

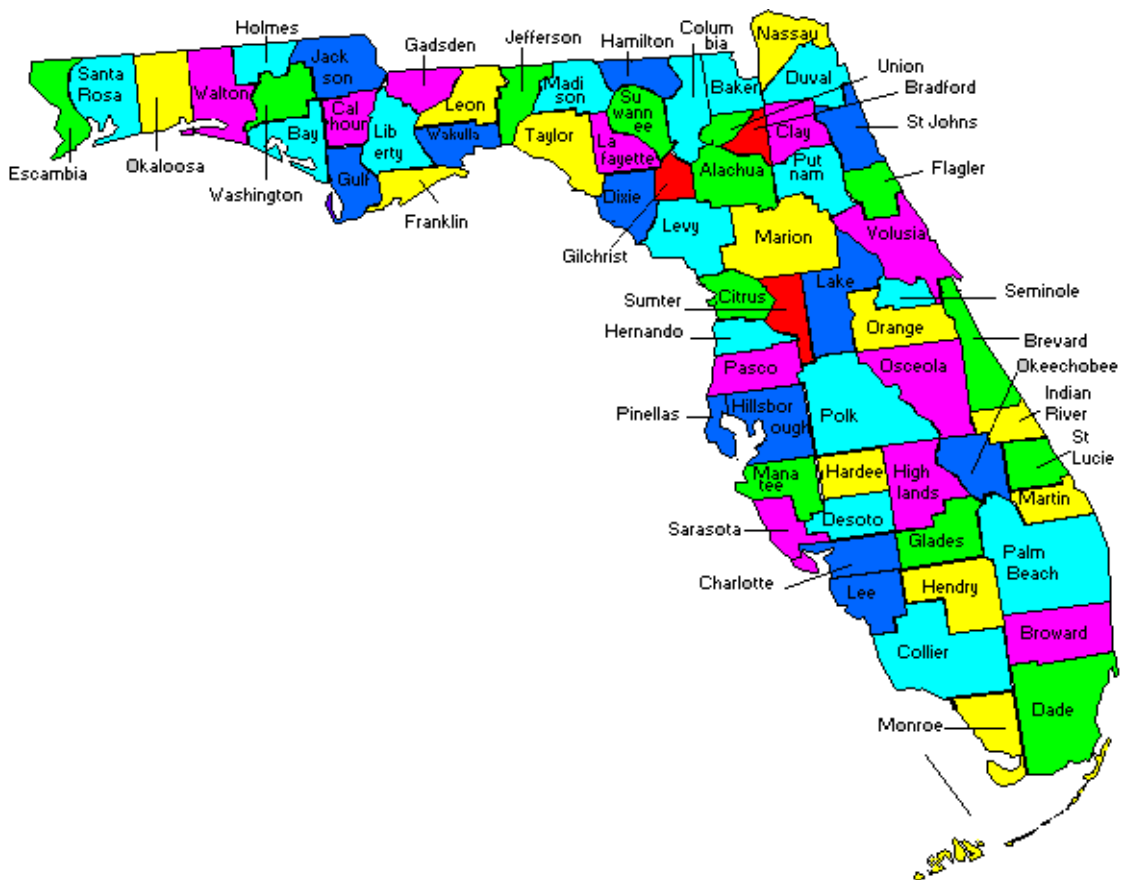
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### Opa Locka, Florida

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

April 2000



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.

## Opa Locka

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

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

- Population: 15,283 (1990 Census)
- Race/Ethnicity: 21% white; 73% African American; 5% other race; 29% Hispanic
- County: Dade
- Located outside of Miami

### **Politics<sup>2</sup>**

- Mayor: Alvin Miller
- City Manager: Tony Robinson

### **Programs/Initiatives<sup>3</sup>**

- In September 1999, Florida Governor Jeb Bush launched an anti-narcotics drive in Opa Locka. At this time, Governor Bush and Jim McDonough, Director of Florida's Office of Drug Control, visited Opa Locka's drug-scourged Triangle neighborhood to announce the Governor's statewide anti-drug strategy.

### **Crime and Drug-Related Crime**

- There were 12 murders that occurred in Opa Locka in 1998. The majority of these took place in the Triangle neighborhood.<sup>4</sup>

Number of Offenses Known to Police, Opa Locka, 1998<sup>5</sup>

Offense	Number
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	12
Forcible Rape	11
Robbery	166
Aggravated Assault	374
Burglary	384
Larceny-theft	1,249
Motor Vehicle Theft	375
Arson	8

- In 1998, the DEA arrested drug kingpin Rickey Brownlee, who based his \$1 million/year operation in the Triangle neighborhood of Opa Locka. After his arrest, a violent turf war erupted in this area.<sup>6</sup>

### **Enforcement**

- As of October 1998, Opa Locka had 54 full-time law enforcement employees. 40 of these employees are officers, and the remaining 14 are civilians.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Opa Locka Informational Web site:

<http://www.southflorida.digitalcity.com/DCCommunity/Dade%20cities/c3ctyx51.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> On-line News Article: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n991.a05.html/us>

<sup>4</sup> On-line News Article: <http://www.cannabisnews.com/news/thread2833.shtml>

<sup>5</sup> FBI, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports, 1998*, October 1999: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr>

<sup>6</sup> On-line News Article: <http://www.cannabisnews.com/news/thread2833.shtml>

<sup>7</sup> FBI, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports, 1998*, October 1999: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr>

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