

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Maine

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.

Maine

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

Demographics

- Population: 1,305,728 (July 2003 Census estimate);¹ 1,259,547 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 96.49% white; 0.42% black/African American; 0.43% American Indian/Alaska Native; 0.8% Asian; 0.02% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.07% other race; 1.06% two or more races; 0.7% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³

Politics

- Governor: John Elias Baldacci⁴
- Attorney General: G. Steven Rowe⁵
- Secretary of State: Dan A. Gwadosky⁶
- U.S. Senate: Olympia Snowe (R); Susan Collins (R)⁷
- U.S. Representatives: Thomas H. Allen (D); Michael Michaud (D)⁸
- Capital: Augusta⁹

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)¹⁰
Designated in 1999, the New England HIDTA is responsible for areas within Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine's Cumberland County.
- Driver Education and Evaluation Program (DEEP)¹¹
DEEP serves as the state's countermeasure for individuals who have had one or more alcohol- and/or drug-related motor vehicle offense. DEEP's programs are designed to provide a therapeutic intervention into the cause of the behavior that resulted in the impaired driving offense in order to prevent future offenses.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Maine:¹²
 - FY 2003:
 - \$100,000 to Regional Medical Center at Lubec Inc., Lubec
 - \$75,000 to Regional Medical Center at Lubec for the Coalition Mentoring Program, Lubec
 - FY 2002: \$99,990 to the Gardiner Area Community Collaborative, Gardiner
 - FY 2001: \$99,704 to the Healthy Community Coalition, Farmington
 - FY 2000: \$100,000 to Community Asset Builders, York
 - FY 1999: \$100,000 to River Coalition, Inc., Old Town
- Office for Weed and Seed¹³
There are 3 sites in Maine that have received official recognition and funding as Federal Weed and Seed sites: Androscoggin, Lincoln County and Sagadahoc.

- FY 2003/2004 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Formula and Discretionary Grant Summary for Maine:¹⁴
 - Formula Funding - \$9,146,202
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$6,671,798
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant - \$1,764,404
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - \$300,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant - \$410,000
 - Discretionary Funding - \$6,304,997
 - Mental Health - \$1,856,634
 - Substance Prevention - \$3,699,997
 - Substance Abuse Treatment - \$748,366
 - Total Mental Health Funds: \$4,331,038
 - Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$11,120,161
 - Total SAMHSA Funds for Maine: \$15,451,199
- FY 2004 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to Maine: \$3,013,969¹⁵
- FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant amounts allocated to Maine:
 - FY 1996: \$127,393¹⁶
 - FY 1997: \$140,877¹⁷
 - FY 1998: \$302,571¹⁸
 - FY 1999: \$295,010¹⁹
 - FY 2000: \$296,067²⁰
 - FY 2001: \$294,651²¹
 - FY 2002: \$324,457²²
 - FY 2003: \$303,434²³
- FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court grant amount awarded to Maine:
 - \$300,000 to the Maine Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services/Office of Substance Abuse for a statewide drug court²⁴
- There were no recipients of the FY 2003 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant in Maine.²⁵
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services total grant amounts received in Maine (by funding category):²⁶
 - Communities (discretionary): \$0.5 million
 - Counter-terrorism (discretionary): \$4.3 million
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: \$1.5 million
 - formula: \$3.2 million
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: \$10.7 million
 - formula: \$2.1 million
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: \$0.1 million
 - formula: \$3.4 million
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: \$0

- formula: \$2.2 million
- Total OJP/COPS funds received in Maine in FY 2002: \$28.1 million
- There were no Maine recipients of the FY 2001 Department of Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.²⁷

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2002, there were 4,877 arrests for drug abuse violations in Maine.²⁸

Number of Arrests, Selected Offenses, Maine, 2001-2002

Offense	2001	2002	% Change
Murder	12	13	8.3%
Forcible rape	115	126	9.6
Robbery	192	170	-11.5
Aggravated assault	531	485	-8.7
Burglary	1,332	1,474	10.7
Larceny-theft	5,589	5,440	-2.7
Motor vehicle theft	415	403	-2.9
Arson	75	68	-9.3
Drug abuse violations	5,000	4,877	-2.5
Driving under the influence	6,845	6,817	-0.4
Liquor law violations	3,477	3,595	3.4
Drunkenness	31	31	--

- There were 1,128 arrests for drug sale/manufacturing in Maine during 2002.²⁹

Number of Drug Arrests, Maine, 2002

Drug Type	Sale/Manufacturing	Possession
Opium, cocaine and derivatives	317	383
Marijuana	611	2,811
Synthetic narcotics	68	232
Other dangerous non-narcotics	132	323
Total	1,128	3,749

- During FY 2002, the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA) made 520 arrests.³⁰

Number of MDEA Arrests, Maine, FY 2002

Drug	# of Arrests
Heroin	109
Diverted pharmaceuticals	90
Cocaine – powdered	99
Cocaine – crack	62
Marijuana	109
MDMA	26
Methamphetamine	3
Total	520

- During 2001, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 80 drug arrests in Maine.³¹

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Maine, 1997-2001

Year	# of Arrests
1997	70
1998	52
1999	84
2000	100
2001	80

- Law enforcement throughout Maine report an increase in the number of thefts and burglaries related to prescription drug abuse.³²

Drugs

➤ Cocaine

Cocaine, both powder and crack, poses a serious threat to Maine. It is readily available in the state's larger cities and towns and is increasingly available in the rural areas. In the first quarter of FY 2003, powder cocaine sold for \$22,000-\$35,000/kilogram, \$900-\$1,600/ounce, and \$50-\$100/gram, with a purity range of 30-80%. Crack cocaine sold for \$1,200-\$3,800/ounce and \$20-\$50/rock during the same time period.³³

➤ Heroin

Heroin, primarily South American, poses a serious threat to Maine. Heroin abusers in the state are typically between 18 and 30 years of age. It is readily available in Maine's southern cities and is increasingly available in rural areas. In the first quarter of FY 2003, heroin sold for \$6,000-\$8,000/ounce, \$250-\$300/gram, and \$35-\$60/bag. Purity levels ranged between 50% and 90% during that time.³⁴

➤ Marijuana

Marijuana is the most widely abused and commonly available illicit drug in Maine. While most of the marijuana available in the state is produced in Mexico, locally produced marijuana and high-grade marijuana from Canada are also available. In the first quarter of FY 2003, commercial-grade marijuana sold for \$1,000-\$1,600/pound, \$125-\$175/ounce, and \$3-\$5/joint. High-grade marijuana sold for \$1,800-\$2,000/pound, \$255-\$500/ounce, and \$2-\$5/joint.³⁵ According to the Maine Office of Substance Abuse, an estimated 95,000 of Maine's approximately 1.2 million adult residents routinely abuse marijuana.³⁶

➤ Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is available in limited quantities in Maine and is considered a low threat. In the first quarter of FY 2003, methamphetamine sold for \$70 to \$300 per gram.³⁷

➤ Club Drugs

The availability and abuse of MDMA and khat pose increasing threats to Maine. In the first quarter of FY 2003, MDMA sold for \$20-\$30/tablet at the retail level. LSD sold for \$3-\$7/dosage unit during that time.³⁸

➤ Diverted Pharmaceuticals

The drug threat posed by diverted pharmaceuticals, primarily OxyContin and Dilaudid, rivals the threat posed by heroin. Law enforcement officials report that methadone diversion and abuse have increased significantly in Maine. Other pharmaceuticals frequently abused in Maine are Percocet, Ritalin, Vicodin, and Xanax. In the first quarter of FY 2003, OxyContin sold for \$1/milligram.³⁹ OxyContin seems to be a gateway for heroin.⁴⁰

- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 35% of Maine citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.⁴¹

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

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	13.98%	26.44%	4.99%	8.38%
Past month use of marijuana	11.12	23.53	4.20	7.13
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	5.73	8.86	1.65	2.89
Past year cocaine use	2.01	4.78	0.84	1.42
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	30.16	16.57	38.63	35.22

- According to 2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1.44% of Maine citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴²

Percent of Citizens Reporting Dependence, Maine, 2001

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	3.41%	4.50%	0.73%	1.44%
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	6.34	7.78	1.16	2.44
Alcohol dependence	3.58	5.38	1.58	2.22
Alcohol dependence or abuse	7.03	14.74	3.47	5.13
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	10.02	19.40	4.39	6.70

Juveniles

- There were 766 total juvenile drug arrests and 489 juvenile arrests for marijuana possession in Maine during 2002.⁴³

Number of Juvenile Drug Arrests, Maine, 2002

Drug Type	Sale/Manufacturing	Possession
Opium, cocaine and derivatives	12	16
Marijuana	126	489
Synthetic narcotics	11	41
Other dangerous non-narcotics	24	47
Total	173	593

- In certain areas of Maine, prescription opiates have become the first drugs abused by young users.⁴⁴
- Nearly 10% of sixth graders surveyed as part of the 2002 *Maine Youth Drug and Alcohol Use Survey* reported using inhalants at least one time during their lives.⁴⁵

Percent of Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Substances, Maine, 2002

Substance	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Alcohol	19.7%	30.5%	44.9%
Marijuana	3.2	8.5	18.3
Cocaine	1.3	2.4	3.9
Heroin	0.9	1.7	2.4
Ecstasy	0.8	2.0	4.3
Hallucinogens	0.9	2.0	3.9
Inhalants	9.7	13.3	15.1
Stimulants	0.8	1.5	3.1
OxyContin	1.0	2.0	3.7
Other prescription	7.8	10.5	14.4
Other illegal drug	2.5	5.6	10.6

- More than 55% of high schools seniors reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetime.⁴⁶

Percent of Students Reporting Lifetime Use of Substances, Maine, 2002

Substance	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Alcohol	57.5%	68.4%	75.4%	79.2%
Marijuana	30.1	42.6	51.4	55.3
Cocaine	4.3	5.8	7.5	8.4
Heroin	2.5	2.7	3.5	3.4
Ecstasy	6.1	8.3	11.0	13.1
Hallucinogens	5.2	7.5	10.7	12.0
Inhalants	12.6	11.7	11.7	10.6
Stimulants	4.2	5.7	8.0	7.2
OxyContin	5.0	7.6	9.6	9.2
Other prescription	18.4	22.8	24.7	24.9
Other illegal drug	15.6	19.7	21.6	20.2

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002, there were 2,927 full-time law enforcement employees in Maine (2,195 officers and 732 civilians).⁴⁷
- Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA)⁴⁸
MDEA is a statewide multi-jurisdictional task force with officers from local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. During 2002, there were 36 law enforcement officers and 5 Maine National Guard officers assigned to MDEA efforts.

Trafficking and Seizures

- Maine's 228 miles of coastline and 3,478 miles of shoreline offer many opportunities for drug smugglers.⁴⁹
- Most of the illicit drugs available in Maine are transported from Lowell and Lawrence, Massachusetts.⁵⁰
- During FY 2002, state and local task forces in Maine seized 3,183 grams of heroin.⁵¹

Drugs Seized by State/Local Task Forces, Maine, FY 2002

Drug	Amount Seized
Heroin	3,183 grams
Diverted pharmaceuticals	5,274 dosage units
Cocaine – powdered	2,250 grams
Cocaine – crack	781 grams
Marijuana	202 kilograms
MDMA	1,879 dosage units
LSD	317 dosage units
Methamphetamine	49 grams

- During 2002, Federal agencies seized 5.8 kilograms of marijuana and 0.7 kilograms of cocaine in Maine.⁵²
- There were 2 methamphetamine lab seizures in Maine during 2002. There were also 2 labs seized in 2001.⁵³
- During 2002, more than 7,000 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated and seized in Maine under the DEA’s Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁵⁴

Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program Statistics, Maine, 2002

Item Seized	Amount Seized
Outdoor plots eradicated	133
Outdoor cultivated plants eradicated	4,815
Indoor grows seized	33
Indoor plants eradicated	2,354
Total Cultivated Plants Eradicated	7,169
Bulk Processed Marijuana Seized	336 pounds
Weapons Seized	76
Value of Assets Seized	\$117,508

Courts

- Drug Courts⁵⁵
As of November 2003, there were sixteen drug courts in existence or being planned in Maine. Seven drug courts had been operating for over two years, 6 had recently been implemented, and 3 were being planned.
- During FY 2001, 34.9% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in Maine committed drug offenses. Thirty-two percent of the Federal drug cases involved marijuana.⁵⁶

Federally-Sentenced Drug Offenders, by Drug Type, Maine, FY 2001

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Marijuana	22	32.4
Powder cocaine	11	16.2
Crack cocaine	19	27.9
Methamphetamine	1	1.5
Heroin	8	11.8
Other	7	10.3

- During 1999, approximately 23% of the state drug-related prosecutions in Maine involved heroin or prescription narcotics. By 2002, this increased to 42%.⁵⁷

Corrections

- On December 31, 2002, there were 1,900 prisoners under the jurisdiction of state or Federal correctional authorities in Maine.⁵⁸
- Differential Substance Abuse Treatment (DSAT)⁵⁹
DSAT is a substance abuse treatment program developed for adults involved in the criminal justice system. In the DSAT program, men and women attend separate treatment groups that target their level of addiction severity.
- Key Maine Therapeutic Community - Transitional Treatment Program (TC-TTP)⁶⁰
Key Maine TC-TTP seeks to enable offenders to gain control over their addiction in the last 18 months of their incarceration and make a successful transition to the community. The TC program lasts for 10 to 12 months, at which time the graduates enter the TTP, which combines work release and drug treatment during the last 6 months of incarceration. Inmates work on reentry planning with TTP staff and are referred to community providers upon release.
- Juvenile Corrections Substance Abuse Treatment Network⁶¹
The Juvenile Corrections Substance Abuse Treatment Network is a coordinated statewide system that provides a centralized screening and referral process to identify juvenile offenders with substance abuse issues.
- Substance abuse treatment services are available in the following Maine juvenile corrections centers: Long Creek Youth Development Center (South Portland) and Mountain View Youth Development Center (Charleston).⁶²
- On December 31, 2002, there were 9,446 adults on probation and 32 adults on parole in Maine.⁶³

Consequences of Use

- From 1997 to 2002, there were 374 drug-related deaths in Maine (the 2002 figures are projected based on half-year numbers). The number of drug deaths have increased substantially in Maine over the past five years, rising from 33 in 1997 to 90 in 2001.⁶⁴

Number of Drug Deaths, Maine, 1997-2002

Year	Accidental	Suicidal	Total
1997	19	14	33
1998	29	25	54
1999	34	32	66
2000	50	10	60
2001	64	26	90
2002 (projected)	106	55	161

- The rise in Maine overdose deaths is mainly due to an increase in accidental overdoses, primarily involving illicit and prescription narcotics in combination with other prescription drugs and alcohol.⁶⁵

- During the first 6 months of 2002, methadone was listed as the cause of death in 18 of Maine's drug deaths during that time period, accounting for 27% of the deaths. During full year 2001, methadone was listed as the cause of death in 14 drug deaths.⁶⁶

Top Ten Drugs Listed as Cause of Death, Maine, 1997-2002*

Drug	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002*
Polydrug	7	22	19	12	17	10
Methadone	4	4	7	19	14	18
Ethanol	7	7	11	6	15	11
Morphine/heroin	6	12	9	10	23	13
Oxycodone	0	3	7	2	5	9
Amitriptyline	5	4	5	2	5	3
Cocaine	3	6	2	2	5	2
Propoxyphene	3	5	2	1	4	1
Fentanyl	1	1	4	3	6	3
Diazepam	6	3	0	0	0	3
Hydrocodone	1	3	0	3	3	1

* 2002 data are only for the first 6 months of the year.

- Most of the individuals in Maine who died from methadone toxicity were not involved in methadone maintenance programs.⁶⁷

Treatment

- During 2003, there were 12,381 admissions to substance abuse treatment in Maine.⁶⁸

Treatment Admissions, by Primary Substance of Abuse, Maine, 2003

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Alcohol only	4,897	39.6%
Alcohol with secondary drug	2,561	20.7
Cocaine (smoked)	269	2.2
Cocaine (other route)	283	2.3
Marijuana	1,623	13.1
Heroin	1,007	8.1
Other opiates	1,488	12.0
PCP	4	0.0
Hallucinogens	19	0.2
Amphetamines	45	0.4
Other stimulants	10	0.1
Tranquilizers	106	0.9
Sedatives	20	0.2
Inhalants	3	0.0
Other/unknown	46	0.4
Total	12,381	100.0

- In the first half of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2003, there were 6,708 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in Maine. During all of SFY 2002, there were 12,307 treatment admissions.⁶⁹

Number of Admissions to Treatment, by Primary Problem, Maine, SFY 1999-2003

Substance	SFY 1999	SFY 2000	SFY 2001	SFY 2002	First Half SFY 2003
Affected other	860	584	614	799	497
Alcohol	7,125	7,240	7,359	7,449	3,933
Barbiturates	20	15	11	11	9
Benzodiazepines	56	53	60	74	30
Cocaine	233	255	276	297	209
Heroin	298	396	507	816	462
Inhalants	5	4	5	4	2
Marijuana	1,272	1,251	1,462	1,596	937
Methamphetamine	23	30	17	20	12
Non-Rx methadone	20	16	12	26	14
Other opiates/synthetics	357	571	760	1,030	526
Other amphetamines	12	11	19	16	11
Other stimulants	11	6	13	12	4
Other hallucinogens	28	28	43	52	20
Other sedatives/hypn.	14	19	19	10	4
Other tranquilizers	13	8	9	5	5
Over-the-counter	6	3	10	7	2
PCP	3	1	3	5	2
Other/none reported	26	45	84	78	30
Total admissions	10,382	10,536	11,283	12,307	6,708

- Until spring 2001, there were only two methadone clinics in Maine. An increased need for services led to the licensure of two additional methadone programs.⁷⁰
- Substance Abuse Treatment Network for Adolescents⁷¹
Modeled after the successful Juvenile Corrections Substance Abuse Treatment Network, the Substance Abuse Treatment Network for Adolescents began in June 2002 to provide services to adolescents outside the juvenile corrections system.

Sources

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The Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse
PO Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000
1-800-666-3332
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov>
ondcp@ncjrs.org

