



The 2006 Synthetic Drug Control Strategy

President Bush is committed to protecting American citizens from the scourge of synthetic drugs such as methamphetamine and the abuse of prescription drugs. The newly-released *Synthetic Drug Control Strategy* lays out a balanced strategy for reducing these threats and outlines progress that has already been achieved at the Federal, State, and local levels.

Pushing Back: A Record of Success

- ✓ Overall youth drug use has declined by nearly 20 percent since 2001. This translates into 700,000 fewer young people using drugs today than just four years ago
- ✓ Methamphetamine use among young people has declined more than 30 percent since 2001
- ✓ Domestic methamphetamine laboratory incidents have taken a sharp downturn due largely to state efforts

The Road Ahead: Setting Targets for Progress

- ✓ The *Synthetic Drug Control Strategy* seeks to reduce the threats of synthetic drugs by focusing on reducing both the supply and demand for synthetic drugs
- ✓ The *Synthetics Strategy* sets a path toward reducing past-month methamphetamine use by 15 percent over three years and past-month prescription drug abuse by 15 percent over three years
- ✓ The *Synthetics Strategy* also sets a goal of reducing the seizures of domestic methamphetamine labs by 25 percent over the next three years

Strengthening International Cooperation

- ✓ The *Synthetics Strategy* sets forth a plan to tighten the international market for the ingredients used to make methamphetamine (including pseudoephedrine, ephedrine, and P2P) by strengthening existing, and negotiating new, chemical control agreements
- ✓ The Combat Meth Act, already signed into law by President Bush, requires the State Department to identify the largest importers and exporters of these meth precursors and to certify their cooperation with the United States in the area of precursor control
- ✓ Outlines DEA cooperation with Mexico, China, Thailand, and India to further limit the illegal smuggling and diversion of precursor chemicals

A Strong Domestic Response

- ✓ Lays out plans for increasing the capacity of drug treatment programs for meth and prescription drug addicts and increases enforcement actions against drug traffickers
- ✓ Outlines efforts to begin working with pharmaceutical manufacturers and retailers to encourage them to monitor and reduce the diversion of prescription drugs and the raw ingredients for the production of meth
- ✓ Builds on \$1 million anti-meth ad campaign by examining other drug prevention programs to help high-risk communities integrate effective public-health messaging into their synthetic drug prevention efforts

Percent Using Methamphetamine

