Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Delaware

Profile of Drug Indicators

March 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.

Delaware

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

Demographics

- Population: 817,491 (July 2003 Census estimate)¹; 782,221 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- Race/ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 72.1% white; 18.4% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 2.5% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.2% other race; 1.4% two or more races; 5.2% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³

Politics

- \blacktriangleright Governor: Ruth Ann Minner⁴
- ▶ Lt. Governor: John Carney⁵
- ➢ Attorney General: M. Jane Brady⁶
- Secretary of State: Harriet Smith Windsor⁷
- ▶ U.S. Senate: Joseph Biden, Jr. (D); Thomas Carper (D)⁸
- ▶ U.S. House of Representatives: Michael N. Castle⁹
- \succ Capital: Dover¹⁰

Programs/Initiatives

Drug-Free Delaware¹¹

Launched in December 1997 and an element of Delaware's anti-drug public information campaign, Drug-Free Delaware primarily targets youth in grades 5-8 as well as their parents, families, and teachers. The Web site associated with the campaign includes comprehensive data about the extent of drug and alcohol abuse in Delaware, resources for concerned citizens, and a summary of the legal consequences of possessing and selling drugs.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Delaware:¹²
 - FY 2003: no grantees
 - FY 2002: no grantees
 - FY 2001: \$100,000 to the University of Delaware's University/Schools Alliance's (USA) Partners in Prevention, Newark
 - FY 2000: \$100,000 to the Delaware Prevention Coalition's Southern Partnerships, Georgetown
 - FY 1999: \$100,000 to the New Castle County Community Partnership, New Castle
- \succ Executive Office for Weed and Seed¹³

There are 2 Weed and Seed sites in Delaware: Dover and Wilmington.

FY 2003/2004 SAMHSA Formula and Discretionary Grant Allotments Summary for Delaware:¹⁴

- Formula Funding \$8,350,771
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant \$6,671,798
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant \$968,973
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) \$300,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant \$410,000
- Discretionary Funding \$3,050,982
 - Mental Health \$1,600,000
 - Substance Abuse Prevention: \$25,000
 - Substance Abuse Treatment \$1,425,982
- Total Mental Health Funds: \$3,278,973
- Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$8,122,780
- Total Funds for Delaware: \$11,401,753
- ▶ FY 2003 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to Delaware: \$2,422,951¹⁵
- There were no Delaware recipients of the FY 2002¹⁶ or FY 2003¹⁷ Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant.
- There were no Delaware recipients of the FY 2002¹⁸ or FY 2003¹⁹ Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant.
- There were no Delaware recipients of the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant.²⁰
- FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to Delaware:
 - FY 1996: \$155,100²¹
 - FY 1997: \$173,862²²
 - FY 1998: \$372.531²³
 - FY 1999: \$351,189²⁴
 - FY 2000: \$355,504²⁵
 - FY 2001: \$374,713²⁶
 - FY 2002: \$417,345²⁷
 - FY 2003: \$398.211²⁸
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and COPS total grant amounts received in Delaware (by funding category):²⁹
 - Communities (discretionary): \$1.8 million
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): \$6.6 million
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$53.1 million
 - formula: \$4.2 million
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$14.7 million
 - formula: \$5.9 million
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: \$0
 - formula: \$7.0 million
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: \$0.1 million
 - formula: \$5.3 million

- Total OJP/COPS funds received in Delaware in FY 2002: \$98.7 million
- There were no Delaware recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.³⁰

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

There were more than 31,000 adult arrests in Delaware during 2002. Twenty-five of the arrests were for murder.³¹

Type of Offense	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Murder	20	17	23	29	28	25
Forcible rape	215	234	242	251	197	165
Robbery	382	410	446	446	462	511
Aggravated assault	1,648	1,735	1,708	1,710	1,733	1,809
Burglary	775	826	767	990	1,136	1,126
Larceny-theft	3,663	3,601	3,290	3,228	3,432	3,409
Motor vehicle theft	122	149	125	140	155	161
Arson	30	27	34	71	32	32
Drug	2,321	2,589	2,857	3,280	3,431	3,446
Total adult arrests	31,548	31,962	32,606	30,810	31,530	31,869

Number of Adult Arrests, Selected Offenses, Delaware, 1997-2002

- There were 12,089 illicit drug complaints in Delaware in 2002, a 1.5% increase over the 11,915 drug complaints in 2001.³²
- > During 2002, there were 2,815 adult arrests for drug possession in Delaware.³³

_Type of Drug Offense	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Sale/manufacturing	520	440	526	607	631	631
Opium/cocaine & derivatives	429	377	442	492	531	557
Marijuana	86	58	78	107	87	70
Synthetic narcotics	2	0	1	0	1	2
Other dang. non-narcotic	3	5	5	8	12	2
Possession	1,801	2,129	2,331	2,673	2,800	2,815
Opium/cocaine & derivatives	792	939	940	996	1,105	1,157
Marijuana	983	1,170	1,367	1,644	1,659	1,607
Synthetic narcotics	0	1	3	1	2	9
Other dang. non-narcotic	26	19	21	32	34	42
Total adult drug arrests	2,321	2,569	2,857	3,280	3,431	3,446

Number of Adult Drug Arrests, Delaware, 1997-2002

During 2001, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported making 47 arrests for drug violations in Delaware.³⁴

Year	Arrests
1997	89
1998	155
1999	110
2000	71
2001	47

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Delaware, 1997-2001

Drugs

➢ Cocaine

Cocaine, powdered and crack, poses the most significant drug threat to Delaware. Most of the crack available in the state is converted locally from powdered cocaine as needed. Powdered cocaine sold for \$23,000-\$28,000/kilogram, \$800-\$1,200/ounce, and \$30-\$120/gram in Delaware during the first quarter of FY 2003. During the same time period, crack sold for \$800-\$1,200/ounce, \$26/gram, and \$5-\$10/rock.³⁵

> Heroin

South American heroin is the most common type found in Delaware.³⁶ Heroin is most commonly available in the northern urban areas of the state but is increasingly available in rural areas. Heroin sold for \$4,000-\$6,000/ounce, \$80-\$300/gram, and \$10-\$20/bag in the first quarter of FY 2003.³⁷

Marijuana

Most of the marijuana found in Delaware is produced in Mexico. However, locally produced marijuana is also available. According to the DEA Wilmington Resident Office, marijuana sold for \$800-\$2,000/pound, \$150-\$600/ounce, and \$60-\$150/bag during the first quarter of FY 2003.³⁸

> Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is a growing concern to Delaware officials. While most of the methamphetamine available in the state is produced in Pennsylvania, meth produced in western states is increasingly available. Most Delaware meth users are high school and college age students and rave club patrons.³⁹ The DEA Wilmington Resident Office reported that methamphetamine sold for \$1,200-\$1,500/ounce and \$20/gram during the first quarter of FY 2003.⁴⁰

Club Drugs

Increasingly available and abused by teens and young adults, MDMA poses a growing threat to Delaware. Once abused only in college towns such as Wilmington and Newark, MDMA is now also being abused in smaller towns such as Rehoboth Beach and Dewey Beach.⁴¹ Wholesale quantities of MDMA sold for \$11.50-\$20/tablet, while retail quantities sold for \$20-\$30/tablet during the first quarter of FY 2003.⁴²

Other Drugs

OxyContin, Ritalin, Vicodin, and Xanax are the most commonly diverted and abused pharmaceutical substances in Delaware.⁴³

According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 36.87% of Delaware citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.⁴⁴

Percent of Chizens Reporting Drug Ose, by Age	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	12.09%	21.90%	4.76%	7.62%
Past month use of marijuana	9.56	19.22	3.92	6.38
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	5.08	7.74	1.88	2.93
Past year cocaine use	1.28	6.19	1.67	2.20
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	32.52	25.25	39.29	36.87

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

According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1.85% of Delaware citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴⁵

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

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	2.52%	5.29%	1.22%	1.85%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	4.84	7.08	1.55	2.56
Alcohol dependence	1.92	4.82	2.10	2.42
Alcohol dependence or abuse	4.78	13.59	5.00	6.04
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	8.20	17.12	5.80	7.44

Juveniles

There were 3 juvenile arrests for murder in Delaware during 2002. This is up from 2 juvenile murder arrests in 2001.⁴⁶

Type of Offense	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Murder	0	4		3	2	3
Forcible rape	62	69	76	60	61	48
Robbery	141	137	154	139	155	161
Aggravated assault	344	344	422	424	402	347
Burglary	430	350	387	506	548	484
Larceny-theft	1,368	1,219	1,321	1,258	1,486	1,126
Motor vehicle theft	138	106	104	133	148	117
Arson	21	36	39	57	44	48
Drug	576	503	651	723	699	728
Total juvenile arrests	7,006	6,616	8,040	8,691	9,107	8,419

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Selected Offenses, Delaware, 1997-2002

During 2002, there were 675 juvenile arrests for drug possession in Delaware. This is up from 650 juvenile drug possession arrests during 2001.⁴⁷

Type of Drug Offense	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Sale/manufacturing	53	51	65	58	49	53
Opium/cocaine & derivatives	40	43	45	32	32	39
Marijuana	12	5	16	24	11	13
Synthetic narcotics	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other dang. non-narcotic	1	3	4	2	5	1
Possession	523	452	586	665	650	675
Opium/cocaine & derivatives	128	128	108	108	124	112
Marijuana	382	315	464	544	498	516
Synthetic narcotics	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other dang. non-narcotic	13	9	14	12	28	46
Total juvenile drug arrests	576	503	651	723	699	728

Number of Juvenile Drug Arrests, Delaware, 1997-2002

➤ A 2001 survey of Delaware high school students revealed that 51.5% of male and 42.5% of female students tried marijuana at least once in their lifetime.⁴⁸

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, Delaware, 1999 and 2001							
		<u>1999</u>		<u>2001</u>			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Lifetime marijuana use	51.6	45.7	48.8	51.5	42.5	46.9	
Past month marijuana use	33.5	24.2	29.0	30.7	21.8	26.3	
Lifetime cocaine use	7.3	7.0	7.2	6.8	5.8	6.3	
Past month cocaine use	2.9	2.3	2.7	3.0	1.7	2.4	
Lifetime inhalant use	11.8	12.4	12.2	12.4	8.7	10.5	
Past month inhalant use	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.6	1.8	3.2	
Lifetime heroin use	3.5	2.8	3.3	3.7	1.6	2.7	
Lifetime methamphetamine use	6.9	6.8	7.0	8.1	5.6	6.8	
Lifetime steroid use	3.9	2.3	3.2	7.2	2.3	4.8	
Lifetime injection of illegal drug	2.8	1.7	2.3	2.9	0.5	1.7	

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Nearly 57% of 12th graders surveyed in 2001 reported lifetime marijuana use.⁴⁹

	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	37.5	45.9	51.7	56.8	46.9
Past month marijuana use	21.2	27.1	28.2	30.3	26.3
Lifetime cocaine use	4.9	4.7	8.1	8.6	6.3
Past month cocaine use	2.5	1.8	2.7	2.6	2.4
Lifetime inhalant use	13.0	9.4	12.0	7.0	10.5
Past month inhalant use	4.0	3.0	3.5	2.0	3.2
Lifetime heroin use	2.6	2.1	2.9	3.2	2.7
Lifetime methamphetamine use	5.3	6.6	8.1	8.2	6.8
Lifetime steroid use	4.5	5.2	6.4	3.0	4.8

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, by Grade Delaware 2001

Lifetime injection of illegal drug	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.8	1.7
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Enforcement

- Drug Unit⁵⁰ The Delaware State Police Drug Unit is comprised of 15 officers responsible for impacting the availability of illegal drugs in Delaware.
- Financial, Organized Crime, Corruption, Asset Seizure Team (FORCAST)⁵¹ The most visible work of Delaware State Police FORCAST officers is interstate investigations related to drugs and drug money.
- As of October 31, 2002, there were 3,101 full-time law enforcement employees in Delaware (2,206 officers and 895 civilians).⁵²

Trafficking and Seizures

- Most of the illicit drugs available in Delaware are transported from Philadelphia and New York City.⁵³
- Delaware is within easy driving distance of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York City, and Washington, D.C., all of which are major drug distribution centers. Interstate 95 provides direct access from Delaware to these and other cities.⁵⁴
- The Port of Wilmington is Delaware's principal seaport. Colombian drug trafficking organizations occasionally smuggle drugs, usually cocaine, through the Port to other cities, but seizures at the Port of Wilmington remain low. From FY 1995 to FY 2000, state law enforcement officials recorded only 2 cocaine seizures, 1 heroin seizure, and 1 marijuana seizure at the Port.⁵⁵
- Because Delaware has no national or international airports, the airborne smuggling threat is limited.⁵⁶
- Local independent Caucasian and African American dealers are the major transporters and distributors of drugs in Delaware. Outlaw motorcycle gangs, such as the Pagans, also transport and distribute retail quantities of illicit drugs, primarily cocaine and methamphetamine.⁵⁷
- Organized street gangs, including the Latin Kings, transport and distribute cocaine and marijuana.⁵⁸
- Local independent MDMA dealers, frequently college students, usually distribute the drug at raves, house parties, college campuses, and bars. In January 2002, the Delaware State Assembly made trafficking in MDMA a crime with mandatory minimum sentences.⁵⁹
- During full year 2003, the DEA and state and local authorities in Delaware reported 2 methamphetamine lab incidents to the El Paso Intelligence Center.⁶⁰

Type of Seizure	Number
Chemical/glass/equipment	0
Dumpsite	0
Laboratory	2
Total	2

Number of Methamphetamine Incidents/Seizures, Delaware, 2003

- From 1996 to 2002, the DEA and State and local authorities in Delaware seized 2 methamphetamine labs. One lab was seized in 1997 and the other was seized in 2001.⁶¹
- During 2002, 108 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated in Delaware under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁶²

Outdoor Operations		Indoor O	Total	
	Cultivated			Cultivated
Eradicated	Plants	Grows	Plants	Plants
_ Plots	Eradicated	Seized	Eradicated	Eradicated
1	3	5	105	108

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Delaware, 2002

Approximately 2.3 kilograms of cocaine were seized by Federal agencies in Delaware during 2002.⁶³

Drug Type	Amount Seized (in kgs.)
Cocaine	2.3
Heroin	0.3
Methamphetamine	1.2
Marijuana	1.2

Amount of Federal Drug Seizures, Delaware, 2002

During the first half of 2001, Delaware police seized more than 15,000 MDMA tablets. During full year 2000, more than 16,000 tablets were seized.⁶⁴

Courts

➢ Drug Courts⁶⁵

As of November 2003, there were 7 drug courts in Delaware that have been operating for more than 2 years. No additional drug courts were in existence or being planned in the state.

During FY 2001, approximately 26.5% of the Federally sentenced defendants in Delaware committed drug offenses. Approximately 41% of the Federal drug cases involved crack cocaine.⁶⁶

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Drug Type	Number	Percent		
Crack cocaine	9	40.9%		
Powder cocaine	8	36.4		
Marijuana	5	22.7		
Heroin	0	0.0		
Methamphetamine	0	0.0		
Other	0	0.0		

➢ Attorney General Drug Unit⁶⁷

The Drug Unit was established to work closely with law enforcement agencies during the investigative stage to provide legal advice and assistance regarding prearrest procedures as well as prosecutorial services.

Corrections

- At the end of 2002, there were 6,488 inmates within Delaware Department of Correction facilities.⁶⁸
- Delaware has five adult correctional facilities:⁶⁹
 - Delaware Correctional Center (DCC): Located in Smyrna, this is the largest adult male facility in the state with a capacity of 1,789.
 - Multi-Purpose Criminal Justice Facility (MPCJF): located in Wilmington
 - Sussex Correctional Institution (SCI): located in Georgetown
 - Delores J. Baylor Women's Correctional Institution (BWCI): Located in New Castle, this is the only women's correctional facility in Delaware.
 - John L. Webb Correctional Facility: located in Wilmington
- \succ The KEY⁷⁰

The KEY and KEY South are in-prison therapeutic communities for men. KEY, located at the Multi-Purpose Criminal Justice Facility, opened in July 1988, and KEY South, located at Sussex Correctional Institution, opened in November 1997. More than 300 inmates are involved in KEY programs and many were originally incarcerated for drug trafficking.

Crest Outreach Center and Aftercare⁷¹

Found at the Plummer Community Correctional Center in Wilmington, this is the nation's first residential, work-release center based on the therapeutic community. Many residents come to Crest after completing one of the KEY programs. More than 80 men and women live in the Crest Outreach Center, where offenders undergo continuous substance abuse treatment for six months. After completing Crest and being placed on probation, offenders typically go through the Aftercare program for 6 additional months. There are approximately 90 probationers who take part in the Aftercare program.

- BWCI Village⁷² Located at the Delores Baylor Women's Correctional Institution, BWCI Village is a prison-based therapeutic community for women.
- A University of Delaware study found that 71% of offenders who completed the KEY and Crest programs had not been rearrested 18 months after their release. Only 30% of those who did not go through either program remained arrest-free.⁷³
- This same study revealed that 76% of the offenders who completed the programs did not use drugs 18 months after release, while only 19% of those who did not go through either program remained drug-free.⁷⁴
- At the end of 2002 (December 31), there were 20,201 adults on probation and 551 adults on parole in Delaware.⁷⁵

Treatment

During FY 2002, Delaware's Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health funded 7,729 adult admissions to treatment programs statewide.⁷⁶

Drug Type	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002
Alcohol	2,069	2,429	2,759	2,553	2,422
Heroin	2,040	2,393	2,356	2,153	1,991
Cocaine	437	521	491	430	466
Crack cocaine	856	936	974	854	966
Marijuana/hashish	669	838	1,039	1,283	1,416
Amphetamines	13	9	14	10	4
Other opiates and synth.	33	46	48	107	120
Other/missing/unknown	178	111	108	97	344
Total	6,295	7,283	7,789	7,487	7,729

Number of Adult Treatment Admissions, by Primary Drug, Delaware, FY 1998-2002

In FY 1986, there were 5,344 adult admissions to treatment in Delaware. This number increased to 6,390 by FY 1996.⁷⁷

Drug Type	FY 1986	FY 1988	FY 1990	FY 1992	FY 1994	FY 1996
Alcohol	4,142	3,994	4,113	3,550	3,132	2,778
Heroin	258	327	371	414	1,039	1,636
Cocaine	336	1,057	1,429	251	856	561
Crack cocaine	Unk.	Unk.	Unk.	1,420	482	759
Marijuana/hashish	342	215	217	152	191	400
Amphetamines	178	54	21	10	9	14
Other opiates/synth.	32	19	4	12	11	31
Other/missing/unkn.	56	104	99	90	86	211
Total	5,344	5,770	6,254	5,899	5,806	6,390

Number of Adult Treatment Admissions,	by Primary Drug, Delaware,	FY 1986-FY 1996
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