

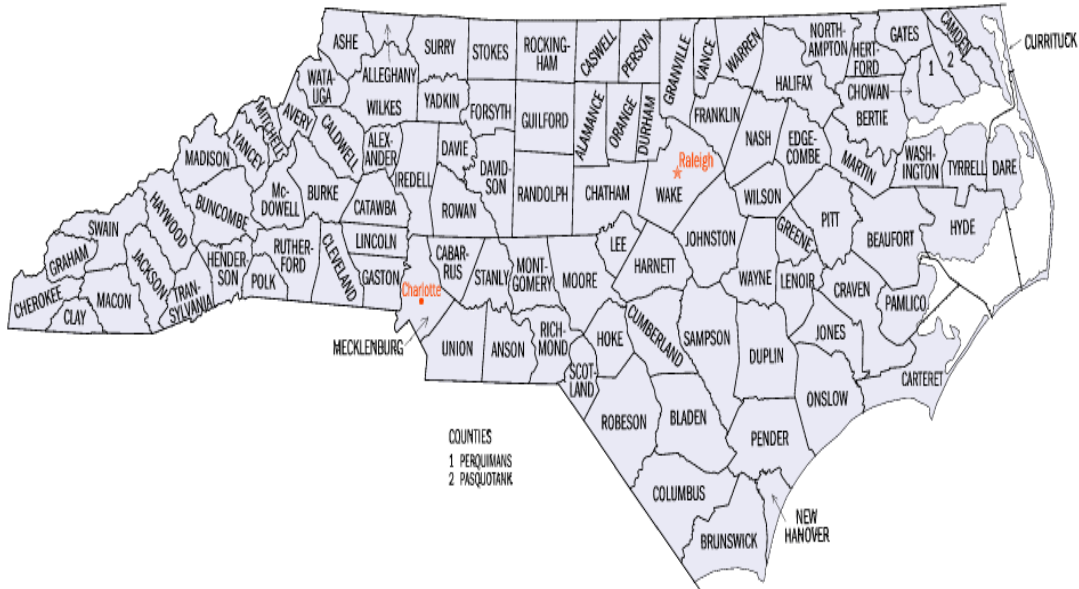
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### Charlotte, North Carolina

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

January 2003



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.

## **Charlotte, North Carolina**

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

### **Demographics<sup>1</sup>**

- Population: 540,828 (2000 Census); 511,433 (1990 Census)
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 55.1% white; 32.5% black/African American; 0.3% American Indian/Alaska Native; 3.4% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.2% other race; 1.2% two or more races; 7.4% Hispanic/Latino (any race)
- Charlotte is located in Mecklenburg County.

### **Politics**

- Mayor: Pat McCrory<sup>2</sup>
- City Council (District): Sara Spencer (1); James Mitchell, Jr. (2); Harold Cogdell (3); Malcolm Graham (4); Nancy Carter (5); John Tabor (6); Don Lochman (7); Patrick Mumford (at-large); Lynn Wheeler (at-large); Joe White (at-large)<sup>3</sup>
- Chief of Police, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department: Darrel Stephens<sup>4</sup>
- Mecklenburg County Sheriff: Jim Pendergraph<sup>5</sup>

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- Fighting Back<sup>6</sup>  
Established in 1991 as one of the original Fighting Back communities nationwide, Mecklenburg County's Fighting Back Program is a community-based initiative designed to fight substance abuse and other related community problems, including crime and violence.
- Mecklenburg Social Worker and Police Partnership (SWAPP)<sup>7</sup>  
SWAPP targets three of Charlotte's inner-city communities characterized by high rates of poverty, crime, juvenile delinquency, high school drop out rates, and drug use. Since November 2001, problem homes have been actively recruited into the SWAPP program. As of May 2002, 30 officers had been trained and 22 problem homes identified. In the year preceding participation in SWAPP, the homes averaged 13.5 calls for service. Approximately 45% of SWAPP homes experienced a decrease in calls for service after program enrollment.

### **Federal Funding**

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program<sup>8</sup>  
From FY 1998 when Drug-Free Communities funding was first available, to FY 2002 when the most recent grants were awarded, no community coalitions in Charlotte have ever received funding through this program.
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed<sup>9</sup>  
One site in Charlotte has been officially recognized and received Federal funding as a Weed and Seed site.

- FY 2001 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Discretionary Funds received in Charlotte:<sup>10</sup>
  - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment:
    - \$500,000 to the Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health Authority. Project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04.
- There were no Charlotte recipients of the FY 2002 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant.<sup>11</sup>
- There were no Charlotte recipients of the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant.<sup>12</sup>
- FY 2001 Office of Justice Programs and COPS Grant amounts received in Charlotte:<sup>13</sup>
  - Discretionary: \$1,705,093
  - Formula: \$2,298,348
- There were no Charlotte recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.<sup>14</sup>

### Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- Data collected from Charlotte adult arrestees in 2001 indicate that 65.5% of adult male and 68.5% of adult female arrestees tested positive for an illegal drug at arrest.<sup>15</sup>

Percent of Adult Arrestees Testing Positive for Drugs, Charlotte, 2001

Drug Type	Males	Females
Cocaine	31.6%	63.0%
Opiates	3.3	3.7
Marijuana	47.7	18.5
Methamphetamine	0.5	0.0
PCP	0.0	0.0
Any of the above drugs	65.5	68.5
Multiple drugs	16.8	16.7

- More than half (54.6%) of Charlotte's adult male arrestees reported using marijuana in the past year. Among the male arrestees who reported past year use of marijuana, the average number of days the substance was used in the past month was 11.1 days.<sup>16</sup>

Past Drug Use, Adult Male Arrestees, Charlotte, 2001

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Opiates
Past 7 days	16.0%	7.8%	44.6%	0.4%	1.7%
Past 30 days	17.4%	10.2%	48.4%	0.6%	2.4%
Past year	21.1%	15.1%	54.6%	0.9%	3.2%
Avg. # of days used in month	8.2	3.8	11.1	5.1	9.5

- More than half (50.8%) of Charlotte's adult female arrestees reported using crack cocaine in the past year. They used the substance an average of 10 days within the past month.<sup>17</sup>

Past Drug Use, Adult Female Arrestees, Charlotte, 2001

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Opiates
Past 7 days	37.7%	10.2%	13.7%	0.0%	1.7%
Past 30 days	42.6%	11.7%	31.1%	0.0%	1.7%
Past year	50.8%	16.4%	45.0%	1.6%	5.0%
Avg. # of days used in month	10.0	6.3	8.2	21.5	7.6

- From January to September 2002, there were 36,242 index offenses reported to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. This is a 1.7% decrease from the 36,877 index offenses known to police from January to September 2001.<sup>18</sup>

Index Offenses Known to Police, Charlotte-Mecklenburg P.D., Jan.-Sept. 2001-2002

Offense	Jan.-Sept. 2001	Jan.-Sept. 2002	% Change
Homicide	49	55	+12.2
Rape	214	223	+4.2
Robbery	2,086	2,009	-3.7
Aggravated assault	3,088	3,379	+9.4
Burglary	7,458	7,613	+2.1
Larceny	20,580	19,467	-5.4
Vehicle theft	3,169	3,166	-0.1
Arson	233	330	+41.6
Total index	36,877	36,242	-1.7

- During full year 2001, there were 49,757 index offenses known to the police in Charlotte/Mecklenburg County.<sup>19</sup>

Index Offenses Known to Police, Charlotte-Mecklenburg P.D., 1997-2001

Offense	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Homicide	59	65	84	75	66
Rape	341	336	257	307	293
Robbery	2,716	2,400	2,517	2,651	2,996
Aggravated assault	6,045	5,829	5,275	4,482	4,420
Burglary	10,413	10,701	10,314	9,598	10,285
Larceny	28,922	29,256	30,116	27,789	27,291
Vehicle theft	4,384	3,918	4,845	4,561	4,406
Arson	368	285	290	315	317
Total index	52,880	52,505	45,275	41,948	49,757

## **Drugs**

- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police believe cases involving date rape drugs are on the rise.<sup>20</sup>

## **Enforcement**

- As of October 31, 2001, there were 2,005 full-time law enforcement employees in Charlotte (1,501 officers and 504 civilians).<sup>21</sup>

## **Courts**

- Drug Courts<sup>22</sup>  
As of January 8, 2003, there were three drug courts that have been operating for more than two years and three drug courts that have recently been implemented in Charlotte. There were no additional drug courts being planned.
- Through April 2002, the Mecklenburg Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC) had admitted 175 clients since opening in July 2000. Results of FDTC include the following:<sup>23</sup>
  - 62 clients have graduated successfully
  - more than \$32,000 in client fees have been collected
  - more than 18,000 hours of treatment have been delivered
  - two drug-free babies have been born to drug-free mothers
- The Mecklenburg County Drug Treatment Court's Residential Program has maintained a 56% retention rate and a 50% graduation status.<sup>24</sup>

## **Corrections**

- Jail-Central<sup>25</sup>  
Located in Charlotte, the Mecklenburg County Jail-Central is a pre-trial detention and intake center that opened in 1997. The capacity of Jail-Central is 1,904.
- Jail-North<sup>26</sup>  
Mecklenburg County Jail-North, also located in Charlotte, opened in 1994. Jail-North is designed to house 614 sentenced inmates.
- Treatment programs at Mecklenburg County jails:<sup>27</sup>
  - Jail-Central: Treatment is provided in a designated housing unit, is based on the 12-step model, and lasts 28 days. Sentenced and pre-sentenced adult male inmates are eligible for treatment.
  - Jail-North: An intensive treatment program is available to male and female inmates at Jail-North. Aftercare meetings are available to graduates of the treatment program.
- Also found in Charlotte are a Jail-Annex and Work Release and Restitution Center.<sup>28</sup>

## **Consequences of Use**

- During 2000, there were 21 deaths in Mecklenburg County from mental and behavioral disorders due to the use of psychoactive substances.<sup>29</sup>

## Treatment

- The Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authority provides substance abuse treatment services for area citizens. Services available include the following:<sup>30</sup>
  - detoxification
  - 28-day rehabilitation
  - 14-day relapse
  - case management
  - gender-specific services
  - services for homeless individuals
- Approximately 3.4% of Mecklenburg County residents surveyed in 2001 reported that they have received drug/alcohol treatment at some point in their lives.<sup>31</sup>
- Approximately 15% of Mecklenburg County residents surveyed in 2001 reported that a close family member has received treatment for a substance abuse problem.<sup>32</sup>
- From FY 2000-FY 2001, the North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services served 178 juveniles and 5,139 adults with substance abuse problems in Mecklenburg County.<sup>33</sup>
- Among Charlotte adult arrestees interviewed in 2001, 10.3% of the male arrestees and 27.9% of the female arrestees reported receiving drug treatment in the previous year.<sup>34</sup>

## Sources

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<sup>2</sup> Charlotte City Council Web site:

<http://www.charmeck.nc.us/departments/city+council/meet+the+council/home.asp>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department Web site:

<http://www.charmeck.nc.us/departments/police/home.asp>

<sup>5</sup> Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Web site: <http://www.charmeck.nc.us/departments/mcso/home.asp>

<sup>6</sup> Mecklenburg County Public Health Department, Fighting Back Web site:

[http://www.charmeck.nc.us/departments/health+department/programs+and+services/fighting+back/home.a  
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<sup>7</sup> North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, *2001 North Carolina Edward Byrne Annual Report*, October 2002

<sup>8</sup> Drug-Free Communities Support Program Web site, North Carolina section:

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<sup>9</sup> Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center Web site, North Carolina section:

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- <sup>17</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>18</sup> Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, Crime Statistics:  
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