

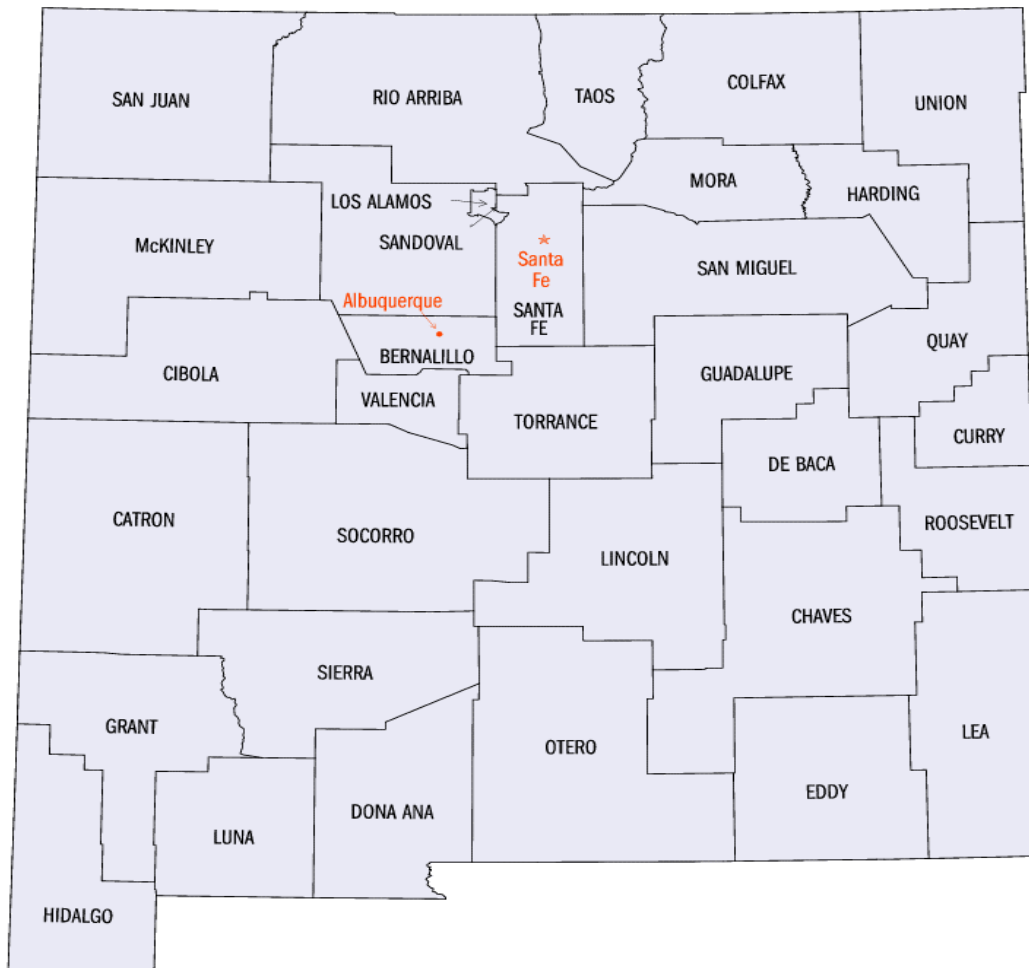
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### Albuquerque, New Mexico

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

April 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.

## Albuquerque, New Mexico

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

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

- Population (2000 Census): 448,607
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 49.9% white; 2.8% black/African American; 3.3% American Indian/Alaska Native; 2.2% Asian; 0.1% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.2% other race; 1.7% two or more races; 39.9% Hispanic origin
- County: Bernalillo

### **Politics**

- Mayor: Martin Chavez<sup>2</sup>
- City Council Members (Districts 1-9, respectively): Miguel Gomez, Vincent E. Griego, Eric Griego, Brad Winter, Michael Cadigan, Hess Yntema, Sally Mayer, Greg Payne, Tina Cummins<sup>3</sup>
- Chief of Police: Gilbert Gallegos<sup>4</sup>
- Bernalillo County Sheriff: Darren White<sup>5</sup>

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)<sup>6</sup>  
Designated in 1990, the Southwest Border HIDTA/New Mexico Partnership is responsible for thirteen counties in New Mexico including Bernalillo County. In addition to these thirteen counties, the New Mexico Partnership region also encompasses four ports of entry and approximately 180 miles of international border shared with Mexico.
- Crime Free Multi-Housing Program<sup>7</sup>  
The purpose of the Albuquerque Police Department's Crime Free Multi-Housing Program is to develop a partnership with the community to keep neighborhoods safe and free of drug dealing and illegal activity in rental properties.
- Students Taking Active Responsibility for Success (STARS)<sup>8</sup>  
STARS is a program being used in Albuquerque elementary schools to replace the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program, which has been discontinued in some schools because of budget constraints. The purpose of STARS is to empower students with positive attitudes and skills that allow them to make good choices in life while teaching the dangers of substance abuse.

### **Federal Funding**

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program<sup>9</sup>  
Since FY 1998 when funding was first available through the Drug-Free Communities program, only one coalition in Albuquerque has received funding. In FY 2000, the New Mexico Advocates for Children and Families was awarded funding.
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed<sup>10</sup>  
There is one site in Albuquerque that has received funding and been officially recognized as a Weed and Seed site.

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) FY 2001 Discretionary Funds received in Albuquerque:<sup>11</sup>
  - Center for Mental Health Services:
    - \$150,000 to New Mexico Advocates. Project period: 4/1/01-3/31/02
    - \$59,997 to Parents for Behaviorally Different Children. Project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04
  - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention:
    - No grant recipients
  - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment:
    - \$500,000 to the City of Albuquerque. Project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04
    - \$463,901 to the City of Albuquerque. Project period: 9/30/00-9/29/03
    - \$408,430 to the City of Albuquerque. Project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04
    - \$599,994 to Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless. Project period: 9/30/01-9/29/04
    - \$250,000 to University of New Mexico – Albuquerque. Project period: 9/30/01-9/29/03
- Albuquerque did not receive any funding through the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant Program.<sup>12</sup>
- Albuquerque did not receive any funding through the FY 2002 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services Methamphetamine Grant.<sup>13</sup>
- FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant amount received in Albuquerque:<sup>14</sup>
  - \$125,000 to St. Anthony Plaza Apartments
- FY 2001 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received by Albuquerque recipients:<sup>15</sup>
  - \$5,844,350 in formula funds
  - \$2,904,284 in discretionary funds

### Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- In 2002, the Albuquerque Police Department reported 4,140 narcotics offenses. In 2001, there were 4,153 such offenses and in 2000, there were 3,766 narcotics offenses.<sup>16</sup>
- During 2002, there were 35,765 Part 1 offenses known to the Albuquerque Police Department.<sup>17</sup>

Number of Part 1 Offenses Known to Police, Albuquerque, 1998-2002

Offense Type	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Murder	37	48	33	35	54
Rape	219	220	239	219	293
Robbery	1,693	1,667	1,547	1,620	1,295
Aggrav. assault	3,614	3,320	3,317	3,396	3,250
Burglary	8,037	6,809	7,120	6,585	5,452
Larceny	25,709	24,277	22,842	23,535	21,371
Auto theft	6,339	4,693	4,349	4,162	4,050
Total Part 1	45,648	41,034	39,447	39,552	35,765

- Data collected from Albuquerque adult arrestees in 2001 indicate that 63.8% of adult male and 66.2% of adult female arrestees tested positive for an illegal drug at arrest.<sup>18</sup>

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

Drug Type	Males	Females
Cocaine	36.7%	46.2%
Opiates	16.0	18.5
Marijuana	37.9	24.6
Methamphetamine	9.5	4.6
PCP	0.0	0.0
Any of the above drugs	63.8	66.2
Multiple drugs	28.0	26.2

- More than half of the Albuquerque 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 10.8 days.<sup>19</sup>

Past Drug Use, Adult Male Arrestees, Albuquerque, 2001

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Opiates
Past 7 days	17.7%	11.8%	36.7%	9.0%	12.5%
Past 30 days	21.3%	18.0%	43.1%	13.1%	14.2%
Past year	26.8%	24.2%	51.1%	16.5%	16.7%
Avg. # of days used in month	8.4	4.9	10.8	6.7	12.5

- Nearly 45% of adult female arrestees reported using marijuana in the past year.<sup>20</sup>

Past Drug Use, Adult Female Arrestees, Albuquerque, 2001

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Opiates
Past 7 days	35.7%	5.8%	12.3%	2.9%	20.6%
Past 30 days	39.4%	15.9%	38.6%	8.8%	20.6%
Past year	47.3%	23.3%	44.6%	17.6%	24.7%
Avg. # of days used in month	10.9	3.7	9.4	6.3	11.9

**Drugs**

- Cocaine
  - Powder and crack cocaine continue to saturate Albuquerque. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), powder cocaine prices in Albuquerque during 2001 ranged from \$800 to \$1,400 per ounce, with a purity range of 80-95%. Crack cocaine prices ranged from \$600 to \$1,000 per ounce.<sup>21</sup>
- Heroin
  - Prices for Mexican heroin in Albuquerque are \$40 per kilogram and range from \$1,200 to \$2,900 per ounce and \$120 to \$180 per gram. Retail-level purity for both Mexican black tar and brown powder heroin typically exceeds 70%.<sup>22</sup>

- Marijuana  
The price for marijuana in Albuquerque averaged \$440 per pound in 2001.<sup>23</sup>
- Methamphetamine  
Methamphetamine sells for approximately \$60 per gram and \$900-\$1,200 per ounce, with an average purity of 80%.<sup>24</sup>
- Club Drugs  
The DEA Albuquerque District Office reports that MDMA sells for \$11 per pill at the wholesale level and \$25 per pill at the retail level.<sup>25</sup>
- Prescription Drugs  
Pharmaceutical substances, particularly oxycodone (Percocet) and hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab) are being diverted and abused in Albuquerque. Local law enforcement officials report that prescription fraud by abusers, illegal sales by pharmacists, and indiscriminate prescriptions by practitioners all occur in Albuquerque.<sup>26</sup>
- Other Drugs  
The DEA Albuquerque District Office reports that LSD is in short supply and high demand, with a wholesale price of \$250 for 100 dosage units. Law enforcement in Albuquerque report that psilocybin mushrooms are abused in their jurisdiction. Psilocybin mushrooms from California are available in the city for \$900 per pound.<sup>27</sup>

### **Enforcement**

- As of October 31, 2001, there were 1,216 full-time law enforcement employees in Albuquerque, 870 officers and 346 civilians.<sup>28</sup>

### **Trafficking and Seizures**

- Albuquerque's international airport, the Albuquerque International Sunport, is the largest airport in New Mexico.<sup>29</sup>
- Albuquerque is a transshipment point for Mexican heroin destined for the Midwest, the Pacific Northwest, and the Southwest. Because of Albuquerque's proximity to Interstates 25 and 40, heroin traffickers often use locations throughout the city to store heroin for future transit and distribution.<sup>30</sup>
- Law enforcement report that Albuquerque has become a transit area for precursor chemicals destined for out-of-state methamphetamine production.<sup>31</sup>

### **Courts**

- Drug Courts<sup>32</sup>  
As of January 8, 2003, there were 3 drug courts in existence in Albuquerque, all of which have been operating for more than 2 years. There was also one drug court being planned in Albuquerque.

### **Consequences of Use**

- The New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator reported 106 drug-caused deaths in Bernalillo County during 2001.<sup>33</sup> In 2000, there were 115 drug caused deaths in Bernalillo County.<sup>34</sup>

## Sources

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- <sup>4</sup> Albuquerque Police Department Web site: <http://www.cabq.gov/police/index.html>
- <sup>5</sup> Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office Web site: <http://www.bernco.gov/sheriff/index.html>
- <sup>6</sup> Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site, Southwest Border High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area/New Mexico Partnership section: [http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames\\_nmex.html](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_nmex.html)
- <sup>7</sup> Albuquerque Police Department Web site, Crime Free Multi-Housing Program section: <http://www.cabq.gov/police/cfmhp/index.html>
- <sup>8</sup> New Mexico State University, "Pilot 4-H Program Replaces DARE in Two Albuquerque Elementary Schools," April 10, 2001: [http://www.cahe.nmsu.edu/news/2001/041001\\_4h.html](http://www.cahe.nmsu.edu/news/2001/041001_4h.html)
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- <sup>10</sup> Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center Web site, New Mexico section: [http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/new\\_mexico.html](http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/new_mexico.html)
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- <sup>14</sup> Department of Housing and Urban Development, *FY 2001 Federally Assisted Low Income Housing Drug Elimination Grants: Detailed Congressional Report*: <http://www.hud.gov/content/releases/drugelimination.pdf>
- <sup>15</sup> Office of Justice Programs, New Mexico FY 2001 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services Grants: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fy2001grants/map/nm.htm>
- <sup>16</sup> Albuquerque Police Department, Crime Statistics: <http://www.cabq.gov/onlinesvcs/crimestats/index.html>
- <sup>17</sup> Albuquerque Police Department, Part One Crime Summary: [http://www.cabq.gov/police/statistics/part\\_i\\_summary.htm](http://www.cabq.gov/police/statistics/part_i_summary.htm)
- <sup>18</sup> National Institute of Justice, *Drug Use and Related Matters Among Adult Arrestees, 2001*, November 2002: <http://www.adam-nij.net/files/adam2001.PDF>
- <sup>19</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>20</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>21</sup> National Drug Intelligence Center, *New Mexico Drug Threat Assessment*, April 2002: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs/803/803p.pdf>
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.
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- <sup>27</sup> Ibid.
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- <sup>31</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>32</sup> Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, January 8, 2003
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