000 to the Utah Council for Crime Prevention for the Coalition Mentoring Program
- FY 2002: No grantees
- FY 2001:
 - \$99,908 to Millard School District, Delta
- FY 2000:
 - \$100,000 to Kearns Town Council, Murray
- FY 1999:
 - \$100,000 to The Crime Council, Murray
 - \$99,509 to Utah Council for Crime Prevention, Salt Lake City
 - \$100,000 to Utah Federation for Youth Inc., Salt Lake City
- ➤ FY 2003/04 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Formula and Discretionary Grant summary for Utah: 14
 - Formula Funding: \$20,695,335
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant: \$17,282,985
 - Community Mental Health Service Block Grant: \$3,002,350
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH): \$393,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant: \$410,000
 - Discretionary Funding: \$5,607,454
 - Mental Health: \$2,845,993
 - Substance Prevention: \$852,272
 - Substance Abuse Treatment: \$1,909,189
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$6,651,343
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$20,044,446
 - Total Funds for Utah: \$26,695,789
- ➤ Office for Weed and Seed¹⁵
 - Three sites in Utah, including Ogden City, Salt Lake City, and West Valley City, have received Federal funding and official recognition as Weed and Seed sites.
- > FY 2004 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to Utah: \$4,440,686¹⁶
- > FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant amount received in Utah: 17
 - \$500,00 to Weber County for a juvenile drug court
- > FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amounts allocated to Utah:
 - FY 1996: \$162,228¹⁸
 - FY 1997: \$185.163¹⁹
 - FY 1998: \$410,893²⁰
 - FY 1999: \$405.543²¹
 - FY 2000: \$398,717²²
 - FY 2001: \$430.274²³
 - FY 2002: \$474,028²⁴
 - FY 2003: \$431,357²⁵
- ➤ FY 2002 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant recipient in Utah:²⁶
 - \$295,103 to the City of Salt Lake
- ➤ Utah did not receive funds for the FY 2003 COPS Methamphetamine Grant.²⁷

- ➤ There were no Utah recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.²⁸
- ➤ Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services total grant amounts received in Utah (by funding category):²⁹
 - Communities (discretionary): \$1.3 million
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): \$3.8 million
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$1.6 millionformula: \$3.9 million
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$16.2 million
 - formula: \$4.9 million
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: \$18.0 million
 - formula: \$5.0 million
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: \$0.1 million
 - formula: \$4.7 million
 - Total OJP/COPS funds received in Utah in FY 2002: \$59.5 million

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

From January to September 2003, there were 6,527 juvenile arrests and 14,209 adult arrests for part 1 crimes in Utah.³⁰

Number of Arrests, Part 1 Offenses, Utah, January-September 2003

Offense Type	Juveniles	Adults
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	2	38
Manslaughter by negligence	1	5
Forcible rape	54	106
Robbery	13	232
Aggravated assault	317	683
Burglary	327	832
Larceny theft	4,056	6,274
Motor vehicle theft	230	304
Simple assault	1,435	5,694
Arson	92	41
Part 1 crime arrests	6,527	14,209

From January to September 2003, 695 juveniles and 2,364 adults were arrested for marijuana possession in Utah.³¹

Number of Drug-Related Arrests, Utah, January-September 2003

Offense Type	Juveniles	Adults
Drug sale or manufacturing arrests		
Sale/opium	1	140
Sale/marijuana	35	182
Sale/synthetic narcotics	3	64
Sale/Other	18	165
Drug possession arrests		
Possession/opium	14	497
Possession/marijuana	695	2,364
Possession/synthetic narcotics	15	239
Possession/other	208	1,684

➤ During 2001, there were 30,891 part 1 crime arrests in Utah. ³² During 2002, this number decreased to 29,904. ³³

Number of Arrests, Part 1 Offenses, Utah, 2001-2002

Selected Offenses	2001	2002
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	54	46
Manslaughter by negligence	6	6
Forcible rape	239	204
Robbery	334	284
Aggravated assault	1,171	1,256
Burglary	1,541	1,548
Larceny theft	15,984	15,522
Motor vehicle theft	765	960
Simple assault	10,632	9,923
Arson	165	155
Total part 1 crime arrests	30,891	29,904
State arrest total	132,394	125,646

➤ During 2001, there were 1,087 arrests for the sale of marijuana and 6,326 arrests for possession of marijuana.³⁴ During 2002, there were 478 arrests for the sale of marijuana and 5,770 arrests for marijuana possession.³⁵

Number of Drug-Related Arrests, Utah, 2001-2002

	2001	2002
Drug sale or manufacturing arrests		
Sale/opium	323	236
Sale/marijuana	1,087	478
Sale/synthetic narcotics	89	97
Sale/Other	358	327
Drug possession arrests		
Possession/opium	787	853
Possession/marijuana	6,326	5,770
Possession/synthetic narcotics	399	424
Possession/other	2,567	3,435

➤ The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 332 drug violation arrests in Utah during 2001. ³⁶

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Utah, 1997-2001

	Number of Arrests
1997	332
1998	477
1999	520
2000	455
2001	332

Drugs

Cocaine

Cocaine remains to be a problem throughout all areas of Utah. Crack cocaine is available in ounce quantities, though it is confined primarily to larger cities.³⁷ Powder cocaine sold for \$16,000-\$20,000 per kilogram, \$500-\$1,000 per ounce, and \$75-\$125 per gram during the 2nd quarter of FY 2001. Crack sold for \$20-\$30 per rock during this same time period.³⁸

> Heroin

Heroin poses a serious problem throughout Utah. Mexican brown and black tar heroin are readily available throughout the state, though multi-ounce and larger quantities are primarily distributed in the major cities. Heroin prices range in Utah from \$60-\$400 per gram and purity levels range from 8-64%.

> Marijuana

Marijuana is widely available in Utah. Prices for marijuana range from \$600-\$1,000 per pound, \$80-\$150 per ounce, and \$0.50-\$5 per joint in the 1st quarter of 2002. The most common type of marijuana available in the State is marijuana produced by Mexican criminal groups. Marijuana produced in Utah is also available. ⁴¹ Many remote areas with fertile soil in Utah provide places for marijuana growing operations. ⁴²

➤ Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine remains the largest drug threat throughout Utah. 43 Methamphetamine is readily available in wholesale quantities. Methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups as well as methamphetamine produced locally is available in Utah. Prices for methamphetamine range from \$600-\$1,200 per ounce and \$100 per gram. 44

- Club Drugs
 - MDMA (ecstasy), GHB, and ketamine are quickly becoming a significant law enforcement problem in Utah. LSD use and availability appear to have decreased in recent years. 45
- Diverted Pharmaceuticals⁴⁶
 The abuse of prescription drugs is becoming a significant threat in Utah. Some of the most commonly diverted pharmaceuticals include benzodiazepines, hydrocodones, oxycondones, and Ritalin. Most of these drugs sell for \$15 or less per tablet. The most common method of prescription drug diversion is forged and fraudulent prescriptions.
- According to the 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 45% of Utah citizens felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.⁴⁷

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

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	6.85%	10.58%	2.94%	4.97%
Past month use of marijuana	5.00	8.07	1.87	3.51
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	3.80	5.45	1.75	2.75
Past year cocaine use	1.46	3.45	0.83	1.43
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	41.43	35.82	48.23	44.88

According to 2001 data from National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1.32% of Utah citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴⁸

Percent of Citizens Reporting Past Year Dependence, Utah, 2001

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	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	2.13%	3.09%	0.63%	1.32%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	4.12	4.71	1.15	2.26
Alcohol dependence	2.04	4.13	1.82	2.30
Alcohol dependence or abuse	4.21	11.09	3.40	5.01
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	6.29	13.16	4.45	6.40

Juveniles

➤ During 2001, there were 145 juvenile arrests for the sale of marijuana and 1,208 juvenile arrests for the possession of marijuana. ⁴⁹ During 2002, there were 80 juvenile arrests for the sale of marijuana and 1,089 juvenile arrests for possession of marijuana. ⁵⁰

Number of Drug-Related Arrests, Utah, 2001-2002

	2001	2002				
Drug sale or manufacturing arrests						
Sale/opium	6	2				
Sale/marijuana	145	80				
Sale/synthetic narcotics	9	14				
Sale/Other	28	34				
Drug possession arrests						
Possession/opium	17	42				
Possession/marijuana	1,208	1,089				
Possession/synthetic narcotics	20	37				
Possession/other	331	342				

➤ During 2001, there were 10,544 juvenile part 1 crime arrests in Utah.⁵¹ During 2002, there were 9,826 juveniles arrested for part 1 crimes in Utah.⁵²

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Utah, 2001-2002

Selected Offenses	2001	2002
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	4	8
Manslaughter by negligence	0	2
Forcible rape	78	74
Robbery	54	62
Aggravated assault	377	401
Burglary	607	531
Larceny theft	6,685	6,200
Motor vehicle theft	353	350
Simple assault	2,281	2,093
Arson	105	105
Total part 1 crime arrests	10,544	9,826
State arrest total	29,754	27,812

➤ During 2001, 19.7% of high school students in Utah reported using marijuana within their lifetime.⁵³

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, Utah, 2001

Drug Type and Use	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	15.7%	23.7%	19.7%
Current marijuana use	7.1	12.2	9.7
Lifetime cocaine use	3.5	4.7	4.1
Current cocaine use	1.9	3.4	2.7
Lifetime inhalants use	10.6	13.7	12.2
Current inhalant use	4.2	5.9	5.1
Lifetime heroin use	1.7	3.6	2.7
Lifetime methamphetamine use	4.7	5.8	5.3
Lifetime illegal steroid use	1.7	6.6	4.2
Lifetime injected illegal drug use	1.2	2.8	2.1
Tired marijuana before age 13 years	3.0	6.0	4.5

Enforcement

As of October 31, 2002, there were 6,872 law enforcement employees in Utah (4,636 police officers and 2,236 civilian employees).⁵⁴

Trafficking and Seizures

- Mexican criminal groups dominate transportation and wholesale distribution of methamphetamine produced outside the US. Caucasian independent deals are involved in the production, transportation, and wholesale distribution of methamphetamine in Utah. 55
- > Street gangs that distribute cocaine in Utah often commit violent crimes.⁵⁶
- Mexican criminal groups in Utah dominate the transportation of cocaine from Mexico.⁵⁷
- Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of heroin into and through Utah. They also dominate the whole distribution of heroin in the state. Street gangs are the primary retail distributors of heroin.⁵⁸
- ➤ The importation of marijuana from British Columbia, Canada, remains active in Utah although the majority of bulk-seized marijuana is of Mexican origin. ⁵⁹
- ➤ During full year 2003, the DEA and state and local authorities in Utah reported 69 methamphetamine lab incidents to the El Paso Intelligence Center. ⁶⁰

Number of Methamphetamine Incidents/Seizures, Utah, 2003

_Type of Seizure	Number
Chemical/glass/equipment	15
Dumpsite	12
Laboratory	42
Total	69

➤ In 2002, there were 7,820 total marijuana plants eradicated in Utah under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program. ⁶¹

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Utah, 2002

Outdoor Operations		Indoor Operations		
	Cultivated			Total
Plots	Plants	Grows	Plants	Plants
Eradicated	Eradicated	Seized	Eradicated	Eradicated
13	6,180	11	1,640	7,820

➤ During 2002, Federal agencies seized 10.4 kilograms of marijuana in Utah. 62

Amount of Drug Seized by Federal Agencies, Utah, 2002

	Amount Seized (in kilograms)
Cocaine	0.9
Heroin	0.1
Marijuana	10.4
Methamphetamine	1.5

➤ Methamphetamine lab seizures increased from 62 during 1996 to 240 during 1999. Since 1999, the number of methamphetamine labs seized has deceased to 159 during 2001.⁶³

Methamphetamine Labs Seized, Utah, 1996-2001

_Year	Lab Seizures
1996	62
1997	87
1998	105
1999	240
2000	207
2001	159

Courts

- ➤ Drug Courts⁶⁴
 - As of November 2003, there were 26 drug courts in Utah. Twenty-two drug courts were operating for over 2 years, 3 drug courts were recently implemented, and 1 drug court was being planned.
- ➤ Since 1996, there have been over 3,500 people enrolled in a drug court program in Utah. At any given time in Utah, close to 1,800 people are participating in a drug court. 65
- ➤ During FY 2001, 17.2% of Federally sentenced defendants in Utah had committed drug offenses. Approximately 64.7% of these drug offenses involved methamphetamine. 66

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Offenses, Utah, FY 2001

Drug Type Involved	Offenses	Percentage of Total
Powder cocaine	9	9.4%
Crack cocaine	4	4.7
Heroin	1	1.2
Marijuana	16	18.8
Methamphetamine	55	64.7
Other	1	1.2

Corrections

- ➤ As of December 31, 2002, there were 5,567 prisoners under the jurisdiction of State and Federal correctional authorities in Utah. ⁶⁷
- ➤ As of December 31, 2002, there were 10,675 persons on probation and 2,273 persons on parole in Utah. 68
- ➤ Collaborative Interventions for Abusing Offenders (CIAO) Program⁶⁹
 The CIAO program targets parolees and probationers with serious substance abuse issues.
- According to the Treatment Needs of Prison Inmates Study, 69.5% of inmates interviewed were assessed to need some type of alcohol or drug treatment in 2001.⁷⁰

Consequences of Use

➤ From October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003, there were 8 Utah methamphetamine laboratory sites reported to the El Paso Intelligence Center in which a child was present.⁷¹

Characteristics of Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, Utah, FY 2003

	Number	
Sites with a child affected	24	
Sites with a child exposed to toxic chemicals	3	
Sites with a child injured	1	
Sites with a child killed	0	
Sites with a child present	8	
Sites with a child residing at the site	5	
Number of children placed in protective custody	2	

There are 50 alcohol and drug-related motor vehicle crash fatalities each year in Utah. 72

Treatment

➤ During 2003, of the 19,943 total admissions to treatment in Utah, 17.30% were for marijuana/hashish.⁷³

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions, Utah, FY 2003

Drug Type	Percent
Alcohol	35.86%
Marijuana/hashish	17.30
Heroin	8.47
Other opiates/synthetics	3.61
Club drugs	0.15
Other hallucinogens	0.18
Cocaine/crack	6.57
Methamphetamine	23.07
Other stimulants	0.53
Benzodiazepines	0.44
Other sedative-hypnotics	0.15
Inhalants	0.19
Over the counter	0.11
Other	0.25
None/missing	3.13
Total	19,943

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⁴ Utah Governor's Web site: http://www.utah.gov/governor/

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This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the <u>National Criminal Justice Reference Service</u>. For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues contact:

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