

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of South Carolina

Profile of Drug Indicators

May 2004



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile 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.

South Carolina

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

Demographics

- Population: 4,147,152 (July 2003 Census estimate);¹ 3,917,899 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 65.73% white; 29.44% black/African American; 0.26% American Indian/Alaska Native; 0.91% Asian; 0.05% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.10% some other race; 0.87% two or more races; 2.64% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)

Politics

- Governor: Mark Sanford³
- Lieutenant Governor: R. Andre Bauer⁴
- Secretary of State: Mark Hammond⁵
- Attorney General: Henry McMaster⁶
- U.S. Senators: Ernest Hollings (D); Lindsey Graham (R)⁷
- U.S. Representatives: Henry Brown, Jr. (R); James Clyburn (D); Jim DeMint (R); J. Gresham Barrett (R); John Spratt, Jr. (D); Joe Wilson (R)⁸
- Capital: Columbia⁹

Programs/Initiatives

- Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS)¹⁰
The South Carolina DAODAS is responsible for advising the executive branch of state, the General Assembly and other state agencies regarding alcohol and other drug abuse issues. The department's mission is to ensure the provision of quality services to prevent or reduce the negative consequences of substance use and addictions.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in South Carolina:¹¹
 - FY 2003:
 - \$99,984 to Community Roundtable of Irmo, Dutch Fork, and Chapin, Ballentine
 - \$100,000 to Greenville Family Partnership, Greenville
 - \$99,692 to Spartanburg Youth Council, Spartanburg
 - FY 2002: no South Carolina grantees
 - FY 2001:
 - \$99,425 to the Clemson University/South Sumter Citizen's Committee, Clemson
 - \$97,787 to Children's Council of Lancaster County Prevention Coalition, Lancaster
 - FY 2000: no South Carolina grantees
 - FY 1999:

- \$99,145 to the Lexington/Richland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council, Columbia
- Office for Weed and Seed¹²

There are 4 sites in South Carolina that have received Federal funding and official recognition as Weed and Seed sites: Charleston, Florence, North Charleston, and Spartanburg.
- FY 2003/2004 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Formula and Discretionary Grant Allotments Summary for South Carolina:¹³
 - Formula Funding: \$27,144,103
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant: \$20,752,671
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant: \$5,559,432
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH): \$422,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant: \$410,000
 - Discretionary Funding: \$4,060,049
 - Mental Health: \$2,686,152
 - Substance Prevention: \$0
 - Substance Abuse Treatment: \$1,373,897
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$9,077,584
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$22,126,568
 - Total SAMHSA Funds for South Carolina: \$31,204,152
- FY 2002-2003 Drug Court grant amount awarded to South Carolina:
 - FY 2002:¹⁴
 - \$479,4866 to Lancaster County Juvenile Drug Court for implementation
 - \$337,500 to County Council Chair York County Solicitors Office for implementation
 - FY 2003: \$499,757 to Florence County (for a juvenile drug court program)¹⁵
- FY 2004 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to South Carolina: \$6,941,339¹⁶
- There were no South Carolina recipients of the FY 2003 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.¹⁷
- There were no South Carolina recipients of the FY 2003 Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program.¹⁸
- FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant amounts allocated to South Carolina:
 - FY 1996: \$437,667¹⁹
 - FY 1997: \$534,789²⁰
 - FY 1998: \$1,114,960²¹
 - FY 1999: \$1,068,003²²
 - FY 2000: \$1,062,692²³
 - FY 2001: \$1,037,673²⁴
 - FY 2002: \$1,145,723²⁵
 - FY 2003: \$1,074,759²⁶
- FY 2002-2003 Methamphetamine Grant amount awarded to South Carolina by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services:

- FY 2002: \$222,222 to the Town of Lexington²⁷
- FY 2003: No grantees²⁸
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services total grant amounts received in South Carolina (by funding category):²⁹
 - Communities: \$2.1 million
 - Counter-terrorism: \$7.2 million
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$1.4 million
 - formula: \$4.8 million
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$31.2 million
 - formula: \$10.2 million
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: \$1.5 million
 - formula: \$8.3 million
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: \$0
 - formula: \$7.9 million
 - Total OJP/COPS funds received in South Carolina in FY 2002: \$74.7 million
- FY 2001 Federally-Assisted Low Income Housing Drug Elimination grant amounts received in South Carolina:³⁰
 - \$123,952 to St. Stephens U.M. Apartments, Dillon
 - \$125,000 to Crestwood Forest Apartments, Greenville
 - \$125,000 to Oakland Place, Greer
 - \$125,000 to Swift Creek Apartments, Hartsville

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- In 2002, there were 218,016 crime index offenses known to police in South Carolina.³¹

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, South Carolina, 2000-2002

Offense	2000	2001	2002
Murder	297	320	303
Rape	1,688	1,764	2,016
Robbery	6,134	5,961	5,914
Aggravated assault	24,991	24,855	26,110
Breaking or entering	39,406	41,453	42,829
Larceny	124,832	125,443	124,059
Motor vehicle theft	15,455	16,497	16,785
Total	212,803	216,293	218,016

- During 2002, there were 27,446 adult drug arrests in South Carolina.³²

Number of Adult Drug Arrests, South Carolina, 1998-2002*

	1998	1999	2000	2002
Cocaine/crack	8,094	7,378	6,958	6,807
Marijuana/hashish	14,482	16,787	17,141	16,210
Total adult drug arrests	25,190	26,654	27,114	27,446

* 2001 data are not available

Drugs

- Cocaine
Cocaine is readily available and frequently abused in South Carolina. Crack cocaine sold for \$100 per gram during 2001. Cocaine is the most serious threat to the state, especially crack cocaine, because its abuse and distribution are associated with violent crimes.³³
- Heroin
Heroin is considered to be a low threat to the state. Abuse and availability are concentrated in urban and coastal areas.³⁴
- Marijuana
Marijuana is the most readily available drug and is commonly abused. It is considered a less serious threat because it is less associated with violent crimes. One ounce of marijuana sells for \$125 in South Carolina.³⁵
- Methamphetamine
Methamphetamine availability is considered low to moderate in South Carolina, although there is growing abuse and availability of methamphetamine in the coastal centers of the state, particularly in the Myrtle Beach area. A gram of methamphetamine sold for \$300 in 2001.³⁶
- Club Drugs
There has been a recent significant increase in ecstasy distribution throughout the state. MDMA and GHB availability is higher in cities and both are frequently abused by tourists. LSD availability and abuse are increasing.³⁷
- Other Drugs
The availability and abuse of diverted pharmaceuticals are increasing threats to the state.³⁸
- Of those South Carolina adults surveyed between 2001-2002, 22.5% reported the use of marijuana within their lifetime.³⁹

Substance Use Among Adult Population, South Carolina, 2001-2002

Drug Type	Lifetime	Past 12 Months	Past 30 Days
Alcohol	80.7%	51.0%	37.0%
Marijuana	22.5	4.9	2.6
Cocaine/Crack	5.9	0.8	0.3
Hallucinogens	3.9	0.6	0.2
Stimulants	3.5	0.4	0.1
Sedatives	2.3	0.5	0.1
Inhalants	0.9	0.1	0.0
Heroin	0.8	0.2	0.1

- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 46% of South Carolina citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.⁴⁰

Percent of Citizens Reporting Drug Use, by Age, South Carolina, 2000-2001

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	9.12%	15.00%	3.71%	5.70%
Past month use of marijuana	6.59	12.48	2.39	4.10
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	4.40	6.61	1.82	2.69
Past year cocaine use	1.26	4.80	1.12	1.60
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	40.79	34.94	49.29	46.60

- According to 2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1.11% of South Carolina citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴¹

Percent of Citizens Reporting Dependence, South Carolina, 2001

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	2.00%	3.17%	0.65%	1.11%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	3.93	4.95	0.88	1.71
Alcohol dependence	1.47	4.37	2.04	2.28
Alcohol dependence or abuse	4.28	11.24	3.70	4.72
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	6.66	13.08	4.27	5.63

Juveniles

- During 2002, there were 1,328 juvenile drug arrests in South Carolina.⁴²

Number of Juvenile Drug Arrests, South Carolina, 1998-2002*

	1998	1999	2000	2002
Cocaine/crack	408	280	211	206
Marijuana/hashish	1,279	1,319	1,247	976
Total juvenile drug arrests	1,771	1,743	1,615	1,328

* 2001 data are not available

- Of the South Carolina students surveyed in grades 6-12 between 2001-2002, 30.7% used an illicit drug in their lifetime, and 17.9% used an illicit drug within the past 30 days.⁴³
- Nineteen percent of South Carolina 8th graders surveyed between 2001-2002 reported lifetime marijuana use.⁴⁴

Percent of Youths Reporting Drug Use, Grades 6-8, South Carolina, 2001-2002

	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
	Lifetime	30 Day	Lifetime	30 Day	Lifetime	30 Day
Any alcohol	31.4%	13.7%	42.4%	20.1%	53.5%	27.7%
Any illicit drug	12.3	6.3	18.6	10.6	26.8	15.7
Marijuana	5.0	3.3	11.0	7.1	19.0	11.9
Cocaine (any form)	1.5	0.7	2.1	1.0	2.8	1.1
Inhalants	4.2	1.3	5.3	1.6	6.6	2.1
Any club drug	4.0	1.5	5.9	2.5	8.0	3.4
Ecstasy	1.4	0.6	2.3	1.1	3.9	1.7
Ice (crystal meth)	1.4	0.6	2.2	0.9	2.5	1.1
Any hallucinogen	3.2	1.3	5.1	2.3	7.4	3.3
OxyContin w/o Rx	0.9	0.4	1.3	0.6	1.8	0.9
Heroin	1.3	0.5	1.7	0.7	2.0	0.8

- Between 2001-2002, 47.5% of South Carolina 12th graders reported using an illicit drug during their lifetime.⁴⁵

Percent of Youths Reporting Drug Use, Grades 9-12, South Carolina, 2001-2002

	Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12	
	Life.	30 Day	Life.	30 Day	Life.	30 Day	Life.	30 Day
Any alcohol	63.4%	35.9%	69.4%	39.2%	72.7%	43.0%	75.5%	44.0%
Any illicit drug	35.6	22.3	40.8	24.5	44.6	25.8	47.5	26.2
Marijuana	29.5	18.8	36.0	21.0	40.1	22.0	43.8	21.6
Cocaine	4.4	1.7	4.8	1.8	5.2	1.9	5.9	2.3
Inhalants	6.9	1.9	6.4	1.6	6.0	1.2	6.1	1.2
Any club drug	10.5	4.5	11.2	4.1	11.4	4.0	12.0	3.9
Ecstasy	5.8	2.5	6.9	2.5	7.4	2.6	8.2	2.8
Ice (crystal meth)	3.0	1.2	2.8	1.1	2.6	1.0	2.9	1.0
Any hallucinogen	10.3	4.7	11.3	4.4	11.4	4.1	12.3	4.0
OxyContin w/o Rx	3.3	1.6	3.9	1.8	3.6	1.6	4.2	1.6
Heroin	2.0	0.8	1.8	0.7	1.6	0.6	1.8	0.6

- During 2001, 41.3% of South Carolina high school students reported lifetime marijuana use.⁴⁶

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, South Carolina, 2001

	Male	Female	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	35.8	47.0	41.3
Current marijuana use	20.0	27.8	23.9
Lifetime cocaine use	5.7	7.7	6.8
Current cocaine use	1.9	3.4	2.7
Lifetime inhalant use	12.4	12.1	12.3
Current inhalant use	4.0	4.6	4.3
Lifetime heroin use	2.1	3.9	3.0
Lifetime methamphetamine use	6.4	8.7	7.6
Lifetime illegal steroid use	3.1	6.7	4.9
Lifetime injecting of illegal drug use	1.2	3.2	2.2

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002, there were 12,128 full time law enforcement personnel in South Carolina (8,787 officers and 3,341 civilians).⁴⁷

Trafficking and Seizures

- New York City is the source area for most of the heroin available in South Carolina.⁴⁸
- African American criminal groups and street gangs are the primary transporters, wholesale distributors and retail distributors of cocaine in South Carolina.⁴⁹
- Most of the marijuana available in South Carolina is produced in Mexico and trafficked into the area by Mexican criminal groups. Small amounts of marijuana are produced locally by independent Caucasian dealers who also abuse the drug. Most marijuana produced in South Carolina is cultivated outdoors, although indoor cultivation is increasing due to the prolonged drought in the area.⁵⁰
- Most of the methamphetamine available in South Carolina is produced by Mexican criminal groups in Mexico, California, and other southwest states, although instate production is increasing.⁵¹
- Heroin is mainly trafficked and distributed in wholesale quantities by Dominican criminal groups and African American local independent dealer and street gangs. Retail sales are controlled by African American street gangs and local independent dealers.⁵²
- In the second quarter of FY 2003, there were 32 clandestine laboratory seizures in South Carolina. State and local agencies as well as the DEA made these seizures.⁵³
- During full year 2003, the DEA and state and local authorities in South Carolina reported 42 methamphetamine lab incidents to the El Paso Intelligence Center.⁵⁴

Number of Methamphetamine Incidents/Seizures, South Carolina, 2003

Type of Seizure	Number
Chemical/glass/equipment	8
Dumpsite	10
Laboratory	24
Total	42

- During 2002, Federal agencies seized 137.3 kilograms of cocaine in South Carolina.⁵⁵

Federal Drug Seizures, South Carolina, 2002

Drug	Amount Seized
Cocaine	137.3 kilograms
Marijuana	544.8 kilograms
Methamphetamine	2.6 kilograms
Heroin	4.4 kilograms

- In 2002, authorities eradicated and seized 27,013 cultivated marijuana plants in South Carolina under the DEA Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁵⁶

Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, South Carolina, 2002

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Cultivated Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
118	26,549	9	464	27,013

Courts

- Drug Courts⁵⁷
As of November 2003, there were 30 drug courts in South Carolina that were in existence or being planned. Ten drug courts were in existence for over 2 years, 6 drug courts were recently implemented, and 14 drug courts were being planned.
- In FY 2001, 40.4% of the Federally sentenced defendants in South Carolina committed a drug offense. More than half of the drug offenses involved crack cocaine.⁵⁸

Federally Sentenced Drug Defendants, South Carolina, FY 2001

Drug Type	# of Offenses	% of Total Drug Offenses
Crack cocaine	183	56.8%
Marijuana	55	17.1
Powder cocaine	51	15.8
Heroin	18	5.6
Methamphetamine	4	1.2
Other	11	3.4

Corrections

- On June 30, 2003, there were 23,428 inmates under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina Department of Corrections.⁵⁹
- As of June 30, 2003, 22.1% of the South Carolina inmates (5,303 inmates) were incarcerated for dangerous drugs as their most serious offense.⁶⁰
- As of December 31, 2002, there were 41,608 persons on probation and 3,562 persons on parole in South Carolina.⁶¹

Consequences of Use

- From October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003, there were no South Carolina methamphetamine laboratory sites reported to the El Paso Intelligence Center in which a child was present.⁶²

Characteristics of Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, South Carolina, FY 2003

	Number
Sites with a child affected	4
Sites with a child exposed to toxic chemicals	0
Sites with a child injured	0
Sites with a child killed	0
Sites with a child present	3
Sites with a child residing at the site	0
Number of children placed in protective custody	0

Treatment

- During 2002, there were 29,443 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in South Carolina.⁶³ This is down from 31,558 treatment admissions in 2001.⁶⁴ During 2000, there were 28,773 admissions to treatment in South Carolina.⁶⁵

Admissions to Treatment, by Primary Drug of Abuse, South Carolina, 2000-2002

Drug Type	2000		2001		2002	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	12,433	43.2%	12,694	40.2%	11,243	38.2%
Alc. w/ second. drug	3,922	13.6	4,100	13.0	3,872	13.2
Cocaine – smoked	2,852	9.9	3,295	10.4	2,924	9.9
Cocaine – other route	656	2.3	709	2.2	739	2.5
Marijuana	4,028	14.0	4,726	15.0	4,577	15.5
Heroin	348	1.2	409	1.3	439	1.5
Other opiates	448	1.6	821	2.6	939	3.2
PCP	--	0.0	2	0.0	1	0.0
Hallucinogens	21	0.1	36	0.1	29	0.1
Amphetamines	118	0.4	164	0.5	233	0.8
Other stimulants	13	0.0	13	0.0	6	0.0
Tranquilizers	74	0.3	91	0.3	98	0.3
Sedatives	107	0.4	126	0.4	105	0.4
Inhalants	22	0.1	29	0.1	35	0.1
Other/none specified	3,731	13.0	4,343	13.8	4,203	14.3
Total	28,773	100.0	31,558	100.0	29,443	100.0

- Of the South Carolina citizens surveyed between 2001-2002, 9.2% were diagnosed with lifetime dependence or abuse and 5.7% were in need of treatment for alcohol and/or other substances.⁶⁶

Diagnosis Dependence or Abuse/Current Need for Treatment, South Carolina, 2001-2002

	Lifetime Diagnosis	Current Need for Treatment
Alcohol	7.1	4.7
Marijuana	3.2	1.3
Cocaine/Crack	1.1	0.6
Hallucinogens	0.4	0.1
Stimulants	0.6	0.2
Sedatives	0.3	0.1
Inhalants	0.1	0.1
Heroin	0.2	0.1
Any substance	9.2	5.7

Sources

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- ³ South Carolina Governor Web site: <http://www.scgovernor.com>
- ⁴ South Carolina Lt. Governor Web site: <http://www.state.sc.us/lsgov/>
- ⁵ South Carolina Secretary of State Web site: <http://www.scsos.com/>
- ⁶ South Carolina Attorney General Web site: <http://www.scattorneygeneral.org/>
- ⁷ U.S. Senate Web site: http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=SC
- ⁸ U.S. House of Representatives Web site: <http://clerk.house.gov/members/index.php>
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⁶⁴ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions, South Carolina, 2001: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/SC01.htm>

⁶⁵ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions, South Carolina, 2000: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/SC00.htm>

⁶⁶ South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, *South Carolina Treatment Needs Assessment, Survey of the Adult Household Population Summary Report*, March 2002

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