



Midwest

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Drug Market Analysis

May 2007

U.S. Department of Justice

Preface

This assessment provides a strategic overview of the illicit drug situation in the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), highlighting significant trends and law enforcement concerns relating to the trafficking and abuse of illicit drugs. The report was prepared through detailed analysis of recent law enforcement

reporting, information obtained through interviews with law enforcement and public health officials, and available statistical data. The report is designed to provide policymakers, resource planners, and law enforcement officials with a focused discussion of key drug issues and developments facing the Midwest HIDTA.

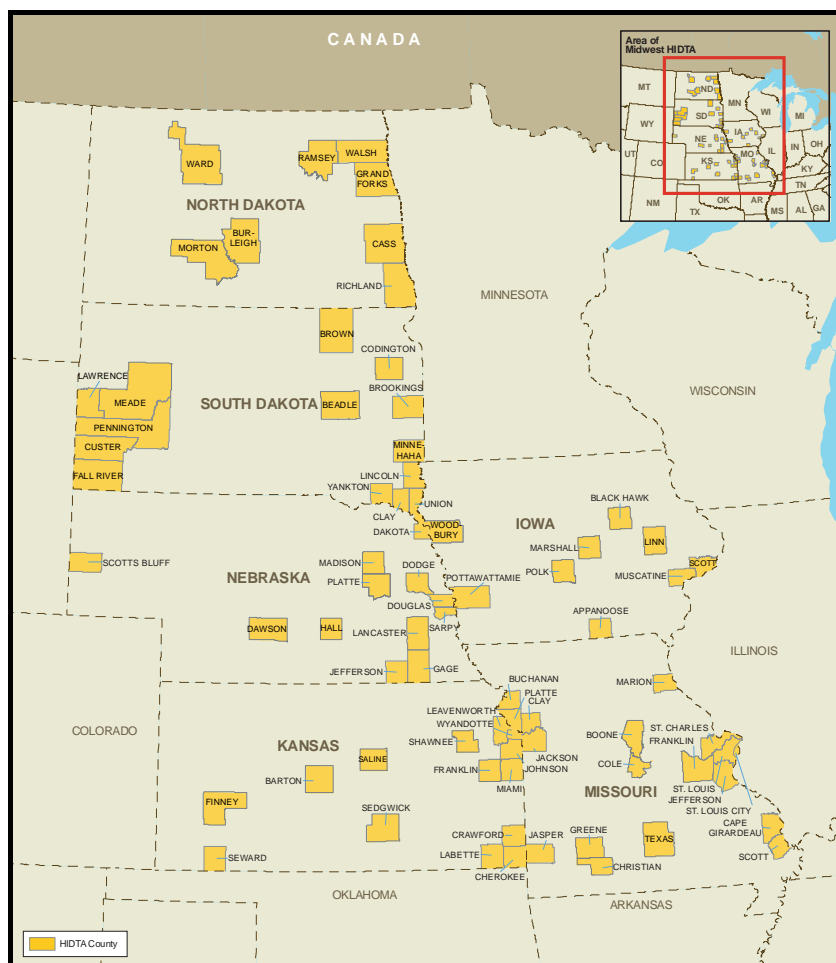


Figure 1. Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

This assessment is an outgrowth of a partnership between the NDIC and HIDTA Program for preparation of annual assessments depicting drug trafficking trends and developments in HIDTA Program areas. The report has been vetted with the HIDTA, is limited in scope to HIDTA jurisdictional boundaries, and draws upon a wide variety of sources within those boundaries.

Strategic Drug Threat Developments

- Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) are now expanding their transportation and distribution networks in eastern Missouri, particularly in the St. Louis metropolitan area, an area within the HIDTA where they had previously maintained minimal presence.
- An increasing Mexican population within the area has facilitated the control that Mexican DTOs maintain over drug trafficking and has enabled them to use small communities in the Midwest HIDTA region with large Hispanic populations—such as Dodge City, Garden City, Great Bend, and Liberal, Kansas; Joplin, Monett, and southwestern Missouri; and Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington, and Norfolk, Nebraska—as transit hubs for larger markets.
- State pseudoephedrine control laws together with law enforcement and public awareness programs have contributed to reduced domestic methamphetamine production since mid-2005. Some local methamphetamine production continues, however, placing citizens and law enforcement at risk.
- Local methamphetamine producers are exploiting the region’s lack of centralized reporting on pseudoephedrine purchases by buying pseudoephedrine in quantities at or below state thresholds from multiple pharmacies until they obtain enough to produce methamphetamine.
- Powder cocaine is becoming increasingly available in several Midwest HIDTA markets. Traditional crack cocaine distributors in some areas are now selling powder cocaine to users with instructions on how users can convert the powder into crack. The distributor can therefore avoid stiffer penalties associated with crack distribution. Also, several local law enforcement agencies report that teenagers and young adults are increasingly abusing powder cocaine.

Drug Trafficking Organizations, Criminal Groups, and Gangs

Drug trafficking organizations are complex organizations with highly defined command-and-control structures that produce, transport, and/or distribute large quantities of one or more illicit drugs.

Criminal groups operating in the United States are numerous and range from small to moderately sized, loosely knit groups that distribute one or more drugs at the retail and midlevels.

Gangs are defined by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators’ Associations as groups or associations of three or more persons with a common identifying sign, symbol, or name, the members of which individually or collectively engage in criminal activity that creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

- The distribution of white heroin in St. Louis is increasing; the level of white heroin distribution in the city is now equivalent to that of Mexican black tar heroin. Most white heroin samples have tested as South American heroin; some have tested as Southwest Asian.
- Kansas City and St. Louis have emerged as significant transshipment centers for cocaine, Mexican ice methamphetamine, and marijuana smuggled by Mexican DTOs to primary drug markets in the Northeast Region, including New York.

HIDTA Overview

The Midwest HIDTA region consists of 74 counties spread across six states.¹ (See Figure 1 on page 1.) The Midwest HIDTA counties are located in the central United States between western and eastern drug markets; they are connected by an extensive transportation infrastructure that renders the HIDTA a significant transshipment area for drug traffickers. Most major interstate highways in the northern United States pass through and intersect in the Midwest HIDTA region, facilitating the transportation of illicit drugs from the U.S.–Mexico (Southwest) border and, to a lesser extent, from the

1. The six states are Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

U.S.–Canada (Northern) border to drug markets throughout the United States. The region’s primary markets² (Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Louis) and secondary markets (Cedar Rapids and Des Moines, Iowa; Fargo/Grand Forks, North Dakota; Sioux City, Iowa/Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Springfield, Missouri; and Wichita, Kansas) serve as distribution centers for major U.S. drug markets as well as smaller rural counties in the HIDTA. The increasing distribution of Mexican ice methamphetamine and the widespread abuse of crack cocaine and associated violence are the primary drug threats in these market areas.

Most illicit drugs used in and transported through the Midwest HIDTA region enter the United States from the Southwest Border. Mexican DTOs transport substantial quantities of ice methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana, and heroin across the Southwest Border to distribution hubs in Arizona (Tucson and Phoenix), California (Los Angeles), and Texas (Dallas, McAllen, and El Paso). The drug shipments are usually commingled with legitimate goods in tractor-trailers and transported along interstate highways to and through the Midwest HIDTA region. Mexican traffickers also use private and rental vehicles and virtually all U.S. highways, state highways, and local roads to transport drugs from the Southwest Border into and through the HIDTA region.

The Midwest HIDTA region’s border with Canada is also an entry point for drugs available in the area. North Dakota and Canada share a 300-mile-long border with 18 official land ports of entry (POEs). (See Figure 2 on page 7.) These POEs, along with a number of unofficial crossing points in the rural and isolated areas between POEs, provide drug smugglers with the opportunity to transport Canadian marijuana, MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine, also known as ecstasy), and methamphetamine precursors such as pseudoephedrine into and through the HIDTA region.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups control the transportation and wholesale distribution of methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana in the area. Members of Mexican DTOs and criminal groups have hidden themselves within growing Mexican communities in suburban and urban areas in an attempt to avoid law enforcement detection and to expand their drug distribution networks. African American and, to a lesser extent, Hispanic street gangs control retail drug distribution in the Midwest HIDTA metropolitan areas and contribute to violent crime in those areas (see Table 1 on page 17). Local independent dealers are the principal retail distributors in the Midwest HIDTA rural areas.

Drug Threat Overview

Methamphetamine abuse and distribution are escalating in the Midwest HIDTA region, straining limited local law enforcement, public health, and social services resources in many areas, particularly in rural counties, according to state and local officials. State methamphetamine precursor control legislation, as well as law enforcement and public awareness programs, have reduced the number of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories in the region. Mexican DTOs and criminal groups, however, have flooded the market with high-quality Mexican ice methamphetamine to meet the demand created by decreased local methamphetamine production. These trafficking organizations distribute multikilogram quantities of ice methamphetamine from distribution centers in Kansas City, St. Louis, and Springfield, Missouri; Kansas City and Wichita, Kansas; Omaha and Grand Island, Nebraska; and Sioux City, Iowa, to the area’s consumer markets.

Crack cocaine distribution and abuse are pervasive in urban areas of the HIDTA region. Mexican DTOs supply local African American street gangs with powder cocaine that they convert to crack in the area; these gangs control retail distribution of the crack that they manufacture. Additionally, African American street gangs based in Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; and Minneapolis,

2. Primary markets serve as significant transshipment and distribution centers for illicit drugs supplied to markets in multiple regions of the country. Secondary markets supply illicit drugs to smaller markets within a state or neighboring states.

Minnesota, transport large quantities of powder cocaine, crack cocaine, and other illicit drugs to Midwest HIDTA markets in Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Street gangs and other crack distributors commonly commit violent, drug-related crimes including assaults, drive-by shootings, and robberies to protect and expand their drug operations.

Various other illicit drugs are available and abused in the Midwest HIDTA. Mexican commercial-grade marijuana is the most widely available and abused illicit drug throughout the HIDTA region. Locally produced marijuana is also available, as is high-quality hydroponic marijuana produced in Canada; however, most marijuana produced in Canada transits the region en route to other U.S. markets. Heroin availability and abuse are mostly limited to the St. Louis area, where distribution and abuse of white heroin is increasing. Diverted pharmaceuticals, MDMA, and other dangerous drugs (ODDs) pose a lesser threat and are available and abused to varying degrees.

Drug Trafficking Organizations

Mexican DTOs are the Midwest HIDTA's greatest organizational threat. They are expanding their influence and control over midwestern drug markets, particularly by coordinating most of the ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana shipments from the Southwest Border to the Midwest HIDTA region. Mexican DTOs are the primary wholesale distributors of illicit drugs in the HIDTA's major drug markets in Kansas City and Omaha and have increased their presence and influence in eastern Missouri, including the St. Louis metropolitan area.³ Mexican DTOs have taken advantage of decreased domestic methamphetamine production caused by state pseudoephedrine control legislation

to increase distribution of ice methamphetamine in the HIDTA region. As much as 70 percent of the available methamphetamine in some areas is now high-quality Mexican ice methamphetamine.

Mexican DTOs are attempting to shield themselves from law enforcement detection within the growing Hispanic communities in the area. Mexican and Central American immigrants are relocating to midwestern cities seeking employment in manpower-intensive industries, particularly poultry processing and meatpacking facilities in rural communities in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. These Mexican traffickers are operating their trafficking networks by blending in with local residents and avoiding law enforcement scrutiny. They often use meatpacking towns such as Dodge City, Great Bend, Garden City, and Liberal, Kansas; Joplin and Monett, Missouri; and Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington, and Norfolk, Nebraska, as transshipment hubs and secondary markets for drug distribution. Compounding this problem, local law enforcement officials often lack the ability to communicate fluently in Spanish and the resources necessary to penetrate these trafficking organizations.

African American and Hispanic street gangs control much of the retail and midlevel distribution of illicit drugs throughout the HIDTA region. African American gangs, which often emulate Bloods and Crips sets, dominate crack cocaine distribution and distribute multipound quantities of marijuana in urban markets such as Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Springfield, and Wichita. Hispanic gangs, predominantly Sureños⁴ factions such as Florencia 13 (F 13), distribute marijuana and methamphetamine in markets such as Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Wichita, and Cedar Rapids. Hispanic gangs also distribute wholesale quantities of marijuana.

3. African American criminal groups historically controlled most of the wholesale and retail drug distribution in St. Louis; however, Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) are increasingly distributing drugs at the wholesale level in the city.

4. Sureños and Norteños are affiliations of Hispanic street gangs that initially were formed in the California Department of Corrections by members who wanted to join together to protect themselves from incarcerated street gang members from other areas. Hispanic street gangs in southern California (Bakersfield and points south) were known as Sureños street gangs, while those from central and northern California (north of Bakersfield) were known as Norteños street gangs. Hispanic street gangs operating in the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) typically claim Sureños affiliation but often are not connected to gangs in southern California.

Many African American street gangs operating within the HIDTA are local and have limited connections to national-level gangs or DTOs. It is often difficult to classify gang members or affiliate them with one specific gang, and turf boundaries are not clearly defined. Despite the local nature of the street gangs operating in the HIDTA region, Chicago-based African American street gangs such as Gangster Disciples, Black Peace Stone Nation, and Vice Lords are present in the region and distribute crack and other illicit drugs in several market areas, including Cedar Rapids, Fargo, Omaha, Sioux City, and Sioux Falls. However, members of these gangs typically travel to the area from Chicago, Minneapolis, and other markets in order to distribute crack cocaine and then return home. Various outlaw motorcycle gangs (OMGs), including El Forastero, Galloping Goose, and Sons of Silence, distribute limited quantities of methamphetamine and marijuana throughout the HIDTA.

Production

Illicit drug production in the Midwest HIDTA generally entails methamphetamine production, crack cocaine conversion, and cannabis cultivation. Caucasian criminal groups and independent manufacturers are the primary producers of methamphetamine and marijuana, while African American criminal groups and street gangs dominate crack cocaine conversion.

Legislation controlling the sale of pseudoephedrine and other methamphetamine precursor chemicals as well as law enforcement and public awareness programs has reduced the number of clandestine laboratories operating in the HIDTA region. State precursor control laws have limited access to pseudoephedrine in Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri by listing it as a Schedule V controlled substance. Additionally, some HIDTA states have enacted quantity restrictions, storage restrictions, and requirements for pharmacies to maintain logbooks of pseudoephedrine purchases (see [Table 2 on page 17](#)). Aggregate methamphetamine

laboratory seizures in the Midwest HIDTA states decreased 72 percent between 2004 and 2006, from 5,344 seizures to 1,485 seizures.⁵ (See [Figure 5 on page 18](#).) Moreover, law enforcement programs and public awareness campaigns have alerted an increasing number of citizens about the impact that clandestine methamphetamine laboratories have on emergency responders, children, and the environment; this has resulted in an increased number of tips to law enforcement as to laboratory activity and a corresponding decrease in methamphetamine production.

Although precursor control legislation has reduced methamphetamine producers' access to precursor chemicals, weaknesses exist in the laws. None of the Midwest HIDTA states have a centralized database for pharmacies to record sales of precursors such as pseudoephedrine. Instead, each pharmacy maintains its own independent logbook that must be manually compared to the logbooks of thousands of other pharmacies in the area. For example, in Kansas, law enforcement officials must visit each pharmacy and manually gather logbook information—a time-intensive practice. Methamphetamine producers exploit this systematic weakness by making multiple purchases of pseudoephedrine at or below the legal limit from various locations, sometimes within numerous jurisdictions (a practice known as smurfing). Laboratory operators in these locations often make “pill runs” into neighboring states to purchase large amounts of precursor chemicals and return to Missouri to produce the drug.

While domestic methamphetamine production has decreased in the Midwest HIDTA, clandestine production continues to represent a threat. Law enforcement agencies seized more clandestine methamphetamine laboratories in Missouri than in any other state in 2006, with 1,030 reported laboratory seizures. Most methamphetamine laboratories seized in Missouri were discovered in the state's southwestern counties and in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

5. These data include all methamphetamine laboratories, dumpsites, and chemicals, glassware, and equipment seized by federal, state, and local authorities and reported to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC).

Alternative Methods of Obtaining Pseudoephedrine

Methamphetamine precursor control legislation has forced local methamphetamine cooks to seek alternative sources of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine to produce methamphetamine. According to laboratory analysis, methamphetamine cooks in St. Charles County, Missouri, have attempted to use liquid gelatin capsules or syrups containing pseudoephedrine products as a source for the precursor. Laboratory evidence indicates that the extraction of pseudoephedrine from liquid gelatin capsules is difficult, and pseudoephedrine yields from gel and liquid extractions tend to be low. Some cooks have mistakenly tried to use products containing phenylephrine as precursors; however, these products do not contain pseudoephedrine, and they do not work in methamphetamine production. Additionally, law enforcement investigations in Barry, McDonald, and Lawrence Counties, Missouri, reveal that methamphetamine cooks in the counties have attempted to use veterinary-grade pseudoephedrine granules to produce methamphetamine. These granules are generally prescribed by veterinarians for horses with respiratory problems. The success that methamphetamine cooks have had using granules in producing the drug is unknown at this time.

Powder cocaine is frequently converted to crack cocaine and cannabis is grown in the HIDTA region. African American criminal groups and street gangs in metropolitan areas such as Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Sioux Falls, Springfield, Topeka, and Wichita are the primary converters of powder cocaine into crack. These groups often obtain powder cocaine from Mexican sources and then convert it into crack for local distribution. Limited cannabis cultivation occurs throughout the Midwest HIDTA at both indoor and outdoor locations. Caucasian independent distributors are the primary growers of cannabis in the HIDTA region. However, most of the marijuana available in the HIDTA is produced in Mexico.

Transportation

The Midwest HIDTA region is a significant transshipment center because of its geographic location in the central United States and its highly developed interstate highway infrastructure. Major interstates that traverse the region include Interstates 29, 35, 44, 55, 70, 80, 90, and 94. (See [Figure 2 on page 7.](#)) These highways are routinely utilized by traffickers to ship methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana, heroin, and other illicit drugs from the Southwest and Northern Borders⁶ to Midwest HIDTA markets and through the HIDTA to Great Lakes and Northeast Region markets such as Chicago and New York. For instance, law enforcement officials made two sizable seizures of white heroin in July and September 2006 that were destined for markets in the northeastern United States. In July officials seized 5.3 kilograms of white heroin during a traffic stop near Junction City, Kansas. In September 8.5 kilograms of white heroin were seized from a commercial bus passenger at the Kansas City, Kansas, bus terminal.⁷

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups transport most of the ice methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana, and Mexican black tar and brown powder heroin available in the HIDTA region. These organizations primarily use commercial and private vehicles with increasingly sophisticated hidden compartments to transport these drugs into the area. Mexican DTOs frequently recruit Mexican immigrants living in the region, with no ties to the organization, to transport illicit drugs from the Southwest Border to the HIDTA region. DTO leaders thereby insulate themselves from law enforcement detection if the shipment is stopped, since the drivers do not know who owns the drug shipment. Some Mexican DTOs also attempt to recruit middle-aged or elderly Caucasian and Hispanic females as couriers, since DTO leaders reportedly believe that law enforcement will be less suspicious of these people.

6. Law enforcement believes that available arrest and seizure statistics do not accurately reflect the extent of drug trafficking over the U.S.–Canada border and underrepresent the level of smuggling activity on the Northern Border.

7. The source area of the white heroin seized in the foregoing examples is unknown.



Figure 2. Midwest HIDTA region transportation infrastructure.

Traffickers predominantly transport illicit drug shipments into the HIDTA region in private and commercial vehicles. Highway seizures indicate that most illicit drug shipments destined for the region originate in Arizona, California, Texas, or other Southwest Region areas. Common source cities identified by Kansas Highway Patrol and Missouri Highway Patrol interdiction efforts include Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles and San Diego, California; and El Paso, Texas. Shipment size varies, but typical loads of Mexican methamphetamine bound for Kansas City, Kansas, range from 5 to 20 pounds per car.

African American, Asian, and Caucasian street gangs, criminal groups, and independent dealers

transport powder and crack cocaine, Mexican marijuana, and PCP (phencyclidine) to the area, but less frequently than in the past. It is generally easier and safer for these traffickers to purchase illicit drugs from Mexican wholesalers and other traffickers in the Kansas City metropolitan area, Wichita, and other Midwest HIDTA market areas. African American street gang members based in Chicago, Detroit, and Minneapolis also transport crack, powder cocaine, and marijuana to metropolitan areas in Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and North Dakota.

Asian trafficking groups transport MDMA and Canadian marijuana into and through the HIDTA region. Federal and county officials in Wichita report that Vietnamese traffickers with sources in

Texas and Washington State are smuggling wholesale quantities of MDMA into Wichita. Additionally, Caucasian trafficking groups transport Mexican and Canadian marijuana, Mexican methamphetamine, and limited quantities of MDMA to the area.

Distribution

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups control wholesale and much of the midlevel methamphetamine, powder cocaine, marijuana, and heroin distribution in the HIDTA region, distributing the drugs from the area's primary and secondary markets. Most Mexican DTOs and criminal groups do not stockpile drug shipments for extended periods of time but, rather, use vacant stash houses and apartments for short-term storage and distribution to midlevel dealers. Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers are the primary sources of supply for Caucasian and African American retailers, conducting most sales through referrals and prearranged meetings rather than in open-air settings (see Table 1 on page 17).

Mexican DTOs have increased ice methamphetamine distribution considerably in the Midwest HIDTA region over the past 2 years. State pseudoephedrine control legislation has reduced domestic methamphetamine availability but created an opportunity for Mexican organizations to meet local demand with high-quality Mexican ice methamphetamine. Law enforcement agencies in most HIDTA drug markets now report that the vast majority of available methamphetamine is ice methamphetamine.

Mexican DTOs use Kansas City, Missouri, and, increasingly, St. Louis as principal distribution centers. Mexican traffickers typically offload drug shipments from the Southwest Region to these cities, repackage the drugs, and then supply them to markets within the region as well as to major market areas throughout the Midwest, Great Lakes, and Northeast Regions. Mexican traffickers distribute cocaine from Kansas City, Missouri, to

Chicago, Dayton, Ohio, and Detroit. They also distribute cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine from St. Louis to Chicago and Springfield, Illinois, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The convergence of Interstates 29, 35, and 70 in the Kansas City metropolitan area and Interstates 44, 55, 64, and 70 in St. Louis provides easy access for distributors to transport illicit drugs to these markets.

Various ethnic street gangs and criminal groups distribute illicit drugs at the retail level. Retail crack distribution is conducted primarily by African American street gangs and criminal groups at drug markets in many areas, but aggressive law enforcement efforts have forced some of these distributors to conduct sales from apartments or at controlled locations. Hispanic street gangs distribute methamphetamine and marijuana at the retail level, while Caucasian street gangs, criminal groups, and local independent dealers distribute methamphetamine, marijuana, and limited quantities of MDMA at the retail level. Asian street gangs and criminal groups distribute varying quantities of MDMA in Des Moines, the Kansas City metropolitan area, Springfield, St. Louis, Wichita, and Columbia, Missouri. Various OMGs such as El Forastero, Galloping Goose, and Sons of Silence distribute methamphetamine and marijuana in the HIDTA.

Retail powder cocaine distribution has noticeably increased throughout Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Mexican DTOs are the wholesale source for much of the powder cocaine distributed in the HIDTA. They supply the cocaine to African American, Caucasian, and Hispanic criminal groups as well as independent dealers for retail distribution. According to law enforcement officials, some retail distributors are increasingly distributing powder cocaine to avoid enhanced crack sentencing guidelines; they also may believe that law enforcement officials are concentrating on methamphetamine and that cocaine distribution will attract less attention.

Drug-Related Crime

Violent and property crimes in the HIDTA region often are associated with the distribution and abuse of illicit drugs, particularly crack cocaine and methamphetamine.⁸ Crack cocaine and methamphetamine distributors commonly commit violent crimes including assault, carjacking, drive-by shooting, home invasion, and robbery to protect and expand their drug operations. Methamphetamine and crack abusers are often associated with violent crimes including domestic violence and child abuse; abusers also often commit property crimes such as burglary, forgery, fraud, larceny, and identity theft to support their addictions. Rising methamphetamine abuse levels in the area will most likely lead to increased incidents of these crimes.

Abuse

Increasing methamphetamine abuse is the most critical drug abuse concern in the Midwest HIDTA region, according to public health officials. Treatment admissions for amphetamines (which include methamphetamine) increased or remained stable in all HIDTA states through 2005 (the most recent data available). Further, aggregate amphetamine admissions to publicly funded facilities in HIDTA states increased 40 percent from 11,177 to 18,423 during the same period.⁹ (See Figure 4 on page 18.)

Methamphetamine abuse and its associated violence severely tax the resources of public health departments, treatment centers, and social service agencies in the Midwest HIDTA region. Methamphetamine-related domestic violence, child abuse, and child neglect have burdened local foster care systems and social services. Because of methamphetamine's highly addictive nature, longer treatment programs and high recidivism rates encumber treatment centers in the area. Additionally, methamphetamine abuse often is

linked to the spread of sexually transmitted diseases such as syphilis and chlamydia.

Powder cocaine abuse has surged in many areas of the Midwest HIDTA region in the past year, largely because of increasing demand from younger abusers and a desire by distributors to avoid lengthier crack cocaine distribution penalties. Numerous law enforcement agencies have reported that powder cocaine seizures are increasing at the retail level. The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Laboratory reports that powder cocaine submissions increased from 11,457 grams in fiscal year (FY) 2005 to 71,581 grams in FY2006. The Johnson County, Kansas, Crime Laboratory reported a similar increase, with 541 powder cocaine cases submitted between January and August 2006 compared with approximately 341 cases for the same period in 2005. Law enforcement reporting in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska indicates that powder cocaine has become popular with high school and college students.

White heroin availability has increased in the St. Louis metropolitan area over the past year. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) St. Louis Field Division, white heroin and Mexican black tar heroin are readily available in St. Louis. DEA Domestic Monitoring Program (DMP) tests indicate the presence of South American and Mexican black tar heroin in the city; Southwest Asian heroin is also present, but to a far lesser extent. White heroin distributed in the St. Louis metropolitan area is occasionally mixed with fentanyl. There were 13 overdose deaths involving heroin/fentanyl combinations in the St. Louis area in 2006, according to DEA. However, the source of these particular heroin/fentanyl combinations is uncertain.

8. A direct correlation between drugs and violent crime is difficult to statistically represent. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Report (UCR) more narrowly defines what constitutes a drug-related crime than the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Agencies reporting through UCR will represent less drug-related crime than agencies reporting the same crimes through NIBRS.

9. The year for which the most recent Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) information is available is 2005. Amphetamine admissions include methamphetamine.

Illicit Finance

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups are the Midwest HIDTA region's principal drug money launderers. These traffickers transport cash and monetary instruments in bulk from the HIDTA to destinations in the Southwest, including El Paso, Houston, Phoenix, and Tucson, as well as to Mexico. Additionally, illicit proceeds generated in drug markets outside the HIDTA region are transported to the area, consolidated, and shipped in bulk to the southwestern United States and Mexico. Traffickers primarily transport bulk cash by private and commercial vehicles that often are equipped with hidden compartments. Mexican DTOs and criminal groups also use money services businesses (MSBs) such as money remitters and check-cashing firms to launder drug proceeds. These traffickers also purchase expensive items, including jewelry and luxury vehicles, and acquire cash-intensive businesses such as bars, jewelry stores, restaurants, and used car lots that they use to mask illicit proceeds by commingling them with funds generated at the businesses. Retail-level traffickers also use small, cash-intensive front businesses to commingle illicit proceeds with legitimate funds; they also purchase vehicles, luxury items, and businesses with drug proceeds.

A money laundering trend involving the acquisition of real estate is developing among local retail-level traffickers in Missouri and Kansas. The local traffickers purchase dilapidated private homes with drug proceeds, make cosmetic improvements, and then claim that extensive repairs were made to the homes in order to resell them at inflated prices to unsuspecting purchasers. The drug proceeds are hidden in the fictitious repairs and commingled with the profits from the sale.

Market Areas

Overview

The Midwest HIDTA contains several primary drug market areas, including the Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Louis metropolitan areas, and a number of secondary markets including Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Fargo/Grand Forks, Sioux City/Sioux Falls, Springfield, and Wichita. (See

Figure 3 on page 11.) Individual market discussions are intended to augment the overall discussion of drug trafficking and abuse in the Midwest HIDTA region, highlighting localized trends and deviations. The general drug situation in the Midwest HIDTA region applies to an individual market unless otherwise stated.

Primary Markets

Kansas City Metropolitan Area, Kansas/Missouri

The Kansas City metropolitan area includes Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties in Missouri and Johnson and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas; it has a combined population of over 1.6 million residents. The Kansas City metropolitan area's central geographic location at the juncture of several of the nation's busiest highways (I-29, I-35, and I-70), makes it a major transshipment point for illicit drugs and drug proceeds to, from, and between significant market areas in the West (Arizona, California, Colorado, Texas), the Midwest (Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska), and the East (Illinois, Michigan, New York).

Crack cocaine and methamphetamine are the primary drug threats to the metropolitan area. Crack cocaine distribution dominates the inner-city drug markets. African American crack distributors frequently obtain powder cocaine for conversion from Mexican and Hispanic midlevel dealers located in the old northeast section of Kansas City, Missouri, and from Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers in Kansas City, Kansas. Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers typically are supplied by sources in the El Paso and Phoenix areas. Crack sales are typically arranged by cellular phones and conducted at prearranged locations. Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers typically distribute methamphetamine in outlying and suburban areas of the metropolitan area; most of the methamphetamine is Mexican ice methamphetamine (see Table 1 on page 17).

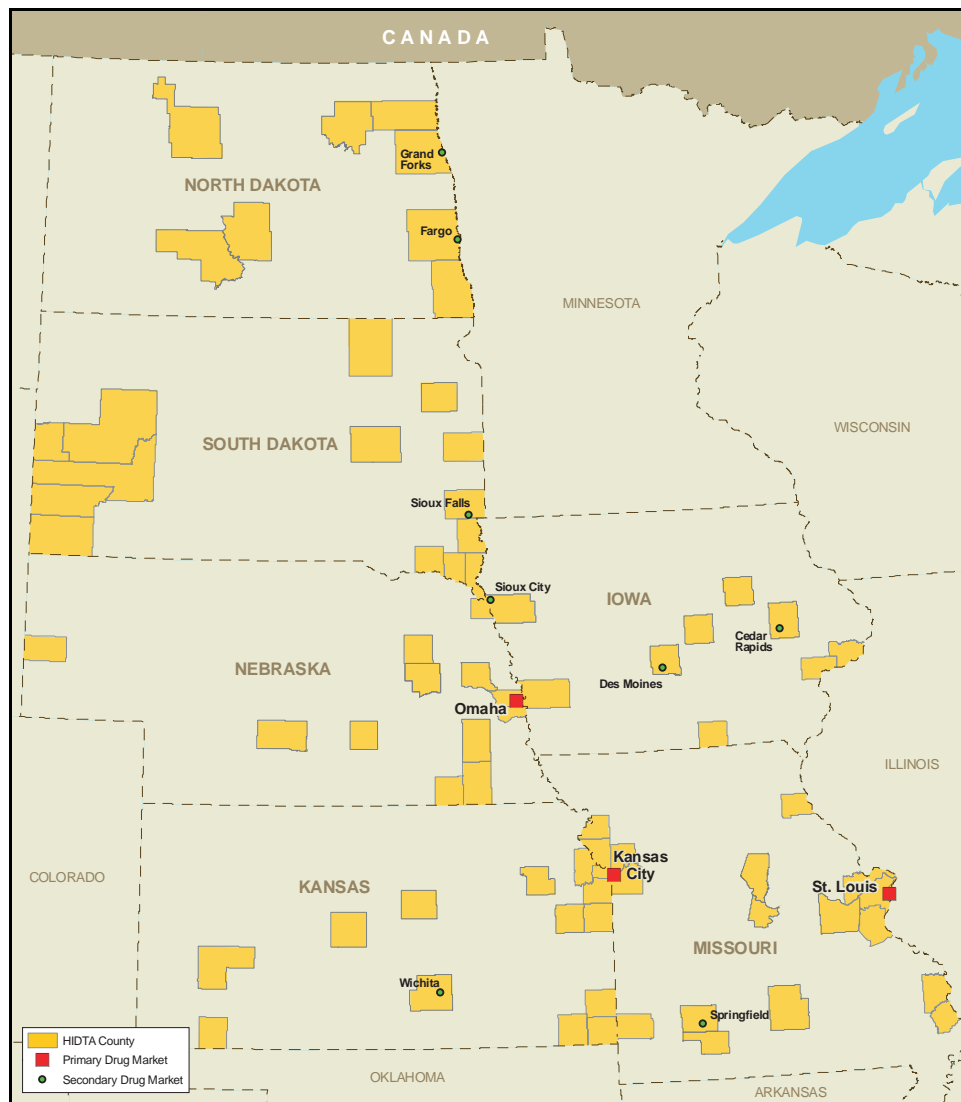


Figure 3. Primary and secondary drug markets.

Drug-related violent crime poses a problem in the Kansas City metropolitan area. African American and Hispanic street gangs are the primary perpetrators. African American gangs are the most dominant but tend to be loosely organized and based on neighborhood affiliations. Hispanic street gangs are increasing in number and are more organized and tied to nationally affiliated gangs such as Sureños and F 13. Both rely on illicit drug distribution for revenue; however, most violence between them stems from personal animosities rather than drug turf. Additionally, an ongoing rivalry between Sureños and other Hispanic gangs has resulted in frequent assaults and shootings of rival gang members.

Omaha, Nebraska

The Omaha metropolitan area, which includes the city of Omaha, Douglas and Sarpy Counties in Nebraska, and Pottawattamie County in Iowa, is located on the eastern Nebraska border along the Missouri River and has a combined population of over 670,000 residents. Interstates 29 and 80 intersect in Council Bluffs, Iowa, which is adjacent to Omaha, providing drug traffickers with easy access to the Kansas City metropolitan area and national drug markets in California and southwestern states. Omaha is a regional distribution center for illicit drugs—cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana are distributed from Omaha to neighboring states, including Iowa and South Dakota.

Mexican DTOs dominate the Omaha wholesale drug market. These traffickers transport wholesale quantities of methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana to and through Omaha from distribution hubs in the state of Sinaloa, Mexico, and numerous Southwest Region cities, including Phoenix, Tucson, San Diego, and Los Angeles. Mexican DTOs have supplanted dwindling supplies of locally produced methamphetamine with high-purity Mexican ice methamphetamine in Omaha and surrounding counties. In addition, Mexican DTOs maintain connections throughout many smaller Nebraska towns near Omaha, such as Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington, and Norfolk, where large numbers of Mexican nationals have sought employment in meatpacking and poultry processing businesses. Mexican DTOs use their connections in these cities to smuggle illicit drugs into the Omaha area.

African American and Hispanic street gangs control retail distribution in Omaha. Black Gangster Disciples, a particularly active African American street gang in the area, has increased its drug activities in Omaha during the past 2 years. Some Black Gangster Disciples' members operating in Omaha are from the area, while others are from Chicago. Mara Salvatrucha (MS 13) is the fastest-growing Hispanic street gang in Omaha. In addition to distributing drugs, MS 13 members organize motor vehicle thefts in the Omaha metropolitan area. Law enforcement investigations have resulted in the deportation of more than 45 known MS 13 members since 2005 (see Table 1 on page 17).

St. Louis, Missouri

The St. Louis metropolitan area, which includes the city of St. Louis and St. Louis County, is located in east central Missouri along the Mississippi River; it has a combined population of more than 1.3 million. St. Louis is a significant consumer market for cocaine and heroin. Mexican traffickers increasingly are using the area as a transshipment and distribution center to supply cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine throughout central Missouri and markets in other states, including Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Wisconsin.

The convergence of Interstates 44, 55, 64, and 70 in St. Louis provides easy access for distributors to transport illicit drugs from areas at or near the Southwest Border to St. Louis and outside markets.

Mexican DTOs have increased their presence in St. Louis. Mexican organizations are the principal transporters of heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana to the area and have become the principal wholesale distributors. Mexican DTOs operating in St. Louis have not yet established the intricate drug distribution infrastructure set up by other Mexican DTOs in market areas such as Kansas City, Missouri. They sometimes must cooperate with local drug traffickers, making them vulnerable to law enforcement penetration. Mexican DTOs in St. Louis have primary sources of supply in Phoenix and Tucson; they also acquire illicit drugs from sources in Chicago, Dallas, El Paso, Houston, and Los Angeles. African American street gangs control nearly all retail drug distribution in the city of St. Louis, and African American independent dealers dominate retail distribution in St. Louis County (see Table 1 on page 17).

Heroin and crack distribution and abuse are major drug problems in St. Louis. White powder heroin known as "China" has overtaken Mexican black tar heroin as the dominant type of heroin available in the city. The street name "China" does not indicate the origin of the heroin. Of the St. Louis heroin samples tested in 2005 under the DEA DMP, 50 percent tested as South America heroin, 32 percent tested as Mexican black tar heroin, and 18 percent tested as Southwest Asia heroin. Investigations in St. Louis have revealed that the majority of white powder heroin available is transported from sources in Chicago. African American street gangs dominate crack distribution, converting most powder cocaine available in the city into crack. However, law enforcement reporting indicates that powder cocaine is becoming increasingly available, since some dealers are now believed to be distributing powder cocaine to abusers with directions on how to convert the powder to crack to avoid enhanced penalties for crack distribution.

Methamphetamine is rarely encountered in the city of St. Louis but is the primary drug problem in surrounding counties, including St. Louis County. Despite statewide pseudoephedrine control legislation, methamphetamine production remains relatively high in eastern Missouri and in areas adjacent to St. Louis. According to law enforcement officials, laboratory operators in these locations travel to neighboring states to purchase large amounts of precursor chemicals and return to Missouri to manufacture methamphetamine.

Secondary Markets

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Cedar Rapids is the second-largest city in Iowa and is located in the eastern part of the state on the Cedar River in Linn County. The population of Cedar Rapids is over 119,000. Cedar Rapids is primarily a consumer market for illicit drugs, but some cocaine and marijuana are supplied from Cedar Rapids to neighboring cities in Iowa, particularly Cedar Falls, Waterloo, and Dubuque.

Crack cocaine distribution and abuse are significant drug concerns to public health and law enforcement officials in Cedar Rapids. Chicago-based African American street gangs, primarily Latin Kings, Gangster Disciples, and Vice Lords, control the retail distribution of crack cocaine in Cedar Rapids; they also distribute powder cocaine and heroin. Mexican DTOs and criminal groups transport large quantities of methamphetamine to Cedar Rapids by commercial and private vehicles and package delivery services; they dominate distribution of the drug. The presence of a large undocumented Hispanic population in the Cedar Rapids area has facilitated methamphetamine distribution by Mexican DTOs. Marijuana and powder cocaine also are highly available in Cedar Rapids. MDMA is available and is transported from New York, California, Spain, and the Netherlands to Cedar Rapids by package delivery services and is used at rave parties (see Table 1 on page 17).

Des Moines, Iowa

The Des Moines metropolitan area, which includes the city of Des Moines and Polk County, has approximately 375,000 residents. The highway infrastructure in the area facilitates the transportation of illicit drugs and drug proceeds to and from Des Moines. Interstates 35 and 80 intersect in Polk County northeast of Des Moines and are the principal highways serving the area. Mexican DTOs use Des Moines as a transshipment center for ice methamphetamine destined for Northeast markets. Des Moines is also a large consumer market.

Mexican DTOs are the primary transporters of ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana into the area; they use private vehicles to transport the drugs from Mexico, California, Texas, and Arizona. Additionally, African American street gangs from Detroit, the Kansas City metropolitan area, and Chicago transport powder cocaine, crack, and marijuana to Des Moines. They generally transport these drugs to Des Moines in private vehicles, sell the drugs, and return home with the drug proceeds. Moreover, African American street gangs from Detroit have been increasing their influence in Des Moines.

African American and Hispanic street gangs are the primary retail distributors throughout Des Moines. Local African American street gangs are the primary powder cocaine and crack distributors. These gangs tend to be loosely organized and formed in and around housing developments. Hispanic street gangs tend to be more hierarchical and tied to nationally affiliated gangs such as 18th Street Gang, Latin Kings, and MS 13. Hispanic street gangs distribute cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana. Both African American and Hispanic street gangs have used violence in the past to protect drug turf. Moreover, gang-related graffiti increased nearly 25 percent in the Des Moines area from 2005 to 2006 (see Table 1 on page 17).

Methamphetamine distribution and abuse are the most serious drug problems for Des Moines law enforcement. Mexican DTOs quickly supplied high-quality ice methamphetamine to meet local

demand after methamphetamine precursor control legislation reduced locally produced methamphetamine availability. Most of the methamphetamine distributed in Des Moines is now ice methamphetamine, which Mexican wholesale drug distributors supply to Caucasian and Hispanic retail distributors. African American street gangs control crack distribution, selling the drug to Caucasian and African American users. Mexican commercial-grade marijuana is widely available and abused. Locally produced marijuana is available but not widely distributed. Canadian hydroponic marijuana is rarely encountered.

Fargo/Grand Forks, North Dakota

The Fargo/Grand Forks area includes Cass, Grand Forks, Ramsey, Richland, and Walsh Counties in North Dakota. The population of the area's five counties is approximately 215,000, roughly one-third of the total population of the state. The Fargo/Grand Forks area is primarily a consumer market for illicit drugs; however, it does serve as a distribution center for small communities in eastern and central North Dakota.

Methamphetamine is the primary drug threat to the Fargo/Grand Forks area, and availability of the drug is increasing. Mexican DTOs are the principal transporters and distributors of methamphetamine and most other illicit drugs in the Fargo/Grand Forks area. These traffickers have supplied increasing amounts of ice methamphetamine to meet local demand for the drug. Law enforcement agencies in Grand Forks and Fargo also report an increase in powder and crack cocaine availability. African American street gangs from Chicago; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; and increasingly, Detroit are the primary transporters and distributors of powder cocaine and crack in the Fargo/Grand Forks area (see Table 1 on page 17).

Marijuana and diverted pharmaceuticals also are abused in Fargo/Grand Forks. Despite the area's proximity to Canada, Mexican commercial-grade marijuana is more available than Canadian hydroponic marijuana. Marijuana is sometimes laced with methamphetamine and GHB (gamma-

hydroxybutyrate). Local adolescents continue to abuse prescription and over-the-counter medications. Young drug-user activity also involves the abuse of "stackers," which consist of a combination of over-the-counter and prescription medications.

Sioux City, Iowa/Sioux Falls, South Dakota

The Sioux City/Sioux Falls area—which includes Woodbury County, Iowa; Dakota County, Nebraska; and Lincoln and Minnehaha Counties, South Dakota—is located along I-29. The Sioux City/Sioux Falls area has a combined population of over 296,000. The area is a distribution center for methamphetamine, marijuana, powder cocaine, and MDMA for markets in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters and distributors of illicit drugs to the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area. Mexican criminal groups transport wholesale quantities of methamphetamine, marijuana, and powder cocaine to the area from California and Arizona, as well as from Chicago. Mexican wholesale traffickers sell methamphetamine and other illicit drugs to Mexican and Caucasian midlevel dealers, who in turn sell the drugs to the area's retail distributors. Caucasian independent dealers are the primary retail distributors in the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area; Mexican and Native American independent dealers also distribute drugs at the retail level, but to a lesser extent (see Table 1 on page 17).

Mexican ice methamphetamine has replaced powder methamphetamine as the primary form of the drug in the area. Ice methamphetamine purity levels have dropped, however, indicating that the drug is being cut several times before it reaches the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area, or powder methamphetamine is made to appear and is marketed as ice methamphetamine. Over the past year and a half, the age of methamphetamine users has dropped, and abuse now occurs mainly among Caucasian males and females in their early twenties to early forties.

Crack cocaine distribution is increasing in the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area because of a growing number of distribution networks that are being established by African American criminal groups from Chicago, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Omaha, and Sioux City. African American gang members from Chicago, the Kansas City metropolitan area, St. Louis, and Omaha travel to Sioux City, often by commercial buses, to distribute crack because of the drug's large profit margins in the area. An ounce of crack cocaine in Chicago sells for \$500, while an ounce of crack cocaine in Sioux Falls sells for approximately \$5,600. The increase in crack distribution has spawned other crimes, such as assault and homicide, with several homicides in the Sioux City area attributed to drug-related gang violence.

Springfield, Missouri

Springfield, with a population of more than 150,000, is the county seat of Greene County and is situated on I-44, which connects Springfield to St. Louis and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Springfield is a consumer market and a state distribution center. Cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine are distributed from Springfield to areas throughout Missouri.

Ice methamphetamine distribution and abuse are the major drug threats in Springfield, although crack cocaine distribution and abuse are prevalent and frequently associated with violent crimes. Hydroponic marijuana availability and abuse are increasing slightly, and the increase is attributed to the large college population in Springfield that typically prefers hydroponic marijuana (see [Table 1 on page 17](#)).

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups are the principal transporters and wholesale distributors of most illicit drugs in Springfield. These traffickers transport wholesale quantities of ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana from Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico to Springfield for distribution. African American local independent dealers, some with street gang affiliations, dominate retail distribution of crack cocaine. African American criminal groups and street gangs in Detroit,

Chicago, the Kansas City metropolitan area, St. Louis, and Little Rock, Arkansas, transport and distribute cocaine to Springfield. These groups previously transported the drug in crack form but now typically transport the drug in powder form and convert it to crack in Springfield in an attempt to avoid increased penalties for trafficking crack.

Methamphetamine production has declined dramatically in the Springfield area, and this decrease is largely attributed to the increased availability of ice methamphetamine supplied by Mexican DTOs as well as state pseudoephedrine legislation. Methamphetamine cooks who continue to operate in Springfield are manufacturing condensed ammonia from ammonia sulfate and ammonia phosphate for use in methamphetamine production.

Wichita, Kansas

The Wichita metropolitan area, which includes the city of Wichita and Sedgwick County, is located in south central Kansas; it has a population of more than 450,000. Wichita is a drug distribution center as well as a significant consumer market. The Wichita area contains two major drug transportation routes, I-35 and U.S. Highway 54, which enable drug transporters to bring illicit drugs from the Southwest to the area. Mexican ice methamphetamine, powder cocaine, and marijuana are distributed from Wichita to other Kansas towns such as Salina, Hays, Newton, and Hutchinson.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups control the wholesale distribution of methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana in Wichita. They have flooded the market with high-purity ice methamphetamine, which has attracted some crack users because of its potency and stimulative effect. These traffickers import multipound shipments from Phoenix, El Paso, and locations in California in private vehicles or by commercial trucking companies. Mexican DTOs may be using indirect routes—transporting drugs from the Southwest to Wichita through South Dakota or Nebraska—in an effort to avoid detection.

Mexican, Caucasian, and Asian criminal groups distribute crack, marijuana, and MDMA throughout the Wichita area. African American distributors convert most of the powder cocaine available into crack for retail distribution. Recently, some Asian gang members have begun to distribute powder cocaine and crack in Wichita. Mexican DTOs transport bricked Mexican marijuana, known by local users as Shwag, from El Paso, Phoenix, and Tucson. Local Caucasian dealers sometimes harvest wild ditch weed and use it as filler with commercial-grade Mexican marijuana to increase the amount of drug to sell and thereby increase profits. Asian criminal groups from Canada and Washington State transport MDMA to Wichita, where it is distributed by Asian criminal groups and independent college age users (see Table 1 on page 17).

Street gang activity is increasing in Wichita. Some of the increased street gang activity and gang-related violence is caused by rival distributors, including Asian street gangs, becoming active in crack cocaine distribution, which was typically controlled by African American criminal groups.

Outlook

Mexican DTOs will increasingly control distribution of methamphetamine, powder cocaine, marijuana, and heroin in the Midwest HIDTA region. These trafficking organizations have developed elaborate transportation and distribution networks throughout much of the region and are increasing their activities in areas such as St. Louis. Many midlevel and retail distributors prefer to purchase ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana from Mexican wholesalers and midlevel dealers in Midwest HIDTA markets rather than travel to source cities in California or along the Southwest Border. The reliance of retail distributors on Mexican wholesale suppliers will continue to strengthen control by the wholesalers over the primary and secondary markets in the HIDTA region. These Mexican DTOs will very likely use the Midwest HIDTA region as a staging area for cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana as they continue to expand their areas of operation eastward.

Mexican ice methamphetamine distribution will increase in the Midwest HIDTA region, burdening already taxed law enforcement agencies, public health departments, treatment centers, and social services agencies. Mexican ice methamphetamine will remain the dominant form of the drug.

Local methamphetamine production will continue, but at significantly reduced levels from previous years. Local methamphetamine producers will continue to purchase pseudoephedrine in quantities less than threshold amounts at several locations throughout the region until they acquire enough to manufacture a supply of methamphetamine, unless the Midwest states create centralized databases to track pseudoephedrine purchases. Further, methamphetamine producers will increasingly attempt to extract pseudoephedrine from liquid or gelatin capsules and search for alternative means of obtaining sufficient precursor chemicals.

Demand for powder cocaine will most likely increase throughout the HIDTA region but will not eclipse demand for crack cocaine. To this end, law enforcement and public health officials in several jurisdictions report increasing powder cocaine abuse among teenagers and young adults. Additionally, law enforcement officials report that crack cocaine distributors are increasingly converting powder cocaine to crack at or near distribution sites in an attempt to avoid law enforcement detection and the harsher penalties that are often associated with the trafficking of crack cocaine. Consequently, their demand for wholesale quantities of powder cocaine in the region is increasing. To meet the demand, Mexican wholesale distributors might be able to supply additional quantities of the drug through their vast transportation networks.

Hispanic street gangs will increase their presence in many market areas, such as Des Moines, Omaha, and the Kansas City metropolitan area. The increasing Hispanic population in the Midwest HIDTA region will provide new recruits for Hispanic street gangs already active in the region.

Rising methamphetamine distribution in the HIDTA region will lead to increased incidents of violent and property crimes. African American and Hispanic street gangs rely on drug revenue, including that generated by the sale of methamphetamine, to support their activities, and they

resort to violence to protect their businesses. This will contribute to increased violence in the Midwest HIDTA region as these gangs compete for customers and drug territory as well as avenge personal and gang rivalries.

Table 1. Retail Distribution in the Midwest HIDTA, by Drug

Drug	Distributor	Market
Methamphetamine	Hispanic street gangs; Caucasian local independent dealers	All markets
Crack Cocaine and Powder Cocaine	African American street gangs and independent dealers	All markets
Marijuana	Hispanic street gangs; African American street gangs; Caucasian local independent dealers	All markets
Heroin	African American street gangs and local independent dealers; Caucasian local independent dealers	St. Louis
Phencyclidine (PCP)	African American street gang members and local independent dealers	Kansas City, MO/KS; Omaha; St. Louis; Wichita

Source: Treatment Episode Data Set.

Table 2. Comparisons of Pseudoephedrine Control Legislation, by Midwest HIDTA State

Provisions	Iowa	Kansas	Missouri	Nebraska	North Dakota	South Dakota
Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine (E/P) Products in Schedule V	X	X	X			
Schedule V Exemptions/ Exceptions	Products that are in liquid/gel cap form containing 360 milligrams or less of E/P	Liquids, liquid capsules, and gel caps	Liquids or liquid-filled gel capsules; products not used in illegal manufacture			
Written/Electronic Log or Record of Sale Kept by Seller	X	X	X		X	
Product Sold by Pharmacy/ Pharmacist/Pharmacy Technician/Pharmacy Intern or Clerk	X	X	X			
Product Sold in Pharmacy OR Any Retail Establishment				X	X	X
Product Stored in Locked Case, in Area Inaccessible to Public	X			X		
Quantity Restrictions	7,500 mg/30 days	3 packages/ 7 days	9 grams/30 days	1,440 milligrams/ 24 hours	2 packages containing no more than 2 grams of E/P each/single transaction	2 packages containing E/P as active ingredient/ single transaction

Source: National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws.

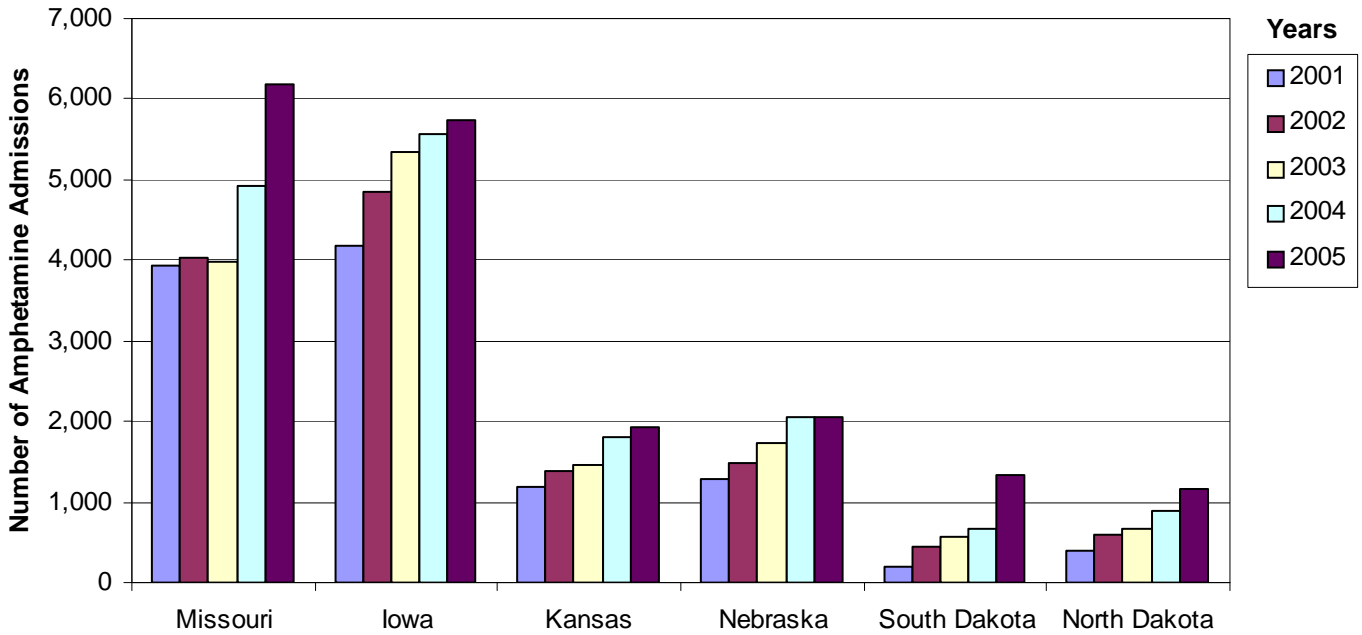


Figure 4. Amphetamine admissions, by Midwest HIDTA state, 2001–2005.
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set.

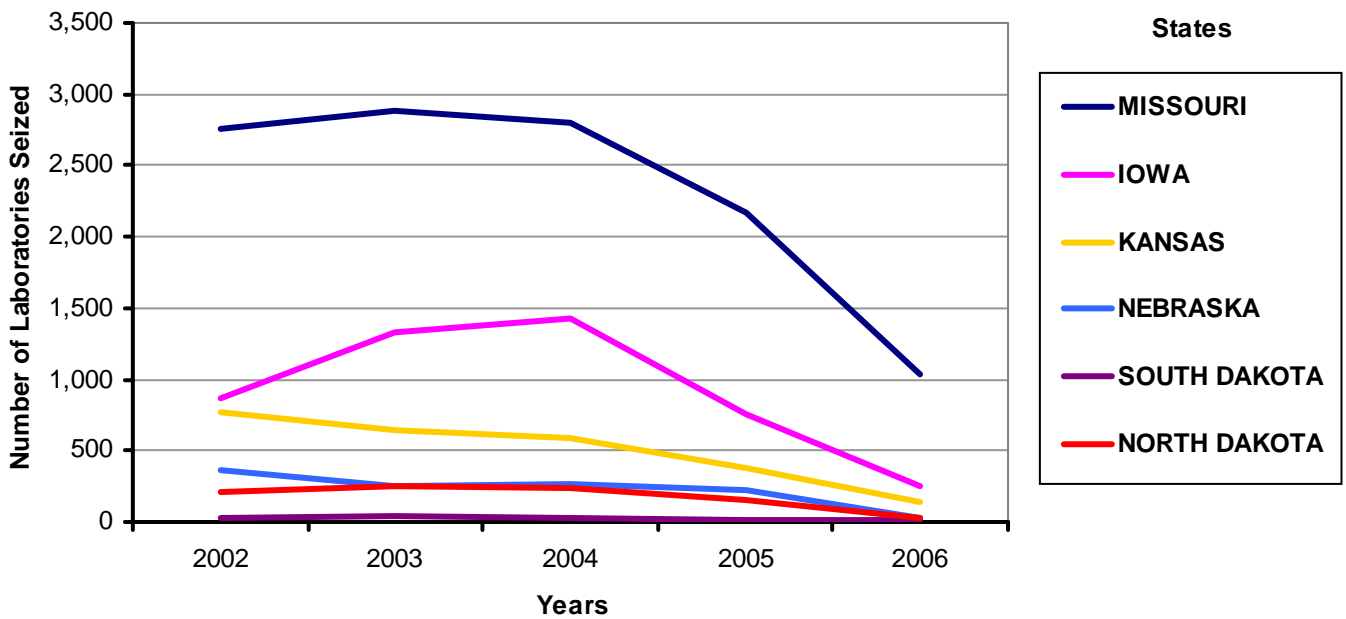


Figure 5. Methamphetamine clandestine laboratory seizures, by Midwest HIDTA state, 2002–2006.
Source: National Clandestine Laboratory Seizure System.

Sources

Local, State, and Regional

Iowa

Cedar Rapids Police Department
Des Moines Police Department
 Intelligence Unit
 Vice and Illicit Drugs Unit
Iowa Department of Public Safety
 Division of Illicit Drugs Enforcement
Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy
Mid-Iowa Narcotic Enforcement Task Force

Kansas

Abilene Police Department
Butler County Sheriff's Office
Crawford County Sheriff's Department
Garden City/Finney County Drug Task Force
Garden City Police Department
Jasper County Drug Task Force
Johnson County Crime Laboratory
Kansas City Police Department
 Special Enforcement Unit
Kansas Highway Patrol
Kansas Office of Attorney General
 Kansas Bureau of Investigation
 Southeast Kansas Drug Task Force
Kearny County Sheriff's Department
Lawrence Police Department
Lyon County Sheriff's Office
Miami County Sheriff's Office
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
Riley County Police Department
Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office
Wichita Police Department
 Gang/Felony Assault Unit

Missouri

Camden County Sheriff's Department
Christian County Sheriff's Department
Cole County Sheriff's Office
Florissant Police Department
Jefferson City Police
Kansas City Police Department
 Drug Interdiction Squad
 Financial Investigations Unit
 Homicide Unit
 Kansas City Regional Crime Lab
 Street Gang Squad
 Street Illicit Drugs Unit
Independence Police Department
Marshall Police Department
Maryland Heights Police Department
Missouri State Highway Patrol
Southwest Missouri Drug Task Force
Springfield Police Department
St. Charles County Criminalistics Laboratory
St. Louis County Police Department
 Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force
St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department
 Criminal Forensics Section
 Vice/Illicit Drugs Division
Warrensburg Police Department
Webster Groves Police Department

Nebraska

Bellevue Police Department
Blair Police Department
Chadron Police Department
Columbus Police Department
Elkhorn Police Department
Kearney Police Department
Lincoln Police Department
Nebraska State Patrol
North Platte Police Department
Omaha Metro Drug Task Force

Omaha Police Department
Gang Intelligence Squad

Ralston Police Department

Scottsbluff Police Department

Sidney Police Department

North Dakota

Fargo Police Department
Illicit Drugs/Gangs Unit

Grand Forks Illicit Drugs Task Force

Grand Forks Police Department

North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation

South Dakota

Sioux Falls Area Drug Task Force

Sioux Falls Police Department

Southeast Human Services Center
Adult Addiction Services

Federal

Executive Office of the President
Office of National Drug Control Policy
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
Midwest

U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Census Bureau

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Applied Studies
Treatment Episode Data Set

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
U.S. Border Patrol

U.S. Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration
Chicago Field Division
Fargo Resident Office
El Paso Intelligence Center
National Clandestine Laboratory Seizure System
St. Louis Field Division
Des Moines Resident Office
Kansas City District Office
Omaha District Office

Sioux City Resident Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Criminal Enterprise Squad
Kansas City Field Office

Other

Midwest Gang Investigators Association
Iowa Chapter
National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws

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