

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Anchorage, Alaska

Profile of Drug Indicators

April 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.

Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

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

Demographics

- Population: 262,125 (2002 American Community Survey);¹ 260,283 (2000 Census)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 69.2% white; 5.6% black/African American; 5.4% American Indian/Alaska Native; 6.1% Asian; 0.8% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.2 % some other race; 6.7% two or more races; 6.1% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³

Politics

- Mayor: Mark Begich⁴
- Assembly Members (Section): Allan Tesche (1); Anna Fairclough (2); Dan Kendall (2); Dan Sullivan (3); Fay Von Gemmingen (3); Dick Traini (4); Doug Van Etten (4); Brian Whittle (5); Melinda Taylor (5); Dick Tremaine (6); Janice Shamberg (6)⁵
- Chief of Police: Walt Monegan⁶

Programs/Initiatives

- Reclaiming Futures Anchorage⁷
Reclaiming Futures Anchorage serves an average of 40 teenagers annually who are arrested 2 or more times and who have a delinquency petition filed in the juvenile court. Teens involved in Reclaiming Futures receive an assessment for substance abuse and an immediate referral for treatment. A multi-disciplinary team made up of agency representatives, a case manager and a mentor oversees each case, and a local court monitors progress.
- SAFE City Program⁸
The purpose of Anchorage's SAFE City Program is to develop and maintain community prevention and intervention systems that provide strategies, education, and planning in the areas of substance abuse in high risk populations, sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, homelessness, and emergency alcohol services for the public inebriate.

Federal Funding

- Drug Free Communities Support Program⁹
There have been no Anchorage recipients of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program grant.
- Office of Weed and Seed¹⁰
One site in Anchorage has received Federal funding and official recognition as a Weed and Seed site.
- FY 2003 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Discretionary Funds awarded to Anchorage:¹¹
 - Center for Mental Health Services: \$129,992
 - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention: \$0
 - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment: \$6,668,785

- Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Discretionary Grant:
 - FY 2003:¹²
 - \$299,879 to Alaska Court System Administration, Anchorage
 - FY 2002: no Anchorage grantees¹³
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant:
 - FY 2003: no Anchorage grantees¹⁴
 - FY 2002: no Anchorage grantees¹⁵
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received in Anchorage:¹⁶
 - Communities: 2 awards valued at \$469,059
 - Counter-Terrorism: 0 awards
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: 2 awards valued at \$345,418
 - formula: 0 awards
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: 11 awards valued at \$7,837,015
 - formula: 2 awards valued at \$667,879
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: 4 awards valued at \$4,606,640
 - formula: 2 awards valued at \$2,500,612
 - Victims: 0 awards
- There were no Anchorage recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.¹⁷

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- Preliminary data indicate that there were 7 murders known to police in Anchorage from January to June 2003.¹⁸

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Anchorage, January-June 2003

| Offense | # of Offenses |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Murder | 7 |
| Forcible rape | 133 |
| Robbery | 157 |
| Aggravated assault | 587 |
| Burglary | 681 |
| Larceny-theft | 4,849 |
| Motor vehicle theft | 653 |

- During 2002, there were 19 homicides known to the Anchorage Police Department. This is up from 11 homicides known to police in 2001.¹⁹

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Anchorage, 1998-2002

| Offense | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Homicide | 22 | 21 | 14 | 11 | 19 |
| Rape | 184 | 161 | 195 | 210 | 254 |
| Robbery | 373 | 398 | 346 | 384 | 382 |
| Aggravated assault | 1,056 | 1,106 | 973 | 1,144 | 1,067 |
| Burglary | 1,617 | 1,543 | 1,533 | 1,606 | 1,521 |
| Theft | 8,834 | 8,471 | 8,799 | 8,648 | 9,255 |
| Motor vehicle theft | 1,281 | 1,251 | 1,010 | 1,212 | 1,173 |
| Total index offenses | 13,367 | 12,951 | 12,870 | 13,215 | 13,671 |

- There were 21 total arrests (includes adult and juvenile arrests) for murder in Anchorage during 2002.²⁰

Number of Arrests, Index Offenses, Anchorage, 1998-2002

| Offense | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Murder | 13 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 21 |
| Rape | 24 | 25 | 19 | 22 | 32 |
| Robbery | 117 | 116 | 72 | 109 | 110 |
| Aggravated assault | 327 | 326 | 332 | 382 | 374 |
| Burglary | 182 | 147 | 157 | 172 | 182 |
| Theft | 2,235 | 2,001 | 2,405 | 2,013 | 2,425 |
| Motor vehicle theft | 215 | 225 | 156 | 166 | 229 |

- During 2002, there were 509 total arrests (includes adult and juvenile arrests) for drug possession/use in Anchorage.²¹

Number of Substance-Related Arrests, Anchorage, 1998-2002

| Offense | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Drug sale/manufacturing | 254 | 143 | 108 | 74 | 87 |
| Drug possession/use | 733 | 543 | 499 | 412 | 509 |
| Driving under influence | 1,768 | 1,797 | 1,700 | 1,695 | 1,851 |
| Liquor laws | 139 | 252 | 181 | 193 | 240 |

- According to the Anchorage Police Department, 24% of the municipality's homicides during 2002 involved drugs.²²

Alcohol and Drug Involvement in Select Offenses, Anchorage, 2002

| Offense | <u>Alcohol</u> | | <u>Drugs</u> | | <u>Both</u> | |
|----------------|----------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Homicide | 5 | 24% | 5 | 24% | 3 | 14% |
| Sexual assault | 171 | 50 | 16 | 5 | 33 | 10 |
| Robbery | 84 | 22 | 35 | 9 | 14 | 4 |
| All assault | 1,712 | 47 | 98 | 3 | 92 | 3 |

- During 2002, there were 52 persons arrested/charged by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in Anchorage.²³
- Data from 2002 indicate that 48.7% of adult male arrestees and 27.7% of adult female arrestees in Anchorage tested positive for marijuana at arrest.²⁴

Adult Arrestee Positive Drug Results, Anchorage, 2002

| Drug Type | Male | Female |
|--------------------|-------|--------|
| Cocaine | 20.4% | 48.2% |
| Opiates | 3.4 | 6.0 |
| Marijuana | 48.7 | 27.7 |
| Methamphetamine | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| PCP | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Any of above drugs | 61.4 | 66.3 |
| Multiple drugs | 11.0 | 15.7 |

- More than half of the Anchorage adult male arrestees reported using marijuana at least once during the past year.²⁵

Adult Male Arrestee Drug Use, Anchorage, 2002

| Use | Crack Cocaine | Powder Cocaine | Marijuana | Heroin | Meth. |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Past year | 19.1% | 18.8% | 61.7% | 2.7% | 5.6% |
| Past 30 days | 14.6 | 10.2 | 50.8 | 1.5 | 2.0 |

- Approximately 48% of the Anchorage adult female arrestees reported using marijuana at least once during the past year.²⁶

Adult Female Arrestee Drug Use, Anchorage, 2002

| Use | Crack Cocaine | Powder Cocaine | Marijuana | Heroin | Meth. |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Past year | 42.5% | 29.9% | 48.3% | 5.8% | 10.3% |
| Past 30 days | 34.1 | 21.2 | 34.5 | 3.5 | 3.6 |

- Approximately 64% of the Anchorage adult male arrestees who committed violent offenses tested positive for drugs.²⁷

Percent of Adult Male Arrestees Positive for Drugs, by Offense, Anchorage, 2002

| Drug Type | Violent | Property | Drug | Domest. violence | DUI | Other |
|----------------|---------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|
| Any drug | 64.2% | 66.2% | 60.8% | 75.8% | 58.0% | 63.0% |
| Cocaine | 23.1 | 28.0 | 15.1 | 26.6 | 14.7 | 18.8 |
| Marijuana | 52.5 | 52.8 | 49.9 | 69.2 | 46.7 | 48.0 |
| Opiate | 2.5 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 3.0 |
| Methamphet. | 2.6 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 1.3 |
| Multiple drugs | 14.5 | 14.6 | 7.9 | 20.1 | 6.5 | 7.7 |

- Nearly 73% of the Anchorage adult female arrestees who committed violent offenses tested positive for drugs.²⁸

Percent of Adult Female Arrestees Positive for Drugs, by Offense, Anchorage, 2002

| Drug Type | Violent | Property | Drug | Domest. violence | DUI | Other |
|----------------|---------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|
| Any drug | 72.7% | 68.2% | 60.9% | 100.0% | 52.9% | 67.4% |
| Cocaine | 27.3 | 54.5 | 43.5 | 0.0 | 35.3 | 47.8 |
| Marijuana | 45.5 | 31.8 | 26.1 | 100.0 | 23.5 | 26.1 |
| Opiate | 9.1 | 9.1 | 4.3 | 0.0 | 5.9 | 6.5 |
| Methamphet. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| PCP | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Multiple drugs | 9.1 | 27.3 | 13.0 | 0.0 | 11.8 | 13.0 |

Drugs

- Cocaine²⁹

Cocaine is readily available in major urban areas such as Anchorage.

Juveniles

- During FY 2003, 4,373 juveniles were charged in Anchorage. Of the juveniles charged, 299 of the charges were drug- or alcohol-related.³⁰

Number of Juvenile Charges, Anchorage, FY 2003

| Charge Type | # of Charges |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Against person | 728 |
| Against property | 2,352 |
| Against public order | 211 |
| Drug and alcohol | 299 |
| Weapon | 61 |
| Miscellaneous | 722 |
| Total | 4,373 |

- There were 2 juvenile arrests for murder in Anchorage during 2002.³¹

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Index Offenses, Anchorage, 1998-2002

| Offense | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|---------------------|------|------|-------|------|-------|
| Murder | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Rape | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Robbery | 37 | 28 | 21 | 23 | 33 |
| Aggravated assault | 64 | 57 | 71 | 74 | 74 |
| Burglary | 102 | 87 | 97 | 94 | 98 |
| Theft | 891 | 883 | 1,059 | 854 | 1,113 |
| Motor vehicle theft | 73 | 108 | 78 | 81 | 114 |

- During 2002, there were 224 juvenile arrests for drug possession/use in Anchorage.³²

Number of Juvenile Substance-Related Offenses, Anchorage, 1998-2002

| Offense | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Drug sale/manufacturing | 25 | 13 | 11 | 6 | 19 |
| Drug possession/use | 228 | 183 | 186 | 164 | 224 |
| Driving under influence | 35 | 21 | 28 | 24 | 40 |
| Liquor laws | 8 | 8 | 8 | 21 | 22 |

Enforcement

- As of October 2002, there were 463 full-time law enforcement employees in Anchorage (313 officers and 150 civilians).³³
- Alaska Interdiction Task Force (AITF)³⁴
Previously known as the Anchorage Detail, the AITF is responsible for investigations that involve drug trafficking at various ports of entry. The AITF is based in the Anchorage International Airport because the majority of passengers and packages arrive at facilities located at or near the airport.

Trafficking and Seizures

- During 2001, the Anchorage Police Department seized 307 marijuana plants. This number increased to 2,453 during 2002.³⁵

Amount of Drugs Seized, Anchorage Police Department, 2001-2002

| Drug Type | 2001 | 2002 |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Cocaine/crack (pounds) | 28 | 30 |
| Marijuana plants | 307 | 2,453 |
| Marijuana (processed- pounds) | 65.1 | 72 |
| Methamphetamine (pounds) | 1.26 | 0.64 |
| Ecstasy-MDMA (tablets) | 414 | 346 |
| Heroin (pounds) | 0.09 | 0.13 |
| LSD (dosage units) | 128.73 | 14.95 |
| Opium (pounds) | 0.05 | 1.8 |

- During 2002, the DEA seized 190.89 pounds of cocaine in Anchorage.³⁶

Amount of Drugs Seized, DEA, Anchorage, 2002

| Drug Type | 2002 |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Cocaine/crack (pounds) | 190.89 |
| Marijuana plants | 11 |
| Marijuana (processed- pounds) | 1.62 |
| Methamphetamine (pounds) | 7.46 |
| Ecstasy-MDMA (tablets) | 2.02 |
| Heroin (pounds) | 0.36 |

- Lead by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and DEA, Operation Arctic Heat resulted in a total of 52 defendants charged and 41 persons arrested. This investigation also resulted in the seizure of \$1.6 million from drug traffickers as well as 365 pounds of cocaine.³⁷

Courts

- Drug Courts³⁸
As of November 2003, there were 2 drug courts in Anchorage that had been in operation for more than 2 years, 1 that was recently implemented, and 2 that were being planned.

Corrections

- On December 31, 2002, there were 364 inmates in the Anchorage Jail. Approximately 7.5% of the inmates were charged with alcohol-related offenses and 5.5% were charged with drug-related offenses.³⁹
- There were 431 offenders in Community Residential Centers in Anchorage on December 31, 2002.⁴⁰
- The probation/parole population in Anchorage on December 31, 2002 was 2,369.⁴¹

Consequences of Use

- During 2002, there were 20 fatal accidents in Anchorage in which alcohol or drugs were involved.⁴²

Alcohol/Drug Involvement in Fatal Accidents, Anchorage, 1998-2002

| | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| # of fatal accidents | 17 | 19 | 28 | 27 | 34 |
| # with drug/alcohol involved | 11 | 10 | 12 | 16 | 20 |
| % with drug/alcohol involved | 65% | 53% | 43% | 59% | 59% |

Treatment

- Approximately 80% of the Anchorage adult male arrestees who reported being heroin users in 2002 said that they have received inpatient treatment in their lives.⁴³

Percent of Adult Male Arrestees Reporting Past Drug Treatment, Anchorage, 2002

| Drug Type | Inpatient | | Outpatient | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | Ever | Past Year | Ever | Past Year |
| Crack cocaine | 66.2% | 6.1% | 54.4% | 24.4% |
| Powder cocaine | 54.1 | 10.8 | 41.6 | 25.1 |
| Marijuana | 41.5 | 6.4 | 34.7 | 23.2 |
| Methamphetamine | 31.9 | 5.2 | 38.3 | 39.9 |
| Heroin | 79.9 | 0.0 | 56.8 | 0.0 |

- Eighty percent of the Anchorage adult female arrestees who reported being heroin users in 2002 said that they have received inpatient treatment in their lives.⁴⁴

Percent of Adult Female Arrestees Reporting Past Drug Treatment, Anchorage, 2002

| Drug Type | Inpatient | | Outpatient | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | Ever | Past Year | Ever | Past Year |
| Crack cocaine | 64.9% | 26.5% | 40.5% | 33.3% |
| Powder cocaine | 61.5 | 17.8 | 42.3 | 16.7 |
| Marijuana | 35.7 | 37.4 | 40.5 | 19.4 |
| Methamphetamine | 77.8 | 10.4 | 44.4 | 25.0 |
| Heroin | 80.0 | 9.5 | 20.0 | 0.0 |

Sources

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- ² U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>
- ³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 American Community Survey: Anchorage: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/Single/2002/ACS/Tabular/160/16000US02030001.htm>
- ⁴ Anchorage Mayor's Web site: <http://www.muni.org/mayor/mayor.cfm>
- ⁵ Anchorage Assembly Members' Web site: <http://www.muni.org/assembly2/assemblymembers.cfm>
- ⁶ Anchorage Police Department Web site, Chief's of Police: <http://www.muni.org/apd1/chiefs.cfm>
- ⁷ Reclaiming Futures Locations: <http://www.reclaimingfutures.org/sites.asp>
- ⁸ Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services, SAFE City Program: <http://www.muni.org/healthssd/safe.cfm>
- ⁹ Drug Free Communities Support Program Web site, Alaska section: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/states/ak.html>
- ¹⁰ Office of Weed and Seed Data Center, Alaska section: <http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/map.aspx?state=AK>
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- ¹⁹ Anchorage Police Department, 2002 Annual Statistical Report: <http://www.muni.org/apd1/stats.cfm>
- ²⁰ Ibid.
- ²¹ Ibid.
- ²² Ibid.
- ²³ Alaska State Troopers, 2002 Annual Drug Report: <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/cib/graphics/2002AnnualReport.pdf>
- ²⁴ National Institute of Justice, ADAM Annualized Site Reports 2002, October 2003: http://www.adam-nij.net/files/2002_Annualized_Site_Reports.pdf
- ²⁵ Ibid.
- ²⁶ Ibid.

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- ²⁷ Ibid.
- ²⁸ Ibid.
- ²⁹ Alaska State Troopers, *2002 Annual Drug Report*:
<http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/cib/graphics/2002AnnualReport.pdf>
- ³⁰ Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Web site, Charge Type by Region and Office for Fiscal Year 2003: http://health.hss.state.ak.us/djj/information/stats_fy2003/charge_type.htm
- ³¹ Anchorage Police Department, *2002 Annual Statistical Report*: <http://www.muni.org/apd1/stats.cfm>
- ³² Ibid.
- ³³ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2002*, October 2003:
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- ³⁸ Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, November 7, 2003:
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- ⁴¹ Ibid.
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- ⁴³ National Institute of Justice, *ADAM Annualized Site Report 2002*, October 2003: http://www.adam-nij.net/files/2002_Annualized_Site_Reports.pdf
- ⁴⁴ Ibid.

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 [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues contact:

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