

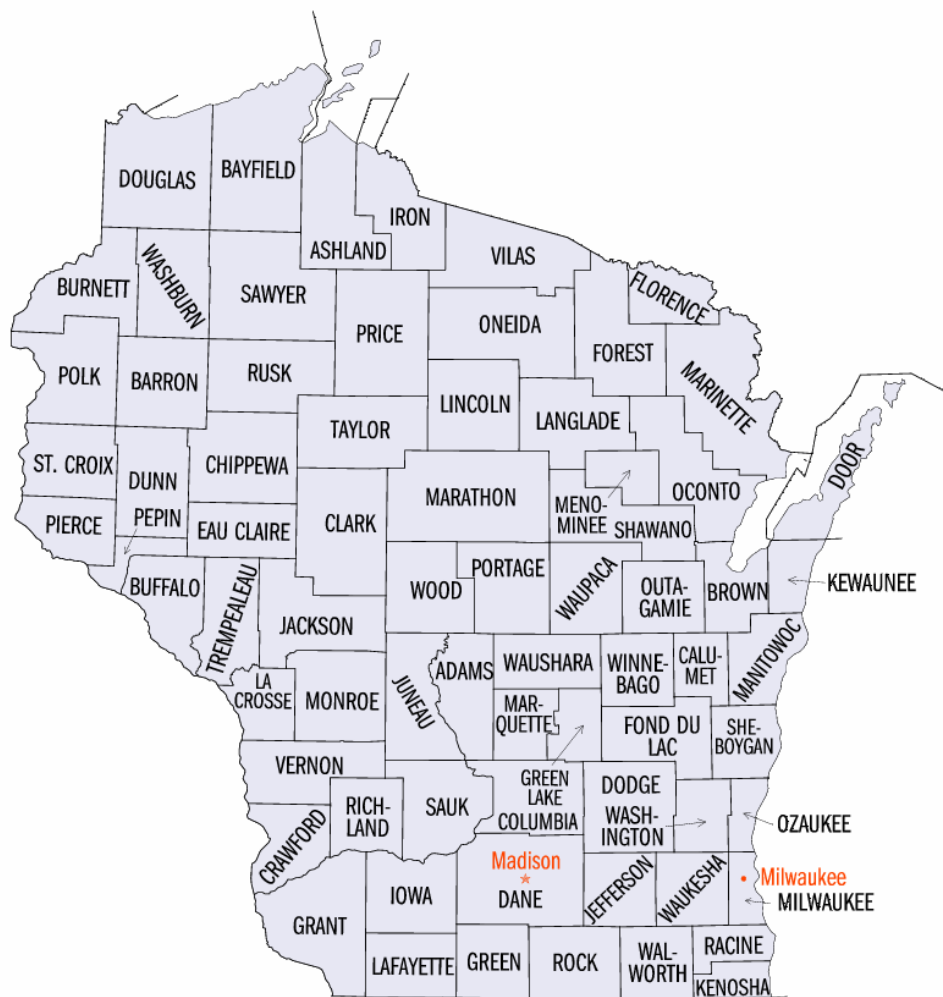
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### Milwaukee, Wisconsin

#### 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.

## Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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

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

- Population (2002 American Community Survey): 573,445
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 43.64% white; 38.46% black/African American; 0.6% American Indian/Alaskan Native; 2.3% Asian; 0.04% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.12% some other race; 1.91% two or more races; 12.93% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)
- The city of Milwaukee is located in Milwaukee County.

### **Politics**

- Mayor: Tom Barrett<sup>2</sup>
- Common Council (Districts 1-15, respectively): Ashanti Hamilton, Joe Davis, Sr., Michael S. D'Amato, Robert Bauman, James A. Bohl, Jr., Michael McGee, Jr., Willie Wade, Robert G. Donovan, Robert Puente, Michael Murphy, Joe Dudzik, James Witkowiak, Terry L. Witkowski, Tony Zielinski, Willie Hines, Jr.<sup>3</sup>
- Chief of Police: Nannette H. Hegerty<sup>4</sup>
- Milwaukee County Sheriff: David A. Clarke, Jr.<sup>5</sup>

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)<sup>6</sup>  
Designated in 1998, the Milwaukee HIDTA is responsible for Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha County.
- IMPACT Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services<sup>7</sup>  
IMPACT provides innovative services to raise awareness, prevent alcohol and other drug abuse, and help people seeking information or assistance.
- Community Safety Coalition, Milwaukee Police Department<sup>8</sup>  
Since April 2000, this coalition brings together law enforcement, the faith-based community, and community-based organizations in fighting and reducing crime.
- Landlord Training Program, Department of Neighborhood Services<sup>9</sup>  
The goal of this program is to teach landlords fundamental ways to keep illegal activity out of their property.

### **Federal Funding**

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Milwaukee: <sup>10</sup>
  - FY 2003:
    - \$99,725 was awarded to Medical College of Wisconsin
    - \$99,664 was awarded to Impact Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, Inc.
  - FY 2002: no grantees
  - FY 2001: \$100,000 was awarded to the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee/Parklawn Community Partnership.
  - FY 2000: no grantees
  - FY 1999: no grantees

- FY 2003 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Discretionary Funds received in Milwaukee:<sup>11</sup>
  - Center for Mental Health Services: \$459,610
  - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention: \$360,924
  - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment: \$2,403,663
- Office of Weed and Seed<sup>12</sup>

There are three Weed and Seed sites in Milwaukee: Northside (CSP), Southside, and United South.
- Milwaukee did not receive any funding through the FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant.<sup>13</sup>
- There were no Milwaukee recipients of the FY 2003 Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant.<sup>14</sup>
- FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Low Income Housing Drug Elimination Grant funds received in Milwaukee:<sup>15</sup>
  - \$125,000 to Walnut Park Apartments
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received by Milwaukee recipients:<sup>16</sup>
  - Community Based (discretionary): 4 awards valued at \$1,325,500
  - Counter Terrorism (discretionary): 0 awards
  - Juvenile Justice:
    - discretionary: 6 awards valued at \$2,474,073
    - formula: 0 awards
  - Law Enforcement:
    - discretionary: 7 awards valued at \$8,087,286
    - formula: 3 awards valued at \$1,628,562
  - Substance Abuse: 0 awards
  - Victims: 0 awards

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

- According to preliminary data, there were 25,526 larceny-theft offenses reported to law enforcement in Milwaukee during 2003.<sup>17</sup>

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Milwaukee, 2002-2003

| Offense Type        | 2002   | 2003   |
|---------------------|--------|--------|
| Murder              | 111    | 109    |
| Forcible rape       | 326    | 246    |
| Robbery             | 3,197  | 2,868  |
| Aggravated assault  | 2,148  | 2,066  |
| Burglary            | 6,922  | 6,041  |
| Larceny-theft       | 26,424 | 25,526 |
| Motor vehicle theft | 7,187  | 6,231  |
| Arson               | 382    | 341    |

- According to the Milwaukee Police Department, 5,141 persons were arrested for drug offenses during 2002.<sup>18</sup>

- During 2002, there were 2,400 arrests for possession of drugs in Milwaukee, with marijuana representing the majority of possession arrests. There were 2,740 arrests for selling drugs, which included cocaine and opiates such as heroin.<sup>19</sup>
- In 2001, there were 3,398 adult narcotic/drug arrests in Milwaukee.<sup>20</sup> This number increased to 4,323 during 2002.<sup>21</sup>

Number of Adult Arrests, Milwaukee, 2001-2002

| Offense             | 2001  | 2002  |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Murder              | 149   | 186   |
| Manslaughter        | 7     | 7     |
| Forcible rape       | 127   | 126   |
| Robbery             | 552   | 597   |
| Aggravated assault  | 1,216 | 3,442 |
| Burglary            | 428   | 483   |
| Theft               | 4,576 | 4,601 |
| Vehicle theft       | 36    | 78    |
| Arson               | 47    | 34    |
| Narcotics/drugs     | 3,398 | 4,323 |
| Driving intoxicated | 1,578 | 1,367 |
| Liquor offenses     | 1,303 | 1,262 |

### Drugs

- Cocaine  
Cocaine abuse and availability are high in Milwaukee with purity levels at 80% or higher.<sup>22</sup>
- Heroin  
Heroin abuse, availability, and purity levels have increased in Milwaukee.<sup>23</sup> The availability of brown heroin remains low, and black tar heroin is rare in Milwaukee.<sup>24</sup> South American and Southeast Asian heroin are the most prevalent forms available in Milwaukee. Heroin purity levels average 60%. In the first quarter of FY 2002, heroin sold for \$100-\$300/gram and \$2,000-\$4,000/ounce.<sup>25</sup> There is very little cross over between heroin and OxyContin users in Milwaukee.<sup>26</sup>
- Marijuana<sup>27</sup>  
Marijuana is high in availability and increasing in abuse in Milwaukee.
- Methamphetamine<sup>28</sup>  
Methamphetamine availability is described as “medium,” although abuse is increasing.
- Other Dangerous Drugs  
Depressants are low in availability and decreasing in abuse. LSD is low in availability and increasing in abuse. Most MDMA users are Caucasian in their late teens and early twenties who frequently visit the East Side of Milwaukee. This area is described as the “1960 retro area” and is known for its LSD activity.<sup>29</sup> During the first quarter of FY 2002, a dose of LSD sold for \$2-\$4.<sup>30</sup>
- According to an inner city hospital in Milwaukee, approximately one-third of its patients test positive for drugs. Of these patients, those most often testing positive for

cocaine use are African American and those most often testing positive for heroin use are Caucasian.<sup>31</sup>

- According to a survey conducted at Milwaukee’s Mount Sinai Medical Center, 1 in 6 women giving birth used drugs, usually cocaine, compared with a national average of 1 in 20.<sup>32</sup>

### Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002, there were 2,425 full time law enforcement employees working in Milwaukee (1,977 officers and 448 civilians).<sup>33</sup>
- Milwaukee Police Department, Drug Abatement Program<sup>34</sup>  
This program works to educate the community to be able to identify and report possible drug houses anonymously.

### Juveniles

- During 2003, 52.2% of Milwaukee high school students surveyed reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetime.<sup>35</sup>

Percent of High School Students Using Drugs, Milwaukee, 2003

|                                     | Female | Male  | Total |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Lifetime marijuana use              | 48.6%  | 56.1% | 52.2% |
| Current marijuana use               | 24.7   | 32.9  | 28.7  |
| Lifetime cocaine use                | 4.2    | 8.5   | 6.4   |
| Current cocaine use                 | 2.2    | 5.4   | 3.8   |
| Lifetime inhalant use               | 4.4    | 7.5   | 5.9   |
| Current inhalant use                | 1.3    | 3.5   | 2.4   |
| Tried marijuana before age 13 years | 8.5    | 20.5  | 14.4  |

- More than 60% of Milwaukee high school seniors surveyed in 2003 reported lifetime marijuana use.<sup>36</sup>

Percent of High School Students Using Drugs, by Grade, Milwaukee, 2003

|                                     | 9th   | 10th  | 11th  | 12th  |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Lifetime marijuana use              | 47.7% | 48.8% | 58.8% | 60.3% |
| Current marijuana use               | 26.8  | 27.3  | 30.6  | 32.5  |
| Lifetime cocaine use                | 3.6   | 4.7   | 8.9   | 11.9  |
| Current cocaine use                 | 2.6   | 3.3   | 4.6   | 6.3   |
| Lifetime inhalant use               | 5.9   | 5.9   | 5.7   | 6.1   |
| Current inhalant use                | 2.5   | 1.9   | 2.6   | 3.1   |
| Tried marijuana before age 13 years | 14.2  | 14.6  | 14.0  | 14.7  |

- In 2001, there were 757 juvenile narcotic/drug arrests in Milwaukee.<sup>37</sup> This number increased to 818 during 2002.<sup>38</sup>

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Milwaukee, 2001-2002

| Offense             | 2001  | 2002  |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Murder              | 62    | 102   |
| Manslaughter        | 1     | 0     |
| Forcible rape       | 49    | 51    |
| Robbery             | 306   | 346   |
| Aggravated assault  | 240   | 426   |
| Burglary            | 326   | 294   |
| Theft               | 1,663 | 1,881 |
| Vehicle theft       | 50    | 40    |
| Arson               | 29    | 19    |
| Narcotics/drugs     | 757   | 818   |
| Driving intoxicated | 11    | 16    |
| Liquor offenses     | 274   | 242   |

**Trafficking and Seizures**

- The Port of Milwaukee receives cargo from France, Germany, the Netherlands (major source of MDMA), and Great Britain.<sup>39</sup>
- Mexican drug trafficking organizations transport large shipments of cocaine from the Southwest Border to Milwaukee, concealing the drug in tractor-trailers within shipments of legitimate goods.<sup>40</sup>
- Powdered cocaine typically is transported into the Milwaukee area in ounce and multi-kilogram quantities. Most cocaine is converted into crack cocaine, which is then retailed in one-eighth to one-ounce packets.<sup>41</sup>
- According to the Milwaukee HIDTA, an influx in the number of independent trafficking operations in Milwaukee are the result of a rise in crack cocaine availability, thereby flooding the market and dropping ounce-quantity prices.<sup>42</sup>
- Asian gangs (Asian Crips and Oriental Ruthless Boys) and Hispanic gangs are increasing their levels of violence due to turf and drug issues.<sup>43</sup>
- African American and other independent gangs convert 80% of the powder cocaine that is transported to the area into crack. This process usually takes place in the gang members' homes or local stash houses.<sup>44</sup>
- Dominican wholesalers and the Puerto Rican prison gang Neta formed a partnership and collectively have become a major threat to the Milwaukee area because of the group's close ties to Colombian Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) and distributors operating from New York and the Dominican Republic.<sup>45</sup>
- Outlaw motorcycle clubs have an extensive cocaine distribution network throughout the Milwaukee area.<sup>46</sup>
- Marijuana is transported in tractor-trailers and often mixed with legitimate cargo. Jamaican criminal groups transport marijuana. Mexican DTOs also have strong affiliations with Milwaukee street gangs and supply them with marijuana for retail distribution.<sup>47</sup>
- Nigerian criminal groups primarily distribute Southeast Asian heroin, whereas Dominican groups dominate the South American heroin distribution. Milwaukee is a major destination for heroin in the state and a transshipment point for various types of

heroin destined for other cities in the state. Milwaukee police report that 90% of the heroin seized is white heroin and is usually in street level amounts.<sup>48</sup>

- MDMA retail operations are centered on the East Side of Milwaukee and take place at rave parties and clubs. In August 2000, 1,418 tablets were seized, compared to the 5 MDMA tablet seizures in 1999.<sup>49</sup>
- In February 2002, one GHB lab was seized in the Milwaukee area.<sup>50</sup>
- According to the Milwaukee HIDTA, in 2001:<sup>51</sup>
  - 105 kilograms of cocaine were seized;
  - 592 kilograms of marijuana were seized; and
  - 3 kilograms of heroin were seized.

### **Courts**

- Drug Court<sup>52</sup>  
As of November 2003, there was 1 drug court being planned in Milwaukee. No drug courts were in existence at that time.
- According to the Milwaukee Municipal Court, there were 816 charges of marijuana possession filed during 2003.<sup>53</sup> From January to March 31, 2004, there were 204 charges of marijuana possession filed in the Court.<sup>54</sup>

Number of Drug-Related Court Cases, Milwaukee, 2003-March 31, 2004

| <b>Type of Cases</b>                     | <b>Full Year 2003</b> | <b>Jan.-March 31, 2004</b> |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Loitering-illegal drug activity          | 1,281                 | 166                        |
| Delivery of drug paraphernalia to minor  | 3                     | 1                          |
| Possession of marijuana                  | 816                   | 204                        |
| Possession or sale of drug paraphernalia | 5                     | 1                          |

### **Corrections**

- During 2002, there were 67,530 admissions to Milwaukee County jails and an average daily population of 3,441.<sup>55</sup>

### **Treatment**

- According to the Milwaukee HIDTA, OxyContin is the most rapidly emerging drug problem in the area based on four discussions with Milwaukee area methadone treatment programs. Unofficial estimates show that over 45% of new methadone treatment subscribers in Milwaukee are addicted to OxyContin and other oxycodone type drugs.<sup>56</sup>

### **Consequences of Use**

- During 2001, there were 4,337 injection drug users and 2,394 AIDS cases in Milwaukee County.<sup>57</sup>
- During 2002, there were 132 drug-related deaths reported to the Drug Abuse Warning Network by Medical Examiners (ME) in Milwaukee County. Cocaine was mentioned in 69 of the Milwaukee County drug deaths in 2002.<sup>58</sup>

Number of ME Drug Mentions, Selected Drugs, Milwaukee County, 2000-2002

| Selected Drugs         | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Alcohol-in-combination | 46   | 36   | 33   |
| Cocaine                | 63   | 69   | 69   |
| Heroin/morphine        | 23   | 22   | 29   |
| Marijuana              | 5    | 2    | 2    |
| Amphetamines           | --   | 2    | --   |
| Methamphetamine        | --   | 1    | --   |
| Club drugs             | --   | 2    | 3    |
| Hallucinogens          | --   | --   | --   |
| Inhalants              | --   | --   | --   |
| Narcotic analgesics    | 60   | 45   | 79   |
| Other analgesics       | 16   | 11   | 17   |
| Benzodiazepines        | 28   | 27   | 40   |
| Antidepressants        | 30   | 23   | 28   |
| All other substances   | 47   | 38   | 19   |
| Total drug deaths      | 110  | 123  | 132  |
| Total drug mentions    | 318  | 278  | 319  |

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This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues contact:

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