

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of New Jersey

Profile of Drug Indicators

May 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.

New Jersey

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

Demographics

- Population: 8,638,396 (July 2003 Census estimate);¹ 8,395,357 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 65.0% white, 12.7% black/African American, 0.1% American Indian/Alaska Native, 6.4% Asian, 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.4% other, 1.1% two or more races, 14.3% Hispanic/Latino origin³

Politics

- Governor: James McGreevey⁴
- Attorney General: Peter Harvey⁵
- Secretary of State: Regena Thomas⁶
- U.S. Senate: Jon Corzine (D); Frank Lautenberg (D)⁷
- U.S. Representatives (Districts 1-13, respectively): Robert Andrews (D); Frank LoBiondo (R); Jim Saxton (R); Christopher Smith (R); Scott Garrett (R); Frank Pallone, Jr. (D); Mike Ferguson (R); Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D); Steven Rothman (D); Donald Payne (D); Rodney Frelinghuysen (R); Rush Holt (D); Robert Menendez (D)⁸
- Capital: Trenton⁹

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)
 - New York/New Jersey HIDTA: Designated in 1990, this HIDTA is responsible for areas of New York and the following New Jersey counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Passaic, and Union.¹⁰
 - Philadelphia/Camden HIDTA: Designated in 1995, this HIDTA is responsible for Philadelphia County in Pennsylvania and the City of Camden in New Jersey.¹¹
- Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA)¹²

GCADA was created to coordinate statewide services involving alcoholism and drug abuse. The funding for this program comes from the Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction fund. The money in this fund is collected from fines levied on convicted drug offenders.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in New Jersey:¹³
 - FY 2003:
 - \$100,000 to Cape May County Healthy Community Coalition, Cape May Court House
 - \$50,000 to Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse, Clark (Coalition Mentoring Program grantee)
 - FY 2002:
 - \$100,000 to Bernards Township Municipal Alliance, Basking Ridge

- FY 2001:
 - \$87,880 to Genesis Counseling Center, Collingswood
 - \$100,000 to Gloucester County Drug-Free Communities Coalition, Woodbury
 - \$100,000 to East Orange Prevention Policy Board, East Orange
- FY 2000:
 - \$100,000 to Sussex County Coalition for Healthy and Safe Families, Newton
- FY 1999:
 - \$99,980 to the Mayor's Task Force on Crime and Drugs, Paterson
 - \$100,000 to National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Westfield
 - \$99,783 to Newark Fighting Back Partnership, Inc., Newark
- Office of Weed and Seed¹⁴

Eight sites in New Jersey have been officially recognized as Federal Weed and Seed sites: Atlantic City, Camden (2 sites), Orange, Pleasantville, Trenton (2 sites), and Vineland.
- FY 2003/2004 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Grant Summary for New Jersey:¹⁵
 - Formula Funding - \$62,277,906
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$47,346,939
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant - \$12,496,178
 - Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - \$1,745,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant - \$689,789
 - Discretionary Funding - \$6,790,953
 - Mental Health - \$4,261,418
 - Substance Prevention - \$102,272
 - Substance Abuse Treatment - \$2,427,263
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$19,192,385
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$49,876,474
 - Total Funds for New Jersey: \$69,068,859
- FY 2004 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to New Jersey: \$13,201,069¹⁶
- FY 2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to New Jersey: \$1,258,228¹⁷
- Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant:
 - FY 2003: no New Jersey recipients¹⁸
 - FY 2002:¹⁹
 - \$295,773 to Camden Family Division, Camden, for drug court enhancement
 - \$423,795 to Passaic Family Division, Paterson, for drug court implementation
 - \$499,937 to Mercer Family Division, Trenton, for drug court implementation
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant:
 - FY 2003: no New Jersey recipients²⁰
 - FY 2002: no New Jersey recipients²¹
- Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services total grant amounts received in New Jersey (by funding category):²²
 - Communities (discretionary): \$3.4 million
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): \$12.3 million

- Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$12.4 million
 - formula: \$8.2 million
- Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$31.7 million
 - formula: \$22.3 million
- Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: \$41.5 million
 - formula: \$15.0 million
- Victims:
 - discretionary: \$8.5 million
 - formula: \$12.3 million
- Total OJP/COPS funds received in New Jersey in FY 2002: \$157.5 million
- FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant recipients in New Jersey:²³
 - \$125,000 to Westmoor Gardens, Englewood
 - \$125,000 to Lakewood Plaza II Apartments, Lakewood
 - \$125,000 to Edward Muraski Towers, Linden
 - \$63,973 to Walnut Manor, Vineland

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2002, there were 235 adult arrests for murder in New Jersey. This is a slight decrease from the 236 adult murder arrests during 2001.²⁴

Number of Adult Arrests, Select Offenses, New Jersey, 2001-2002

Offense	2001	2002	% Change
Murder	236	235	*
Rape	485	531	9
Robbery	2,873	2,997	4
Aggravated assault	8,869	8,489	-4
Burglary	4,764	4,653	-2
Larceny-theft	22,256	21,493	-3
Motor vehicle theft	945	1,025	8
Drug abuse violations	47,763	49,436	4
Driving under the influence	28,659	27,791	-3
Liquor laws	8,286	7,907	-5

* Less than one-half of one percent

- More than 30,000 of the total (juveniles and adults) drug arrests in 2002 involved opium or cocaine and their derivatives. This is an increase over the 29,696 drug arrests involving opium or cocaine and their derivatives during 2001.²⁵

Number of Drug Arrests (All Ages), by Drug Type, New Jersey, 1999-2002

Drug Type	1999	2000	2001	2002
Opium or cocaine and derivatives	31,243	29,696	29,496	31,336
Marijuana/hashish	23,683	24,422	22,449	21,844
Synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone)	894	1,094	1,181	1,179
Other dangerous non-narcotic drugs	2,202	2,594	2,325	2,387
Total drug arrests	58,022	57,806	55,451	56,746

- Of the total arrests for drug violations during 2002, 39,196 were possession/use arrests.²⁶

Number of Possession/Use Drug Arrests, by Drug Type, New Jersey, 1999-2002

Drug Type	1999	2000	2001	2002
Opium or cocaine and derivatives	20,462	18,201	17,186	17,801
Marijuana/hashish	20,709	21,233	19,335	18,631
Synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone)	581	804	839	765
Other dangerous non-narcotic drugs	1,770	2,099	1,916	1,999
Total possession/use arrests	43,522	42,337	39,276	39,196

- During 2002, there were 17,550 total arrests in New Jersey for the sale/manufacture of drugs.²⁷

Number of Sale/Manufacture Drug Arrests, by Drug Type, New Jersey, 1999-2002

Drug Type	1999	2000	2001	2002
Opium or cocaine and derivatives	10,781	11,495	12,310	13,535
Marijuana/hashish	2,974	3,189	3,114	3,213
Synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone)	313	290	342	414
Other dangerous non-narcotic drugs	432	495	409	388
Total sale/manufacture arrests	14,500	15,469	16,175	17,550

- During 2001, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported making 1,032 arrests for drug violations in New Jersey.²⁸

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, New Jersey, 1997-2001

Year	Arrests
1997	902
1998	960
1999	908
2000	1,007
2001	1,032

Drugs

- Cocaine
Both powder and crack cocaine pose significant drug threats to New Jersey. In the northern areas of the state, powder cocaine sold for \$22,000-\$34,000/kilogram, \$750-

\$1,200/ounce, and \$25-\$85/gram in the second quarter of FY 2002. In southern New Jersey, powder cocaine sold for \$25,000-\$34,000/kilogram, \$500-\$1,200/ounce, and \$30-\$100/gram. Crack cocaine sold for \$750-\$2,250/ounce in northern New Jersey and \$600-\$2,000/ounce in southern New Jersey. A rock of crack cocaine sold for \$5-\$20 throughout the state.²⁹

➤ Heroin

Heroin from all major source areas is available in New Jersey. However, South American heroin is the type most readily available. Heroin prices are significantly higher in southern New Jersey than northern areas of the state. For example, heroin sold for \$125,000-\$250,000/kilogram, \$4,500-\$9,000/ounce, and \$80-\$300/gram in southern New Jersey. In northern New Jersey, heroin sold for \$60,000-\$120,000/kilogram, \$1,600-\$4,200/ounce, and \$60-\$150/gram.³⁰

➤ Marijuana

Marijuana is the most commonly abused and widely available illicit drug in New Jersey.³¹ The majority of the marijuana encountered in the state is of Mexican origin, although Jamaican and Canadian marijuana has also been seen, but on a much lesser scale.³² Prices for domestic marijuana throughout the state ranged from \$600 to \$3,000/pound, \$100 to \$650/ounce, and \$5 to \$10/gram in the second quarter of FY 2002.³³

➤ Methamphetamine

The distribution and abuse of methamphetamine pose a lower threat to New Jersey than other illicit drugs.³⁴

➤ Club Drugs

The use of club drugs remains popular in nightclubs throughout New Jersey and particularly in the casino areas of Atlantic City.³⁵ Wholesale quantities of MDMA (500 MDMA tablets or more) usually sell for \$3-\$5/tablet. Retail quantities of MDMA sell for \$20-\$30/tablet. The availability and abuse of GHB are increasing in New Jersey. Ketamine usually sells for \$20/bag in the state.³⁶

➤ Other Drugs

The stimulant khat is readily available in New Jersey and use seems to be limited to immigrant communities from Arabian, East African, and Middle Eastern countries. Diverted pharmaceuticals are increasingly being distributed and abused in New Jersey.³⁷

➤ According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1.06% of New Jersey citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.³⁸

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

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	1.73%	4.05%	0.55%	1.06%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	3.59	6.42	0.85	1.75
Alcohol dependence	1.37	3.84	1.93	2.09
Alcohol dependence or abuse	4.48	12.46	4.55	5.44
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	6.26	15.86	4.89	6.28

- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 42.63% of New Jersey citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.³⁹

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

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	8.84%	18.76%	3.54%	5.79%
Past month use of marijuana	6.04	15.43	2.65	4.43
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	4.37	6.75	1.60	2.46
Past year cocaine use	1.07	4.64	0.86	1.31
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	36.77	26.74	45.64	42.63

Juveniles

- During 2002, there were 7,310 juvenile arrests for drug abuse violations in New Jersey. This is a 5% decrease from the 7,688 juvenile drug arrests in 2001.⁴⁰

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Select Offenses, New Jersey, 2001-2002

Offense	2001	2002	% Change
Murder	25	20	-20%
Rape	104	132	27
Robbery	1,176	1,272	8
Aggravated assault	2,051	1,928	-6
Burglary	1,922	2,019	5
Larceny-theft	7,478	7,098	-5
Motor vehicle theft	486	544	14
Drug abuse violations	7,688	7,310	-5
Driving under the influence	345	348	1
Liquor law violations	3,229	3,019	-7

- Approximately 41% of New Jersey high school students surveyed in 2001 reported using marijuana at least once during their lives.⁴¹

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, New Jersey, 2001

Drug Type	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	37.2%	44.9%	41.1%
Current marijuana use	4.8	13.6	9.2
Lifetime cocaine use	6.0	11.0	8.5
Current cocaine use	1.6	6.9	4.2
Lifetime inhalant use	10.4	15.0	12.7
Current inhalant use	3.3	6.8	5.1
Lifetime heroin use	2.1	5.5	3.8
Lifetime methamphetamine use	5.8	9.6	7.7
Lifetime illegal steroid use	2.2	7.3	4.7
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	0.8	5.6	3.2
Tried marijuana before age 13	21.7	28.0	24.9

- Results of a 2001 survey of New Jersey public and private school 7th and 8th graders indicate that 9.7% of the 8th graders used marijuana in their lifetimes.⁴²

Percent of 7th and 8th Graders Reporting Lifetime Drug Use, New Jersey, 1999-2001

Drug Type	1999 Survey		2001 Survey	
	7th	8th	7th	8th
Marijuana	7.6%	16.3%	3.3%	9.7%
Inhalants	8.4	7.6	8.8	9.4
Hallucinogens	1.3	2.8	0.4	1.1
Club drugs	not collected	not collected	1.5	3.3
Cocaine	1.5	2.5	0.8	1.7
Heroin	0.5	1.4	0.4	1.1
Other illicit drug	7.6	9.9	1.8	4.4
Any illicit drug	18.0	23.5	12.4	19.0

- Approximately 4.7% of the 8th graders surveyed in 2001 reported using marijuana within the past 30 days.⁴³

Percent of 7th and 8th Graders Reporting Past 30 Day Drug Use, New Jersey, 1999-2001

Drug Type	1999 Survey		2001 Survey	
	7th	8th	7th	8th
Marijuana	3.6%	9.9%	1.3%	4.7%
Inhalants	3.6	3.2	3.0	2.7
Hallucinogens	0.5	1.4	0.2	0.6
Club drugs	not collected	not collected	0.7	1.2
Cocaine	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.5
Heroin	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.3
Other illicit drug	3.1	5.7	0.5	1.7
Any illicit drug	8.7	14.5	4.7	8.0

Enforcement

- In 2002, there were 50,232 full-time law enforcement employees in New Jersey (38,108 officers and 12,124 civilians).⁴⁴

Trafficking and Seizures

- New Jersey, especially areas such as Newark and Camden, serves as a transportation hub and distribution center for illicit drugs.⁴⁵
- The state is a major artery for international cocaine trafficking organizations. Cocaine arrives in the area directly from South American ports, as well as from Mexico and Southwest Border states via commercial and private vehicles.⁴⁶
- During 2002, Federal agencies seized more than 200 kilograms of cocaine in New Jersey.⁴⁷

Amount of Drugs Seized by Federal Agencies, New Jersey, 2002

Drug Type	Amount Seized (in kilograms)
Cocaine	236.3
Heroin	20.3
Methamphetamine	0
Marijuana	1.1

- In 2002, there were 2,302 marijuana plants eradicated in New Jersey under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁴⁸

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, New Jersey, 2002

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
48	957	18	1,345	2,302

- During the second quarter of 2002, U.S. Customs Service (USCS) inspectors confiscated nearly 17 kilograms of heroin in 13 seizures at Newark International Airport.⁴⁹
- From 1996 to 2001, 3 methamphetamine labs were seized in New Jersey. One lab was seized in 1996, 1 was seized in 1997, and 2 were seized in 1999.⁵⁰

Courts

- Drug Courts⁵¹
As of November 2003, there were 8 drug courts in New Jersey that had been in existence for more than two years, 9 that were recently implemented, and 3 that were being planned.
- During FY 2001, approximately 34% (34.4%) of the Federally-sentenced defendants in New Jersey had committed drug offenses. Ninety (31.5%) of the drug offenses involved heroin.⁵²

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Offenses, New Jersey, FY 2001

Drug Type Involved	Offenses	% of Total
Heroin	90	31.5%
Powder cocaine	89	31.1
Crack cocaine	40	14.0
Marijuana	24	8.4
Methamphetamine	15	5.2
Other	28	9.8

Corrections

- On January 13, 2003, there were 26,387 offenders in New Jersey correctional institutions. Approximately 35% of the inmates committed drug offenses.⁵³

Offenders in Correctional Institutions, by Base Offense, New Jersey, January 13, 2003

Base Offense	# of Offenders	% of Total
Violent	10,380	39%
Property	3,131	12
Miscellaneous	1,367	5
Weapons	901	3
Drugs	9,122	35
Not coded	1,486	6
Total offenders	26,387	100

- Virtually all of the drug offenses resulting in incarceration were for sale and distribution.⁵⁴
- At the end of 2002 (December 31), there were 134,290 adults on probation and 11,914 adults on parole in New Jersey.⁵⁵

Consequences of Use

- In 2002, there were 699 fatal crashes with 771 fatalities in New Jersey. Twenty-five of the deceased drivers, 3 deceased passengers, 2 deceased pedestrians, and 1 deceased pedalcyclist tested positive for drugs.⁵⁶

Treatment

- During 2003, there were 37,020 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in New Jersey.⁵⁷ There were 54,461 treatment admissions in New Jersey during 2002.⁵⁸ In 2001, there were 54,677 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in New Jersey.⁵⁹

Number of Admissions to Treatment, New Jersey, 2001-2003

Drug Type	2001		2002		2003	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	8,950	16.4%	8,618	15.8%	5,772	15.6%
Alc. w/ second. drug	6,306	11.5	6,295	11.6	4,249	11.5
Cocaine – smoked	3,634	6.6	3,557	6.5	2,099	5.7
Cocaine – other route	1,850	3.4	1,750	3.2	1,192	3.2
Marijuana	5,699	10.4	5,855	10.8	4,164	11.2
Heroin	26,629	48.7	26,453	48.6	18,117	48.9
Other opiates	848	1.6	1,124	2.1	876	2.4
PCP	120	0.2	135	0.2	128	0.3
Hallucinogens	61	0.1	48	0.1	32	0.1
Amphetamines	131	0.2	138	0.3	102	0.3
Other stimulants	13	0.0	7	0.0	5	0.0
Tranquilizers	211	0.4	189	0.3	124	0.3
Sedatives	63	0.1	64	0.1	41	0.1
Inhalants	15	0.0	14	0.0	5	0.0
Other/none specified	147	0.3	214	0.4	114	0.3
Total	54,677	100.0	54,461	100.0	37,020	100.0

Sources

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- ⁵⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, New Jersey Treatment Data, 2001:
<http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/NJ01.htm>

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