

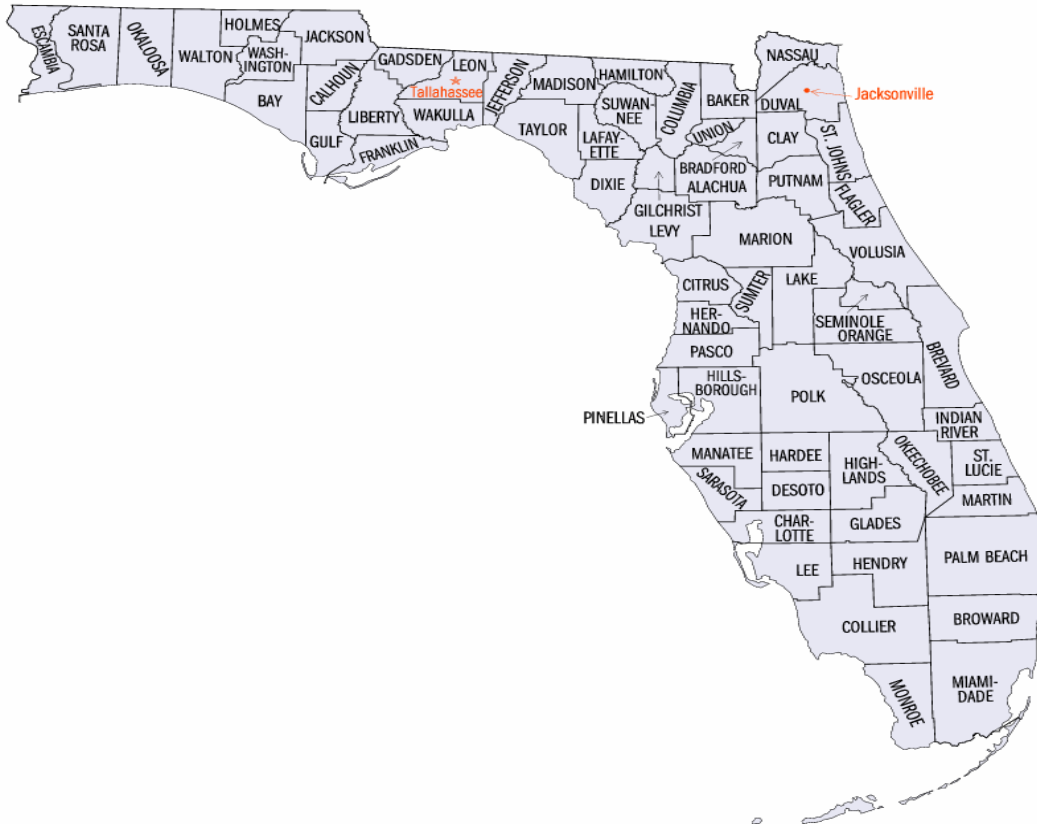
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Gainesville, Florida

Profile of Drug Indicators

October 2004



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Gainesville, Florida

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

Demographics

- Population: 109,146 (July 2003 Census estimate)¹; 95,447 (2000 Census)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 68.4% white; 23.2% African American/black; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 4.5% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; 1.5% other; 2.2% two or more races; 6.4% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)³
- Gainesville is located in Alachua County.⁴

Politics

- Mayor: Pegeen Hanrahan⁵
- City Commissioners (District): Chuck Chestnut (1); Ed Braddy (2); Tony Domenech (3); Craig Lowe (4); Warren Nielsen (at large); Rick Bryant (at large)⁶
- City Manager: Wayne Bowers⁷
- Chief of Police: Norman Botsford⁸

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2003, the Gainesville Police Department reported 5 murders.⁹

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Gainesville, 1999-2003

Offense	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Murder	6	6	4	7	5
Sex offenses	79	100	97	89	102
Robbery	239	271	303	185	197
Aggravated assault	597	606	462	484	700
Burglary	1,380	1,269	1,294	1,248	1,208
Larceny	4,761	4,048	3,469	3,530	3,368
Auto theft	576	471	616	473	471

- The Gainesville Police Department reported 5 arrests for murder during 2003.¹⁰ There were 6 arrests for murder reported during 2002.¹¹ The Gainesville Police Department also reported 6 murder arrests in 2001.¹²

Number of Arrests, Index Offenses, Gainesville, 2001-2003

Offense	2001	2002	2003
Murder	6	6	5
Forcible sex offense	26	31	20
Robbery	120	88	85
Aggravated assault	259	308	328
Burglary	253	316	347
Larceny	746	717	743
Motor vehicle theft	91	71	69

- The Gainesville Police Department reported 1,378 drug arrests during 2003.¹³ There were 1,078 drug arrests reported during 2002.¹⁴ In 2001, the Gainesville Police Department reported 1,170 drug arrests.¹⁵

Number of Drug-/Alcohol-Related Arrests, Gainesville, 2001-2003

Offense	2001	2002	2003
Drug	1,170	1,078	1,378
DUI	154	222	167
Liquor laws	1,205	1,680	1,532

- During 2003, the Gainesville Police Department's Narcotics Unit investigated the city's first known methadone lab. The investigation resulted in a 7-year prison term for the suspect.¹⁶

Drugs

- Club Drugs
MDMA is prevalent in Gainesville.¹⁷

Juveniles

- In 2002, 43% of Alachua County high school students reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetime. Approximately 12.7% of Alachua County middle school students surveyed in 2002 reported lifetime marijuana use.¹⁸

Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Selected Drugs, Alachua County, 2000-2002

Drug Type	Middle School		High School	
	2000	2002	2000	2002
Marijuana	22.7%	12.7%	40.1%	43.0%
Inhalants	13.3	10.7	10.4	10.3
Ecstasy	--	2.8	--	5.7
Rohypnol	--	0.8	--	1.3
GHB	--	1.2	--	1.2
Ketamine	--	0.5	--	1.3
LSD/PCP	4.5	1.2	11.0	4.1
Halluc. mushrooms	--	4.0	--	8.6
Cocaine	3.9	2.1	6.0	5.1
Crack cocaine	3.3	1.4	2.1	0.7
Methamphetamine	3.5	2.2	4.8	1.6
Depressants	0.7	2.1	6.1	7.3
Heroin	2.8	1.1	3.2	1.9
OxyContin	--	0.9	--	3.2
Other prescr. pain relievers	--	3.5	--	8.6
Steroids w/o Rx	3.4	0.9	2.4	1.4
Amphetamines	--	2.1	--	4.2
Any illicit drug	29.1	21.7	43.4	49.5

- Approximately 21.5% of Alachua County high school students surveyed in 2002 reported using marijuana within the past 30 days.¹⁹

Students Reporting Past 30 Day Use of Selected Drugs, Alachua County, 2000-2002

Drug Type	Middle School		High School	
	2000	2002	2000	2002
Marijuana	8.6%	6.2%	17.8%	21.5%
Inhalants	7.6	4.4	2.5	2.1
Ecstasy	--	0.7	--	2.0
Rohypnol	--	0.3	--	0.0
GHB	--	0.9	--	0.5
Ketamine	--	0.3	--	0.0
LSD/PCP	3.5	0.1	4.0	0.5
Halluc. mushrooms	--	0.7	--	1.3
Cocaine	3.0	0.6	1.2	1.6
Crack cocaine	2.4	0.5	0.1	0.3
Methamphetamine	0.6	0.7	1.1	0.2
Depressants	0.3	0.9	1.9	3.3
Heroin	2.1	0.3	0.3	0.5
OxyContin	--	0.2	--	1.6
Other prescr. pain relievers	--	1.3	--	3.4
Steroids w/o Rx	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5
Amphetamines	--	1.7	--	1.0
Any illicit drug	12.1	10.8	19.0	24.4

- During 2002, the mean age when Alachua County middle school students first used marijuana was 11.9 years. Among Alachua County high school students surveyed in 2002, the average age of first marijuana use was 14.2 years.²⁰

Mean Age (in Years) of First Substance Use, Alachua County, 2002

	Middle School	High School	Total
More than a sip or two of alcohol	11.2	13.0	12.4
Drinking at least once a month	12.4	14.9	14.5
Cigarettes	11.2	12.7	12.2
Marijuana	11.9	14.2	13.7

- Nearly 20% of Alachua County high school students surveyed in 2002 reported being drunk or high at school.²¹

Percent of Students Reporting Drug-Related Behavior, Alachua County, 2002

Behavior	Middle School	High School	Total
Sold drugs	3.4%	8.6%	6.3%
Drunk or high at school	7.3	19.8	14.2

Enforcement

- Comprehensive Drug Plan²²
Established in September 2003, the Gainesville Police Department’s Comprehensive Drug Plan uses forfeiture funds to reduce drug activity in the city.
- As of October 31, 2002, there were 339 full-time law enforcement employees in Gainesville (274 officers and 65 civilians).²³

Trafficking and Seizures

- The Gainesville Police Department seized 13.06 pounds of cannabis during 2003.²⁴

Amount of Drugs Seized, Gainesville, 2003

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cannabis	13.06 pounds
Cannabis plants	82 plants
Cannabis seeds	9.9 grams
Crack cocaine	319.85 grams
Powdered cocaine	887.65 grams
MDMA	150 grams
Percocet	40 pills

- As a result of Florida’s Domestic Marijuana Eradication program, 15 marijuana grow sites (indoor and outdoor) were detected in Alachua County during 2003.²⁵

Number of Marijuana Sites and Plants Detected, Alachua County, 2003

	Sites	Plants
Indoor	5	435
Outdoor	10	627
Total	15	1,062

Courts

- Drug Courts²⁶
As of September 2004, there were 2 drug courts in Gainesville that had been in existence for more than 2 years. There was also 1 drug court that had recently been implemented. No additional drug courts were being planned in Gainesville at that time.

Corrections

- In 2003, the average daily population at the Alachua County Jail was 932. The average population for the Alachua County Work Release program was 56 during 2003.²⁷

Consequences of Use

- There were 45 deaths in Gainesville during 2003 in which cocaine was found in the body of the deceased.²⁸ This is up from 2002 when there were 15 deaths in which cocaine was present.²⁹ During 2001, there were 12 deaths in which cocaine was present.³⁰

Number of Drug-Related Deaths, Gainesville, 2001-2003

Drug Involved	2001	2002	2003
Alprazolam only	Not avail.	Not avail.	2
Alprazolam with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	17
Cocaine only	4	2	7
Cocaine with other drug	8	13	38
Diazepam only	Not avail.	Not avail.	1
Diazepam with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	19
Heroin only	0	0	0
Heroin with other drug	0	0	0
Oxycodone only	1	4	6
Oxycodone with other drug	11	8	17
Hydrocodone only	1	4	2
Hydrocodone with other drug	3	8	9
Methadone only	1	3	4
Methadone with other drug	10	14	17
Methylated amphetamine only	0	1	Not avail.
Methylated amphetamine with other drug	3	2	Not avail.
Morphine only	Not avail.	Not avail.	6
Morphine with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	10
Propoxyphene only	Not avail.	Not avail.	2
Propoxyphene with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	6

➤ In 2003, lethal amounts of cocaine were found in 10 Gainesville deaths.³¹

Drug-Related Deaths by Lethal/Non-Lethal Levels, Gainesville, 2003

Drugs	Lethal Levels	Non-Lethal Levels
Heroin	0	0
Cocaine	10	35
Methadone	5	16
Oxycodone	6	17
Hydrocodone	3	8

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<http://www.census.gov/popest/cities/tables/SUB-EST2003-04-12.pdf>

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³ Ibid.

⁴ Gainesville Web site: <http://www.cityofgainesville.org/>

⁵ Gainesville Mayor and City Commission Web site: <http://www.cityofgainesville.org/gov/commission/>

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Gainesville Web site: <http://www.cityofgainesville.org/>

⁸ Gainesville Police Department Web site: <http://www.gainesvillepd.org/>

⁹ Gainesville Police Department, *2003 Annual Report*:

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- ²⁰ Ibid.
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