

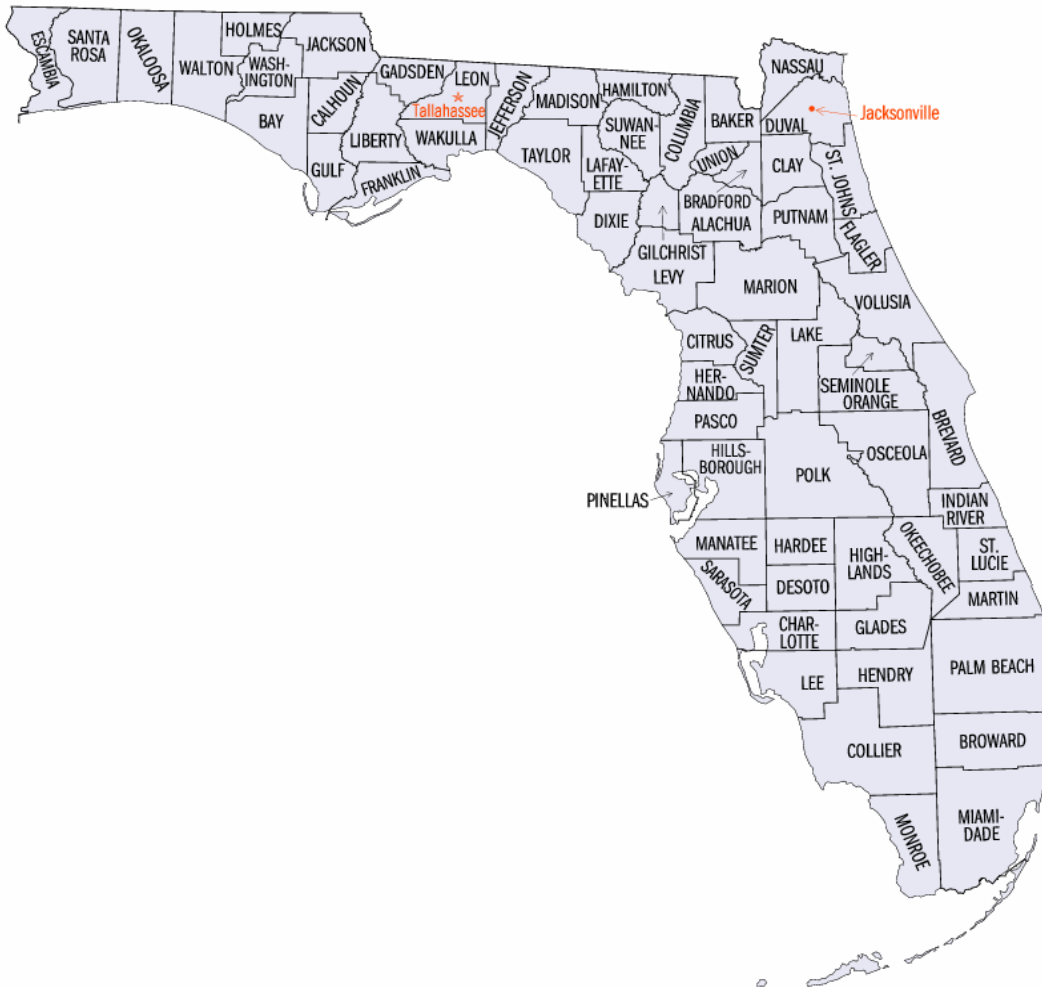
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Tampa, Florida

Profile of Drug Indicators

October 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.

Tampa, Florida

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

Demographics

- Population: 298,674 (2003 American Community Survey)¹
- Race/Ethnicity (2003 American Community Survey): 49.4% white; 27.6% black/African American; 0.5% American Indian/Alaska Native; 1.0% Asian; 0.5% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.3% some other race; 1.1% two or more races; 19.7% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)²
- Tampa is located in Hillsborough County.³

Politics

- Mayor: Pam Iorio⁴
- City Council members (District): Gwen Miller (1 – member at-large); Rose Ferlita (2 – member at-large); Linda Saul-Sena (3 – member at-large); John Dingfelder (4); Kevin White (5); Mary Alvarez (6); Shawn Harrison (7)⁵
- Chief of Police: Stephen Hogue⁶

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁷
Designated in 1998, the Central Florida HIDTA is responsible for Volusia, Seminole, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Hillsborough, and Pinellas counties.
- Drugs Don't Work⁸
The Drugs Don't Work program, run through the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, is designed to create a drug-free workplace in local organizations.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- From January through June 2004, the Tampa Police Department reported 15 murders.⁹ During full year 2003, the Tampa Police Department reported 41 murders. This is an increase from the 37 murders reported in 2002.¹⁰

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Tampa, 2000 through June 2004

Offense	Full Year 2000	Full Year 2001	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	Jan.-June 2004
Murder	38	34	37	41	15
Forcible sex offense	289	281	257	282	115
Robbery	2,183	2,359	2,334	1,769	671
Aggravated assault	3,871	3,942	3,661	3,641	1,763
Burglary	6,177	6,096	6,283	6,390	3,048
Larceny	15,336	15,586	16,088	16,715	7,611
Vehicle theft	5,772	6,550	6,720	5,344	1,904
Total Index	33,666	34,848	35,380	34,182	15,127

- From January through August 2004, the Tampa Police Department reported 4,168 drug/narcotic offenses. In full year 2003, there were 4,473 such offenses reported.¹¹

Number of Drug Offenses Known to Police, Tampa, 2001 through August 2004

Offense	Full Year 2001	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	Jan.-Aug. 2004
Drugs/narcotics	4,173	4,432	4,473	4,168
Drugs/equipment	52	82	95	124

- During 2003, the Tampa Police Department made 5,197 drug arrests.¹² During 2002, there were 5,275 drug arrests reported by the Tampa Police Department.¹³

Number of Arrests, Selected Offenses, Tampa, 2002-2003

Offense	2002	2003
Murder	14	30
Forcible sex offense	76	108
Robbery	370	346
Aggravated assault	1,437	1,449
Burglary	553	669
Larceny-theft	2,528	2,567
Motor vehicle theft	779	648
Drugs	5,275	5,197

- Thirty percent of Tampa adult male arrestees tested positive for cocaine in 2003.¹⁴

Percent of Adult Male Arrestees Testing Positive for Drugs, Tampa, 2003

Drug Type	% Positive
Cocaine	30.1%
Heroin	3.8
Marijuana	45.2
Methamphetamine	1.6
Any drug	60.1
Multiple drugs	19.5

- Additional Tampa arrestee drug use data for 2003 indicate that 52.3% of the adult male arrestees used marijuana within the past year. Among those reporting past year marijuana use, the average number of days the drug was used in the past month was 11.1.¹⁵

Past Drug Use, Adult Male Arrestees, Tampa, 2003

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth.	Heroin
Past 7 days	11.4%	8.4%	38.1%	1.5%	1.3%
Past 30 days	13.3%	11.5%	44.3%	2.2%	1.9%
Past year	16.1%	17.0%	52.3%	4.8%	2.9%
Average # of days in month	8.4 days	4.2 days	11.1 days	5.7 days	8.7 days

Drugs

- Cocaine
According to *Pulse Check* sources, the number of crack users in Tampa has increased slightly, while the number of powder cocaine users has declined slightly. A gram of powder cocaine typically sold for \$50 in the Tampa area during 2002.¹⁶
- Heroin
South American heroin is prevalent in the Tampa Bay area.¹⁷ During 2002, a gram of heroin typically sold for \$80 in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area.¹⁸
- Marijuana
During 2002, marijuana sold for \$1,100-\$1,200/ounce in Tampa.¹⁹
- Methamphetamine
Methamphetamine continues to be reported as an emerging problem in Tampa.²⁰ The Tampa Bay area is the focal point of all meth distribution and abuse in Florida.²¹
- Club Drugs
Ecstasy is flooding the Central Florida area, primarily Orlando and Tampa. The “rave scene” in these cities also promotes the use of other club drugs such as ketamine, GHB, nitrous oxide, and LSD.²² During 2002, ecstasy tablets sold for \$12-\$15 each.²³
- Other Drugs
Diverted pharmaceuticals are becoming increasingly available on the street, particularly since pain management clinics began opening on a more frequent basis. Tampa *Pulse Check* sources indicate that diverted OxyContin can be obtained with no difficulty at all. A large increase in the abuse of benzodiazepines, particularly alprazolam, has been reported in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area. Dextromethorphan (found in Coricidin HBP Cough and Cold) is being used by adolescents in Tampa. There has been an increase in thefts of the product from groceries and pharmacies and some pharmacies have begun restricting sales of the product to one box per customer.²⁴

Enforcement

- Narcotics Bureau²⁵
The Tampa Police Department Narcotics Bureau is composed of the Narcotics Unit and the Quick Uniformed Attack on Drugs (Q.U.A.D.) Squad. The Narcotics Unit works to enforce narcotic and dangerous drug laws, investigates crime organizations involved in drug trafficking, and gathers and disseminates information to other agencies. The Q.U.A.D. Squad works to reduce street level drug dealing.
- As of October 2002, there were 1,277 full-time law enforcement employees in Tampa (956 officers and 321 civilians).²⁶

Juveniles

- During 2002, the mean age when Hillsborough County middle school students first used marijuana was 12.0 years. Among Hillsborough County high school students surveyed in 2002, the average age of first marijuana use was 14.1 years.²⁷

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

	Middle School	High School	Total
More than a sip or two of alcohol	11.3	13.2	12.5
Drinking at least once a month	12.4	14.7	14.2
Cigarettes	11.2	12.8	12.3
Marijuana	12.0	14.1	13.6

- Approximately 11.5% of Hillsborough County middle school students and 37.5% of high school students surveyed in 2002 reported using marijuana in their lifetime.²⁸

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

Drug Type	Middle School		High School	
	2000	2002	2000	2002
Marijuana	15.7	11.5	46.1	37.5
Inhalants	16.0	13.7	12.6	12.2
Ecstasy	--	2.8	--	10.2
Rohypnol	--	0.9	--	1.5
GHB	--	2.0	--	1.3
Ketamine	--	0.8	--	1.0
LSD/PCP	4.2	1.3	17.5	6.1
Halluc. mushrooms	--	3.8	--	5.7
Cocaine	4.9	1.5	10.7	5.6
Crack cocaine	4.2	1.6	2.0	2.6
Methamphetamine	1.9	2.5	12.6	3.2
Depressants	1.7	3.8	7.4	13.0
Heroin	1.5	0.8	7.7	1.3
OxyContin	--	1.3	--	1.6
Other prescr. pain relievers	--	4.2	--	10.5
Steroids w/o Rx	1.5	1.3	2.3	1.8
Amphetamines	--	2.3	--	5.6
Any illicit drug	26.2	20.9	49.5	42.3

- Nearly 19% of Hillsborough County high school students surveyed in 2002 reported being drunk or high at school.²⁹

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

Behavior	Middle School	High School	Total
Sold drugs	3.7%	8.3%	6.1%
Drunk or high at school	6.8	18.8	12.9

- Approximately 18% of Hillsborough County high school students surveyed in 2002 reported using marijuana within the past 30 days.³⁰

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

Drug Type	Middle School		High School	
	2000	2002	2000	2002
Marijuana	9.6%	6.2%	25.7%	18.1%
Inhalants	7.5	4.9	6.0	3.6
Ecstasy	--	1.6	--	1.9
Rohypnol	--	0.5	--	0.4
GHB	--	1.4	--	0.5
Ketamine	--	0.4	--	0.1
LSD/PCP	0.8	1.0	8.8	0.7
Halluc. mushrooms	--	1.5	--	1.5
Cocaine	1.5	0.8	3.5	1.5
Crack cocaine	1.2	0.7	0.1	0.2
Methamphetamine	0.8	1.0	7.3	0.9
Depressants	0.5	1.3	3.7	4.2
Heroin	0.5	0.1	4.5	0.3
OxyContin	--	0.8	--	0.3
Other prescr. pain relievers	--	2.0	--	3.9
Steroids w/o Rx	1.3	0.8	2.0	0.7
Amphetamines	--	1.1	--	1.5
Any illicit drug	16.1	10.7	28.5	19.9

Trafficking and Seizures

- As a result of Florida's Domestic Marijuana Eradication program, 7 marijuana grow sites (indoor and outdoor) were detected in Hillsborough County during 2003.³¹

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

	Sites	Plants
Indoor	5	271
Outdoor	2	31
Total	7	302

Courts

- Drug Courts³²
As of September 2004, there were 3 drug courts in Tampa that had been operating for more than 2 years and 1 additional drug court that was being planned.

Corrections

- At the end of June 2004, the inmate population at the Hillsborough Correctional Institution was 200.³³ This facility has Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous programs for the offenders.³⁴
- Tampa Circuit Office probation officers supervise Hillsborough County offenders in the community who have been placed on probation or who have been released from prison with post-release supervision. As of August 22, 2003, there were 11,791 total offenders being supervised by this office. The Circuit Office offers drug treatment at the Drug

Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office, Tampa Crossroads, and at the Center for Rational Living.³⁵

Consequences of Use

- There were 81 deaths in Tampa during 2003 in which cocaine was found in the body of the deceased.³⁶ This is down from 2002 when there were 79 deaths in which cocaine was present.³⁷ During 2001, there were 56 deaths in which cocaine was present.³⁸

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

Drug Involved	2001	2002	2003
Alprazolam only	Not avail.	Not avail.	3
Alprazolam with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	15
Cocaine only	21	31	41
Cocaine with other drug	35	48	40
Diazepam only	Not avail.	Not avail.	3
Diazepam with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	19
Heroin only	10	12	10
Heroin with other drug	24	22	9
Oxycodone only	5	2	7
Oxycodone with other drug	5	4	17
Hydrocodone only	5	12	10
Hydrocodone with other drug	6	17	20
Methadone only	8	8	10
Methadone with other drug	11	8	18
Methylated amphetamine only	0	3	Not avail.
Methylated amphetamine with other drug	6	2	Not avail.
Morphine only	Not avail.	Not avail.	22
Morphine with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	21
Propoxyphene only	Not avail.	Not avail.	6
Propoxyphene with other drug	Not avail.	Not avail.	13

- In 2003, lethal amounts of cocaine were found in 34 Tampa deaths.³⁹

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

Drugs	Lethal Levels	Non-Lethal Levels
Heroin	18	1
Cocaine	34	47
Methadone	17	11
Oxycodone	16	8
Hydrocodone	22	8

Treatment

- Approximately 25% of Tampa adult male arrestees interviewed during 2003 reported receiving inpatient or residential treatment at some point in their lives.⁴⁰

Percent of Adult Male Arrestees Reporting Past Drug Treatment, Tampa, 2003

Type of Treatment	Ever	Past Year
Outpatient	18.2%	3.8%
Inpatient/residential	25.2	4.7

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