

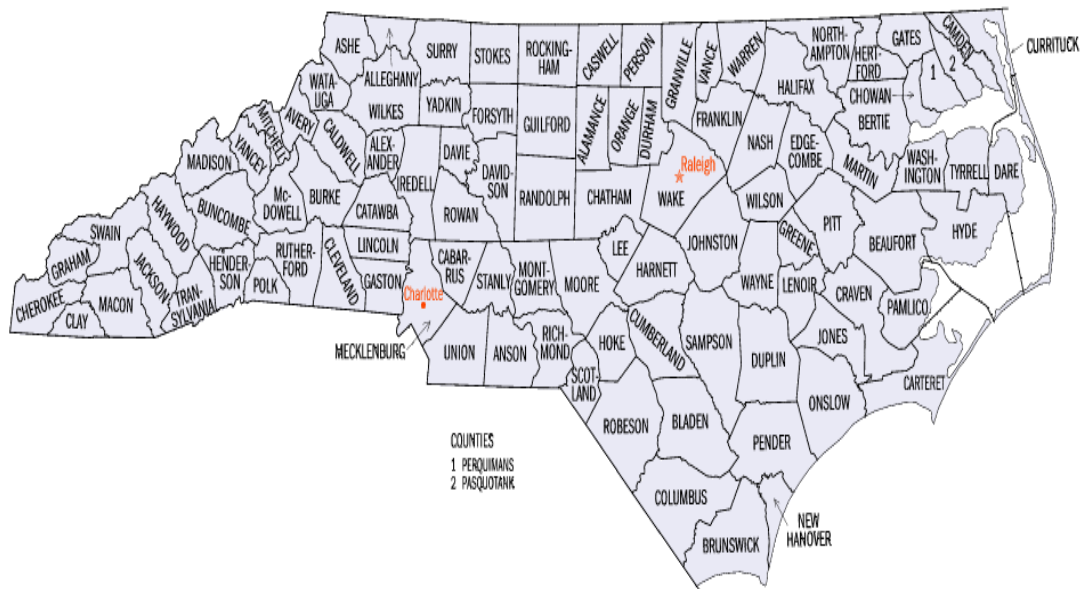
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of North Carolina

Profile of Drug Indicators

January 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.

North Carolina

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

Demographics¹

- Population: 8,407,248 (July 2003 estimate); 8,063,874 (2002 Census)
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 Census): 69.5% white; 21.0% black/African American; 1.0% American Indian/Alaska Native; 1.5% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.2% other; 1.4% two or more races; 5.4% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)

Politics

- Governor: Michael F. Easley²
- Lt. Governor: Beverly Perdue³
- Secretary of State: Elaine F. Marshall⁴
- Attorney General: Roy A. Cooper III⁵
- U.S. Senate: Elizabeth Dole (R); John Edwards (D)⁶
- U.S. House of Representatives (Districts 1-13, respectively): Frank Ballance, Jr.; Bob Etheridge; Walter B. Jones; David E. Price; Richard Burr; Howard Coble; Mike McIntyre; Robin Hayes; Sue Wilkins Myrick; Cass Ballenger; Charles H. Taylor; Melvin L. Watt; Brad Miller⁷
- The capital of North Carolina is Raleigh.⁸

Programs/Initiatives

- Next Step for Youth Initiative⁹
The Governor's Next Step for Youth Initiative is a comprehensive prevention effort designed to prevent and reduce the use of marijuana, other illicit drugs, alcohol, and tobacco by North Carolina youth.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in North Carolina:¹⁰
 - FY 2003:
 - \$76,655 to Greensboro Housing Authority, Greensboro
 - \$100,000 to Coalition for Drug Abuse Prevention, Winston-Salem
 - FY 2002: no grantees
 - FY 2001:
 - \$81,768 to Cumberland County Cares, Fayetteville
 - \$45,066 to Montgomery Community Resource Team, West End
 - FY 2000: \$100,000 to Systems Free Coalition, Halifax
 - FY 1999: no grantees
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed¹¹
Eleven sites in North Carolina have been officially recognized as Weed and Seed sites: Charlotte, Durham, Fuquay-Varina, Gastonia, Greensboro, High Point, Lumberton, Rockingham, Raleigh (2 sites), and Winston-Salem.

- FY 2002/03 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Formula and Discretionary Grant summary for North Carolina:¹²
 - Formula Funding: \$50,390,823
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$38,135,024
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant - \$10,778,281
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - \$716,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant - \$761,518
 - Discretionary Funding: \$7,879,433
 - Mental Health - \$4,923,494
 - Substance Prevention - \$955,149
 - Substance Abuse Treatment - \$2,000,790
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$17,179,293
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$41,090,963
 - Total Funds for North Carolina: \$58,270,256
- FY 2003 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to North Carolina: \$13,116,953¹³
- FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant amount received in North Carolina:¹⁴
 - \$500,000 to the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (Raleigh) for the Rowan County Juvenile Drug Court
- FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to North Carolina:¹⁵
 - FY 1996: \$614,639
 - FY 1997: \$735,492
 - FY 1998: \$1,587,191
 - FY 1999: \$1,490,594
 - FY 2000: \$1,406,192
 - FY 2001: \$1,363,284
 - FY 2002: \$1,499,992
 - FY 2003: \$1,429,460
- FY 2003 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant recipient in North Carolina:¹⁶
 - \$312,000 to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations to be used for the Drug Endangered Children program
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received in North Carolina (by funding category):¹⁷
 - Communities (discretionary): \$3.0 million
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): \$11.5 million
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$7.7 million
 - formula: \$7.7 million
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$19.9 million
 - formula: \$17.8 million
 - Substance Abuse:

- discretionary: \$3.5 million
- formula: \$14.5 million
- Victims:
 - discretionary: \$0.1 million
 - formula: \$11.5
- Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grants awarded to North Carolina during FY 2001:¹⁸
 - \$125,000 to Lakeside Apartments, Burlington
 - \$125,000 to St. James Homes, Greensboro
 - \$199,925 to First Farmington Apartments, High Point

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2002, there were 41,124 total drug arrests in North Carolina (all ages).¹⁹

Number of Drug Arrests (All Ages), North Carolina, 1998-2002

Offense	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Possession – marijuana	20,412	20,344	21,098	20,985	19,960
Possession – opium/cocaine	11,121	9,106	9,508	9,531	9,647
Possession – other dang. drugs	3,375	2,566	3,077	4,550	4,458
Possession – synthetic narc.	233	170	469	481	519
Total possession arrests	35,141	32,186	34,152	35,547	34,584
Sale/mfg. – marijuana	2,250	2,384	2,662	2,557	2,503
Sale/mfg. – opium/cocaine	4,902	4,572	4,076	3,752	3,687
Sale/mfg. – other dang. drugs	170	223	370	244	282
Sale/mfg. – synthetic narcotics	66	40	87	117	68
Total sale/mfg. arrests	7,388	7,219	7,195	6,670	6,540
Total drug arrests	42,529	39,405	41,347	42,217	41,124

- There were 29,420 total drug arrests in North Carolina in 1993.²⁰

Number of Drug Arrests (All Ages), North Carolina, 1993-1997

Offense	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Possession – marijuana	10,735	13,392	15,327	17,172	20,651
Possession – opium/cocaine	7,962	8,900	9,422	9,851	10,690
Possession – other dang. Drugs	1,831	2,468	2,848	3,052	3,267
Possession – synthetic narc.	399	257	396	246	292
Total possession arrests	20,927	25,017	27,993	30,321	34,900
Sale/mfg. – marijuana	2,147	2,084	2,135	2,094	2,273
Sale/mfg. – opium/cocaine	5,679	5,215	4,800	3,997	4,383
Sale/mfg. – other dang. Drugs	473	482	170	103	150
Sale/mfg. – synthetic narcotics	194	161	128	92	117
Total sale/mfg. arrests	8,493	7,942	7,233	6,286	6,923
Total drug arrests	29,420	32,959	35,226	36,607	41,823

- There were 44,403 larceny-theft arrests (all ages) in North Carolina during 2002.²¹

Number of Index Offense Arrests, North Carolina, 1998-2002

Offense	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Murder/non-neg. manslaughter	732	741	727	1,207	742
Forcible rape	656	772	884	798	831
Robbery	4,021	4,094	4,199	4,926	4,754
Aggravated assault	22,347	20,962	19,554	19,899	18,586
Burglary	16,338	15,318	16,028	16,420	16,359
Larceny-theft	41,541	42,598	42,031	45,506	44,403
Motor vehicle theft	2,399	2,408	2,688	2,423	2,493
Arson	481	426	457	527	501

- During 2000, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services reported 359 prescription drug thefts.²²

Number of Prescription Drug Thefts, North Carolina, 1995-2000

Year	# of Thefts
1995	170
1996	188
1997	180
1998	221
1999	224
2000	359

Drugs

- Cocaine
Cocaine represents the principal drug threat to North Carolina.²³ Cocaine HCl and crack cocaine are both readily available in North Carolina.²⁴
- Heroin
Heroin is most commonly available and abused in urban areas of the state and is rarely available in rural areas. Most heroin abusers in North Carolina are older, chronic abusers who inject the drug. However, since the 1990s when high purity South American heroin became available, a younger, middle-class population has begun to abuse the drug. Most of the heroin available in North Carolina is produced in South America. However, some heroin produced in Mexico is also available.²⁵
- Marijuana
Marijuana is the most readily available and widely abused drug in North Carolina.²⁶ Marijuana from both Mexican and local sources continues to be widely available in North Carolina.²⁷
- Methamphetamine
Methamphetamine is a growing threat to the state. Law enforcement authorities in areas of western North Carolina report that methamphetamine has replaced crack cocaine in some counties as the principal drug threat because it is increasingly available and abused and is less expensive.²⁸ The use of methamphetamine is increasing in popularity in North Carolina.²⁹

- Club Drugs
MDMA, GHB, and LSD are the most popular club drugs used in North Carolina.³⁰
- Other Drugs
The diversion and abuse of pharmaceuticals, most notably OxyContin, are growing problems in North Carolina.³¹
- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 42% of North Carolina citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.³²

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

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	9.97%	18.47%	5.94%	7.89%
Past month use of marijuana	6.67	15.80	4.11	5.80
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	5.25	6.43	2.01	2.88
Past year cocaine use	1.29	4.49	1.12	1.55
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	37.48	23.72	45.86	42.29

- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1.26% of North Carolina citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.³³

Percent of Citizens Reporting Past Year Dependence, North Carolina, 2001-2002

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	1.92%	3.54%	0.81%	1.26%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	3.60	5.93	1.15	1.99
Alcohol dependence	1.61	5.08	1.84	2.21
Alcohol dependence or abuse	3.62	10.51	3.23	4.16
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	5.75	13.04	3.86	5.17

Juveniles

- During 2002, there were 3,777 juvenile drug arrests in North Carolina.³⁴

Number of Juvenile Drug Arrests, North Carolina, 1998-2002

Offense	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Possession – marijuana	2,932	2,962	3,028	2,683	2,520
Possession – opium/cocaine	739	548	490	445	414
Possession – other dang. drugs	181	148	358	353	339
Possession – synthetic narc.	34	15	66	52	81
Total possession arrests	3,886	3,674	3,942	3,533	3,354
Sale/mfg. – marijuana	225	232	263	249	207
Sale/mfg. – opium/cocaine	372	332	279	235	177
Sale/mfg. – other dang. drugs	6	27	34	31	23
Sale/mfg. – synthetic narcotics	10	5	22	10	16
Total sale/mfg. arrests	613	596	598	525	423
Total juvenile drug arrests	4,499	4,270	4,540	4,058	3,777

- There were 2,381 juvenile drug arrests in North Carolina in 1993.³⁵

Number of Juvenile Drug Arrests, North Carolina, 1993-1997

Offense	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Possession – marijuana	945	1,532	2,286	2,684	3,173
Possession – opium/cocaine	629	751	809	845	779
Possession – other dang. Drugs	79	128	169	151	123
Possession – synthetic narc.	28	28	42	31	57
Total possession arrests	1,681	2,439	3,306	3,711	4,132
Sale/mfg. – marijuana	133	193	281	259	283
Sale/mfg. – opium/cocaine	538	507	493	366	396
Sale/mfg. – other dang. Drugs	13	15	12	9	13
Sale/mfg. – synthetic narcotics	16	10	18	22	12
Total sale/mfg. arrests	700	725	804	656	704
Total juvenile drug arrests	2,381	3,164	4,110	4,367	4,836

- There were 59 juvenile arrests for murder/non-negligent manslaughter in North Carolina during 2002.³⁶

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Index Offenses, North Carolina, 1998-2002

Offense	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Murder/non-neg. manslaughter	57	62	54	103	59
Forcible rape	68	96	91	78	76
Robbery	766	688	640	803	821
Aggravated assault	2,145	1,903	1,746	1,708	1788
Burglary	3,948	3,469	3,541	3,208	3217
Larceny-theft	10,129	9,672	9,490	9,992	9701
Motor vehicle theft	706	670	787	619	583
Arson	181	190	191	185	208

- Approximately 40% of North Carolina high school students surveyed in 2001 reported that they have used marijuana at least once during their lifetimes.³⁷

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Gender, North Carolina, 2001

	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	38.2%	42.3%	40.3%
Current marijuana use	17.8	23.9	20.8
Lifetime cocaine use	6.2	7.1	6.7
Current cocaine use	1.9	3.5	2.7
Lifetime inhalant use	13.5	13.8	13.7
Lifetime heroin use	1.4	3.1	2.3
Lifetime methamphetamine use	7.3	8.3	7.8
Lifetime illegal steroid use	3.5	6.5	5.0
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	1.2	2.6	1.9
Tried marijuana before age 13	7.4	13.5	10.5

- Approximately 48% of North Carolina high school seniors reported using marijuana at least once during their lifetimes.³⁸

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Grade, North Carolina, 2001

Drug Type and Use	9th	10th	11th	12th
Lifetime marijuana use	33.2%	35.5%	48.6%	48.4%
Current marijuana use	20.1	18.5	22.4	22.5
Lifetime cocaine use	7.5	6.4	5.0	6.9
Current cocaine use	3.2	1.8	1.9	3.6
Lifetime inhalant use	15.2	14.3	13.8	10.0
Lifetime heroin use	2.4	2.3	1.1	2.8
Lifetime methamphetamine use	7.8	7.5	7.1	8.1
Lifetime illegal steroid use	6.6	4.4	3.5	4.1
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	2.2	1.9	0.9	1.9
Tried marijuana before age 13	13.4	9.0	9.2	8.5

- Approximately 32.8% of 9th graders, 33.9% of 10th graders, 32.3% of 11th graders, and 31.8% of twelfth graders surveyed in North Carolina in 2001 reported that they have been offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property within the past year.³⁹

Enforcement

- Approximately three-quarters of all Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force investigations in North Carolina target the distribution of crack cocaine.⁴⁰
- As of October 31, 2002, there were 27,852 full-time law enforcement employees in North Carolina (19,691 officers and 8,161 civilians).⁴¹

Trafficking and Seizures

- Mexican criminal groups based in North Carolina are the dominant wholesale distributors of marijuana and powdered cocaine in the state.⁴²
- Mexican and, to a lesser extent, Caucasian criminal groups based in North Carolina purchase methamphetamine in Mexico, California, and southwestern states and transport the drug into the state.⁴³
- During 2002, the North Carolina State Highway Patrol seized 27,690 grams of cocaine.⁴⁴

Drug and Currency Seizures, NC State Highway Patrol, 1998-2002

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Cocaine (grams)	17,209	19,427	6,091	3,350.15	27,690.52
Marijuana (grams)	590,382.5	35,704	18,856	1,405,529	342,667.23
Currency	\$1,062,521	\$1,594,457	\$126,808	\$234,051	\$1,012,724

- Federal agencies seized 75 kilograms of cocaine in North Carolina in 2002.⁴⁵

Amount of Drugs Seized by Federal Agencies, North Carolina, 2002

Drug Type	Amount Seized (in kilograms)
Cocaine	75
Heroin	6.7
Methamphetamine	8.9
Marijuana	0.5

- During 2002, more than 100,000 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated in North Carolina under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁴⁶

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, North Carolina, 2002

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
1,111	110,628	17	1,389	112,017

- The DEA and State and local authorities in North Carolina seized 47 methamphetamine labs in 2002.⁴⁷

Methamphetamine Labs Seized, North Carolina, 1996-2002

Year	Labs Seized
1996	0
1997	1
1998	1
1999	5
2000	13
2001	33
2002	47

- Federal law enforcement authorities seized 6,015 MDMA tablets at North Carolina's major airports in FY2001.⁴⁸

Courts

- Drug Courts⁴⁹
As of November 2003, there were 30 drug courts in North Carolina that were either already in existence or were being planned. Thirteen drug courts have been operating for more than 2 years, 13 were recently implemented, and 4 were being planned.
- During FY 2001, 42.3% of the Federally sentenced defendants in North Carolina committed drug offenses. Nearly half of the drug offenses involved crack cocaine.⁵⁰

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Offenses, North Carolina, FY 2001

Drug Type	Offenses	% of Total
Crack cocaine	299	47.5%
Powder Cocaine	165	26.2
Marijuana	95	15.1
Methamphetamine	52	8.3
Heroin	10	1.6
Other drug	8	1.3

Corrections

- On January 19, 2004, the North Carolina Department of Correction offender population was as follows: 34,035 prisoners, 116,213 probationers, and 2,340 parolees.⁵¹
- North Carolina's probation population totaled 116,067 on November 30, 2003. More than 22,000 of the probationers had committed drug offenses.⁵²
- The North Carolina parole population on November 30, 2003 was 3,501. More than 300 of the parolees had committed drug offenses.⁵³

Number of Drug Offenders on Probation/Parole, North Carolina, November 30, 2003

	Under 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50 +
Probation					
Non-trafficking	1,669	10,140	5,458	3,639	1,263
Trafficking	12	258	151	82	35
Probation drug total	1,681	10,398	5,609	3,721	1,298
Parole					
Non-trafficking	1	58	136	63	34
Trafficking	0	9	19	25	24
Parole drug total	1	67	155	88	58

- On November 30, 2003, the North Carolina prison population was 33,854. Approximately 13.5% (4,589) of the prison population had committed drug offenses.⁵⁴

Number of Drug Offenders in Prison, by Age, North Carolina, November 30, 2003

Offense	Under 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50 +
Non-trafficking	117	1,179	763	548	147
Trafficking	19	815	616	264	121
Total	136	1,994	1,379	812	268

- Division of Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Programs (DACDP)⁵⁵
The mission of the North Carolina Department of Correction DACDP is to provide comprehensive interventions, programs, and services to help offenders achieve recovery. Examples of DACDP programs include Drug Alcohol Recovery Treatment Program (DART), Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT), and therapeutic communities (TC).

DACDP Capacity, North Carolina, 2003

Program	Treatment Capacity	Peer Counselors	Total Capacity
DART	655	81	736
TC	42	N/A	42
DWI	300	N/A	300
Private facility	190	N/A	190
RSAT	178	N/A	178
Total	1,365	81	1,446

Consequences of Use

- According to the North Carolina medical examiner, there were 6 fatalities in 1999 and 21 fatalities in 2000 attributed to oxycodone abuse. According to DEA, nearly 30 deaths occurred in 2002 as a result of OxyContin.⁵⁶
- There were 34 deaths in North Carolina during 2001 in which heroin was the primary cause of death. This is up from 27 deaths in 2000.⁵⁷
- In 2000, cocaine was present in 30% of the drug-related deaths in North Carolina. The number of cocaine-related deaths in the state increased 12% from 65 in 1999 to 73 in 2000.⁵⁸

Treatment

- During 2002, there were 29,048 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in North Carolina.⁵⁹ This is down from nearly 33,000 admissions in 2001.⁶⁰ There were 35,000 treatment admissions in 2000.⁶¹

Number of Admissions to Treatment, North Carolina, 2000-2002

Drug Type	2000		2001		2002	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	12,215	34.8%	10,732	32.6%	9,280	31.9%
Alc. w/ second. drug	6,045	17.2	6,082	18.5	5,817	20.0
Cocaine – smoked	5,009	14.3	4,665	14.2	4,404	15.2
Cocaine – other route	1,738	5.0	1,040	3.2	975	3.4
Marijuana	6,367	18.2	6,546	19.9	5,624	19.4
Heroin	892	2.5	839	2.5	873	3.0
Other opiates	777	2.2	993	3.0	994	3.4
PCP	6	0.0	12	0.0	5	0.0
Hallucinogens	95	0.3	80	0.2	33	0.1
Amphetamines	164	0.5	185	0.6	220	0.8
Other stimulants	16	0.0	29	0.1	24	0.1
Tranquilizers	258	0.7	253	0.8	260	0.9
Sedatives	143	0.4	109	0.3	80	0.3
Inhalants	27	0.1	23	0.1	24	0.1
Other/none specified	1,319	3.8	1,367	4.1	435	1.5
Total	35,071	100.0	32,955	100.0	29,048	100.0

Sources

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- ² North Carolina Governor Web site: <http://www.governor.state.nc.us/>
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- ⁴ North Carolina Secretary of State Web site: <http://www.secstate.state.nc.us/>
- ⁵ North Carolina Attorney General Web site: <http://www.jus.state.nc.us/>
- ⁶ U.S. Senate Web site: <http://www.senate.gov>
- ⁷ U.S. House of Representatives Web site: <http://clerk.house.gov/members/index.php>
- ⁸ U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>
- ⁹ Governor's Office of Substance Abuse Policy, Next Step for Youth Initiative Web site: <http://www.nc-atod.org/nc-sig/>
- ¹⁰ Drug-Free Communities Support Program Web site, North Carolina section: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/states/nc.html>
- ¹¹ Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center, North Carolina section: <http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/map.aspx?state=NC>
- ¹² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Formula and Discretionary Grant Allotments Summary: <http://www.samhsa.gov/funding/funding.html>
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- ²⁰ Ibid.
- ²¹ Ibid.
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- ²³ Ibid.
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- ³¹ National Drug Intelligence Center, *North Carolina Drug Threat Assessment*, April 2003: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs3/3690/3690p.pdf>
- ³² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2001 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse: Volume I. Findings*, September 2003: <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/nhsda/2k1State/vol1/toc.htm>
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