

March 2003



# Kansas

## Drug Threat Assessment



National Drug Intelligence Center  
U.S. Department of Justice



# Kansas Drug Threat Assessment

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## Preface

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This report is a strategic assessment that addresses the status and outlook of the drug threat to Kansas. Analytical judgment determined the threat posed by each drug type or category, taking into account the most current quantitative and qualitative information on availability, demand, production or cultivation, transportation, and distribution, as well as the effects of a particular drug on abusers and society as a whole. While NDIC sought to incorporate the latest available information, a time lag often exists between collection and publication of data, particularly demand-related data sets. NDIC anticipates that this drug threat assessment will be useful to policymakers, law enforcement personnel, and treatment providers at the federal, state, and local levels because it draws upon a broad range of information sources to describe and analyze the drug threat to Kansas.

# Kansas Drug Threat Assessment

## Executive Summary

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The production, distribution, and abuse of illicit drugs pose a serious threat to Kansas. Dodge City, Garden City, Liberal, Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita are drug distribution centers in the state and also serve as transit areas for drugs being transported to other states. Mexican criminal groups are the dominant transporters and distributors of illicit drugs in Kansas. Local independent dealers, street gangs, and outlaw motorcycle gangs also distribute drugs in the state.

**Methamphetamine** is a principal drug threat to Kansas, primarily because of the drug's ready availability as well as the violence and environmental harm that often result from its production and abuse. Methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups in Mexico, California, and southwestern states is the predominant type available in Kansas, although the availability of locally produced methamphetamine is increasing. The number of methamphetamine laboratories seized in Kansas more than quadrupled from 1998 through 2001, and many law enforcement agencies report that they are witnessing an adverse environmental impact from the presence of methamphetamine laboratories. Caucasian local independent producers, who generally use the Birch reduction method, are the primary in-state methamphetamine producers. Mexican criminal groups transport methamphetamine from Mexico, California, and southwestern states to distribution centers in Kansas in private and commercial vehicles. These groups also are the primary wholesale methamphetamine distributors throughout the state. Mexican criminal groups and Caucasian local independent dealers and, to a lesser extent, street gangs and outlaw motorcycle gangs distribute methamphetamine at the retail level. Retail distribution of methamphetamine typically occurs at residences, used car dealerships, parking lots, or in bars and restaurants.

**Cocaine**, particularly crack, poses a significant drug threat to Kansas largely because of crack's highly addictive nature and association with violent crime. Crack cocaine is available primarily in metropolitan areas, and powdered cocaine is available throughout the state. Mexican criminal groups transport powdered cocaine into Kansas from Mexico through California and southwestern states primarily in private and commercial vehicles. These groups also dominate wholesale cocaine distribution throughout the state. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, and street gangs distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level. Retail distributors in Kansas typically convert powdered

cocaine into crack on an as-needed basis at or near distribution sites. However, some African American street gangs transport crack cocaine into Kansas from metropolitan areas in surrounding states. African American street gangs and local independent dealers distribute crack cocaine at the retail level. Retail distribution of cocaine commonly is facilitated by pagers, pay phones, and cellular telephones. Retail quantities are distributed on street corners, at bars, or from residences. Crack cocaine distributors and abusers in Kansas commit a wide range of violent crimes, including assault, carjacking, and drive-by shooting.

**Marijuana** is the most widely available and frequently abused illicit drug in Kansas. Marijuana abuse is associated with more drug-related admissions to publicly funded treatment facilities than any other illicit drug. Most of the marijuana available in the state is produced in Mexico, although some cannabis is cultivated locally. Mexican criminal groups transport marijuana into and through Kansas in private and commercial vehicles. A significant portion of the Mexico-produced marijuana seized in Kansas is destined for other states. Mexican criminal groups and, to a lesser extent, Caucasian local independent dealers are the primary wholesale marijuana distributors in Kansas. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, street gangs, and outlaw motorcycle gangs also distribute marijuana at the retail level.

**Other dangerous drugs** pose an increasing threat to Kansas. Other dangerous drugs include the stimulant MDMA; the depressant GHB and its analogs; the hallucinogens LSD, PCP, psilocybin, and ketamine; and diverted pharmaceuticals including opioids (narcotic analgesics) such as codeine, Darvocet, Dilaudid, hydrocodone (Lortab, Vicodin), methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet, Percodan), and sedative hypnotics (benzodiazepines) such as Valium and Xanax. Other dangerous drugs are becoming increasingly available in some areas of the state, especially in cities with colleges or universities. Other dangerous drugs are sold primarily by Caucasian local independent dealers and are abused by young adults.

**Heroin** poses a low threat to Kansas. Mexican black tar heroin and brown powdered heroin are available on a limited basis in metropolitan areas of the state such as Kansas City and Wichita. Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of heroin to drug markets in Kansas. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, and street gangs distribute heroin at the retail level.

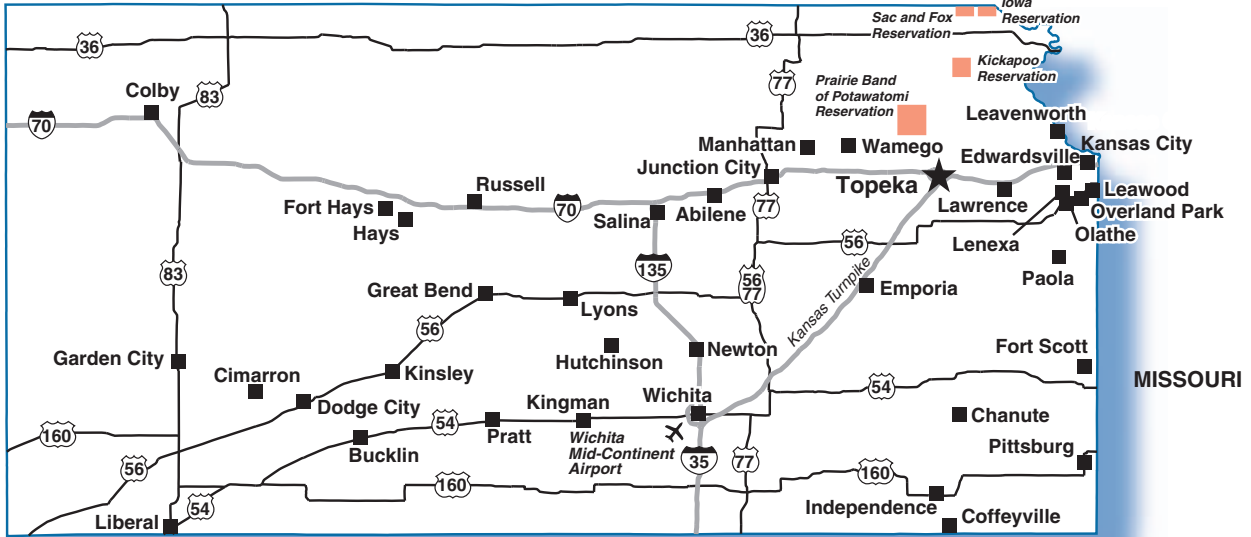
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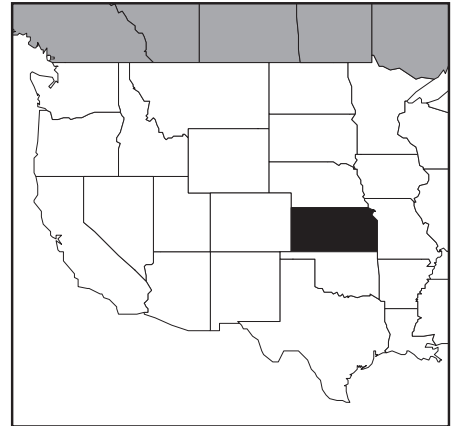
NEBRASKA

COLORADO



MISSOURI

OKLAHOMA



Kansas.

Note: This map displays features mentioned in the report.



# Kansas

## Drug Threat Assessment

### Overview

Kansas ranks thirty-second in population with nearly 2.7 million residents. Approximately 46 percent of the population is concentrated in Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee, and Wyandotte Counties. The population of Kansas is 86.1 percent Caucasian, 5.7 percent African American, 1.7 percent Asian, and 0.9 percent American Indian/Alaska Native. Seven percent of the population identify themselves as Hispanic or of Latino origin.

The Hispanic population in Kansas has increased significantly since 1990. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Hispanic (primarily Mexican) population in Kansas increased from 3.6 percent to 7.0 percent from 1990 to 2000. Legal and illegal Mexican immigrants seek employment in an increasing number of labor-intensive industries and sometimes are recruited by Mexican criminal groups to transport illicit drugs into Kansas for distribution.

Kansas has a well-developed transportation infrastructure, and its location in the geographic center of the United States makes it a common transshipment point for licit and illicit goods. Drug transporters primarily use private and commercial vehicles to transport drugs into and throughout the state. Private aircraft as well as couriers on commercial aircraft, buses, and

Fast Facts	
Kansas	
Population (2001)	2,694,641
U.S. population ranking	32nd
Median household income (2001)	\$41,415
Unemployment rate (2001)	4.3%
Land area	81,815 square miles
Capital	Topeka
Other principal cities	Kansas City, Olathe, Overland Park, Wichita
Number of counties	105
Principal industries	Agriculture, aircraft manufacturing, meatpacking

passenger trains also are used by traffickers to transport illicit drugs, but to a lesser extent.

Kansas highways facilitate illicit drug transportation and distribution. Interstates 70 and 35 are two of the most active overland routes for



drug transportation in the United States. Most highway drug interdictions in Kansas reported to Operation Pipeline in 2000 occurred on I-70, which traverses central Kansas from east to west. Interstate 35 is a north-south route through eastern Kansas and extends from the U.S.–Mexico border to Duluth, Minnesota. The 238-mile Kansas Turnpike (I-35/335/70) connects three of the largest cities in the state—Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita. Other highways used to transport drugs into and throughout Kansas include I-135 and U.S. Highways 36, 54, 56, 77, 83, and 160.

### **Operation Pipeline**

Operation Pipeline is a national highway interdiction program supported by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC). Drug seizures from private vehicles are reported to Operation Pipeline by federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies operating nationwide along the highways and interstates most frequently used to transport illegal drugs and drug proceeds.

The volume of air passengers and cargo passing through Kansas provides drug traffickers with an additional means of transporting illicit drugs. There are two major airports that serve Kansas—the Kansas City International Airport, located in Missouri, and the Wichita Mid-Continent Airport. There are also over 140 local airports and landing strips in Kansas, affording drug traffickers the opportunity to transport drugs via private aircraft.

### **Marijuana Seized From Private Aircraft**

In July 2001 a private airplane suspected of transporting drugs was forced to land in Liberal. The flight originated in Compton, California, and was destined for Greenwood, Indiana. Law enforcement authorities seized more than 160 pounds of marijuana from the plane.

Source: Liberal Police Department; *Lawrence Journal-World*, 11 July 2001; *Associated Press*, 10 July 2001.

Drugs also are transported into and through Kansas by couriers aboard passenger trains. There are over 5,500 miles of operational railroad

in the state. In November 2001 law enforcement officials seized nearly 3 liters of liquid ketamine on a passenger train in Dodge City. The ketamine was destined for Chicago and was concealed in a dietary supplement bottle in passenger luggage.

Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of illicit drugs into Kansas. These criminal groups obtain wholesale quantities of methamphetamine, powdered cocaine, and marijuana and retail quantities of heroin in Mexico, California, and southwestern states. Mexican criminal groups and Hispanic street gangs sometimes recruit Mexican immigrants to transport illicit drugs into Kansas. Some African American street gangs transport crack cocaine into Kansas from metropolitan areas in surrounding states; however, most crack available in the state is converted at or near distribution locations within Kansas.

Mexican criminal groups dominate the wholesale distribution of methamphetamine, powdered cocaine, and marijuana in Kansas. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) estimates that there are 10 to 20 Mexican criminal groups operating in Dodge City, Emporia, Garden City, Kansas City, Liberal, Pratt, and Wichita. These drug distribution groups each have 2 to 100 members.

Drugs are distributed at the retail level in Kansas by Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, street gangs, and outlaw motorcycle gangs (OMGs). Mexican criminal groups dominate the retail distribution of methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states as well as powdered cocaine, Mexico-produced marijuana, and heroin. Caucasian local independent dealers distribute much of the methamphetamine and marijuana that is produced in the state. Street gangs also distribute methamphetamine, powdered and crack cocaine, marijuana, MDMA, and heroin at the retail level. OMGs distribute some methamphetamine and marijuana at the retail level. The most active OMGs in Kansas include El Forastero, Galloping Goose, Hells Angels, and Sons of Silence.

Hispanic street gangs reportedly have recruited Native Americans to transport illicit drugs into Kansas and to distribute drugs on reservations. There are several Indian reservations in Kansas. The Kickapoo and the Prairie Band of Potawatomi are located north of Topeka, in the eastern portion of the state. Two others, Sac and Fox Indian Reservation and Iowa Indian Reservation, straddle the border between Kansas and southeastern Nebraska. According to Tribal Police, Sureños street gang members from Topeka recruit Native American women to distribute illicit drugs on the Potawatomi Indian Reservation.

Drug-related treatment admissions to publicly funded facilities increased in Kansas from 1997 through 2001. According to the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), the number of admissions for most major drug categories—including methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana—increased overall during that period.

The percentage of Kansas residents who report abusing illicit drugs is lower than the percentage nationwide. According to the 1999–2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA), 5.1 percent of individuals in Kansas reported having abused an illicit drug in the month prior to the survey compared with 6.3 percent of individuals nationwide.

In fiscal year (FY) 2001 the percentage of federal sentences that were drug-related in Kansas was higher than the national percentage, and the percentage of federal sentences that were methamphetamine-related was significantly higher than the percentage nationwide. According to the U.S. Sentencing Commission (USSC), drug-related sentences represented 47 percent of all federal sentences in the state in FY2001 compared with 41 percent nationally. Almost 35 percent of all drug-related federal sentences in Kansas were methamphetamine-related compared with 14 percent nationally. (See Table 2 on page 5.)

Violent crime associated with drug-related activity is a particular concern in Kansas. Criminal groups and street gangs commit violent crimes in connection with drug debts and territorial disputes. Many methamphetamine and cocaine abusers commit violent crimes and property crimes to support their drug addictions.

The financial impact on the Kansas government from substance abuse-related costs is significant. The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University reported that in 1998 (the most recent year for which data are available) Kansas spent in excess of \$584 million—approximately \$223 per resident—on substance abuse-related costs. This figure accounted for 9.4 percent of the state’s total expenditures.

**Table 1. Drug-Related Treatment Admissions to Publicly Funded Facilities, Kansas, 1997–2001**

Year	Methamphetamine	Cocaine	Marijuana	Heroin
1997	997	2,189	2,569	79
1998	996	2,468	2,993	70
1999	800	2,432	2,757	65
2000	922	2,383	3,110	78
2001	1,160	2,279	3,477	75

Source: TEDS.

## Methamphetamine

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Methamphetamine is a principal drug threat to Kansas, primarily because of the drug's ready availability as well as the violence and environmental harm that often result from its production and abuse. Methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups in Mexico, California, and southwestern states is the predominant type available in Kansas, although the availability of locally produced methamphetamine is increasing. The number of methamphetamine laboratories seized in Kansas more than quadrupled from 1998 through 2001, and many law enforcement agencies report that they are witnessing an adverse environmental impact from the presence of methamphetamine laboratories. Caucasian local

independent producers, who generally use the Birch reduction method, are the primary in-state methamphetamine producers. Mexican criminal groups transport methamphetamine from Mexico, California, and southwestern states to distribution centers in Kansas in private and commercial vehicles. These groups also are the primary wholesale methamphetamine distributors throughout the state. Mexican criminal groups and Caucasian local independent dealers and, to a lesser extent, street gangs and OMGs distribute methamphetamine at the retail level. Retail distribution of methamphetamine typically occurs at residences, used car dealerships, parking lots, or in bars and restaurants.

## Abuse

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Law enforcement officials in Kansas report that methamphetamine abuse is a significant problem throughout the state. According to the National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) National Drug Threat Survey 2002, of the 39 Kansas law enforcement respondents who reported methamphetamine abuse in their jurisdictions, 33 indicated that abuse was high, 5 indicated that abuse was moderate, and 1 indicated that abuse was low.

Methamphetamine-related treatment admissions to publicly funded facilities in Kansas increased from 997 in 1997 to 1,160 in 2001, according to TEDS. (See Table 1 on page 3.) Data from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services indicate that there were 989 methamphetamine-related treatment admissions in state fiscal year (SFY) 2001—July 1 through June 30. (Disparities between state and federal reporting of admissions to substance abuse treatment programs are likely to occur because of differences in data collection and reporting methodologies.)

### **NDIC National Drug Threat Survey 2002**

The National Drug Threat Survey (NDTS) 2002 was administered by NDIC to a representative sample of state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States to assess the availability, abuse, and overall threat posed by all major drugs. NDIC received 2,906 survey responses from law enforcement agencies, an overall response rate of 80 percent. Survey respondents were asked to rank the greatest drug threats in their areas and to indicate the level of availability for each major drug type. They also were asked to provide information on specific groups involved in the transportation and distribution of illicit drugs. Responding agencies also provided narrative assessments of various aspects of the overall drug situation and the threat posed by specific drugs in their areas. Survey responses are used by NDIC to substantiate and augment drug threat information obtained from other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

## Availability

Methamphetamine is readily available throughout Kansas. Of the 38 Kansas respondents to the NDTs 2002 who reported methamphetamine availability in their jurisdictions, 34 indicated that availability was high and 4 indicated that availability was moderate. Methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states is the predominant type available in Kansas; however, the availability of locally produced methamphetamine is increasing significantly. In addition, during the first quarter of 2002, law enforcement officials in Kansas City and Topeka indicated that high purity crystal methamphetamine, known as ice, became available in wholesale and retail quantities in their jurisdictions.

Despite the increasing availability of methamphetamine, seizures have declined in Kansas. According to the Federal-wide Drug Seizure

### Crystal Methamphetamine

Crystal methamphetamine is a colorless, odorless form of smokable d-methamphetamine resembling glass fragments or ice shavings. In most areas of the United States where crystal methamphetamine is available, its production (a process of crystallizing methamphetamine) and distribution normally are associated with Asian traffickers.

System (FDSS), federal law enforcement officials in Kansas seized 32.0 kilograms of methamphetamine in 1998, 43.0 kilograms in 1999, 27.4 kilograms in 2000, and 17.5 kilograms in 2001. Law enforcement officials reporting to Operation Pipeline seized almost 47 kilograms of methamphetamine on Kansas highways in FY1999 and slightly over 24 kilograms in FY2000. State and

**Table 2. Percentage of Drug-Related Federal Sentences and Percentage by Drug Type  
Kansas and United States, FY1997–FY2001**

	All Drugs*	Methamphetamine	Powdered Cocaine	Crack Cocaine	Marijuana	Heroin
<b>Kansas</b>						
<b>FY1997</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>
<b>FY1998</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>FY1999</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>FY2000</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>FY2001</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>United States</b>						
<b>FY1997</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>FY1998</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>
<b>FY1999</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>8.0</b>
<b>FY2000</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>FY2001</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>

Source: USSC.

\* Represents the percentage of federal sentences that are drug-related.

local seizures of methamphetamine also are significant. The Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) seized more than 21 kilograms of methamphetamine in 2000 and nearly 13 kilograms in 2001. Also in 2001 the Topeka Police Department seized 3.6 kilograms of methamphetamine, the Kansas City Police Department seized nearly 2.0 kilograms, and the Overland Park Police Department seized more than 2.0 kilograms.

The percentage of drug-related federal sentences that were methamphetamine-related in Kansas in FY2001 was more than twice the national percentage. According to USSC FY2001 data, 35 percent of drug-related federal sentences in Kansas resulted from methamphetamine violations compared with 14 percent nationwide. (See Table 2 on page 5.) There were 10 federal sentences for methamphetamine-related offenses in Kansas in FY1997, 50 in FY1998, 59 in FY1999, 55 in FY2000, and 75 in FY2001. In addition, from October 1998 to May 2001, 8 of the 17 Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigations initiated in Kansas were methamphetamine-related.

Prices for methamphetamine in Kansas have remained relatively stable, while purity levels have fluctuated depending on the type of methamphetamine distributed and location. The Kansas City Police Department reports that methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups sells for \$2,500 per one-half pound, \$1,000 per ounce, and \$175 per one-eighth ounce. Locally produced methamphetamine in Kansas City sells for \$8,000 to \$12,000 per one-half pound and \$2,000 to

\$2,500 per ounce. The price of crystal methamphetamine in Kansas City is \$18,000 per pound, \$1,400 to \$2,400 per ounce, and \$800 per one-quarter ounce. The Wichita Police Department reports that in its jurisdiction methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups sells for \$5,000 to \$8,000 per pound, \$700 to \$800 per ounce, and \$100 to \$120 per one-eighth ounce. The Topeka Police Department reports that in its jurisdiction methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups sells for \$5,000 per pound. According to the DEA Kansas City District Office, in its area of responsibility the purity of methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups ranged from 20 to 30 percent in 2001, and the purity of locally produced methamphetamine averaged 80 percent. The purity of crystal methamphetamine in Kansas City during the first quarter of 2002 was 99 percent. According to DEA, the average purity of methamphetamine seized in Kansas (26.6%) was lower than the average purity nationwide (38.0%) in 2001.

**MSM**

Methamphetamine produced by Mexican criminal groups in Mexico, California, and southwestern states often is diluted with MSM—a nutritional supplement for horses and humans—to increase the quantity available for retail distribution and to improve the appearance of the product by whitening it. MSM (also known as dimethylsulfone or DMSO<sub>2</sub>) is available in bulk quantities from veterinary supply stores, feed stores, equine supply catalogs, and on the Internet.

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**Violence**

The potential for violence associated with methamphetamine abuse is a concern within the state. Individuals addicted to methamphetamine are unpredictable, experience feelings of fright and confusion, and will commit violent crimes to obtain the drug. Methamphetamine abusers often are paranoid and delusional and frequently arm themselves against perceived threats.

Violence associated with methamphetamine distribution also is a concern in Kansas. Methamphetamine distributors sometimes commit violent crimes to defend or expand their distribution territory and collect drug debts. Numerous street gangs distribute methamphetamine and commit violent crimes such as assault and home invasion. Kansas law enforcement respondents to the NDIC

National Gang Survey 2000 reported that the following gangs distribute methamphetamine and commit violent crimes in their jurisdictions: Aryan Brotherhood and Latin Kings in Leavenworth; Florencia 13 and South Dale Bloods in Kansas City; Gangster Disciples in Overland

### Methamphetamine Assault

In March 2001 a 4-year-old boy told Newton law enforcement authorities that his mother was assaulted by his father because she had broken a methamphetamine needle in her arm, and the father consequently was not able to use the needle to administer methamphetamine to himself.

Source: Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Park; and Crips, East Side Vatos Locos, Four Corner Hustlers, Gangster Disciples, and Sureños 13 in Topeka.

### Tweaking

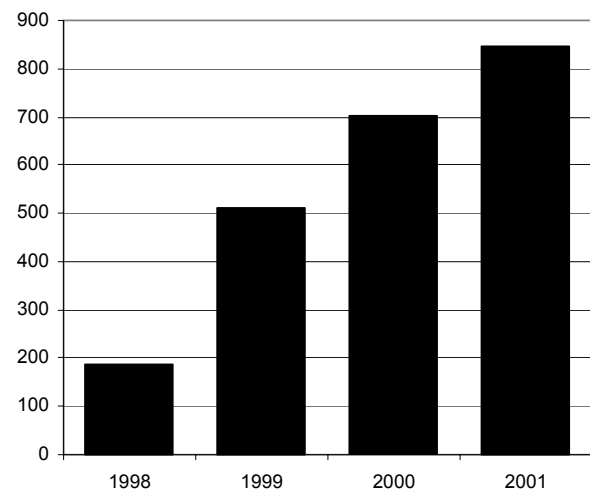
As the euphoric effects of methamphetamine diminish, abusers enter the tweaking stage in which they are prone to violence, delusions, paranoia, and feelings of emptiness and dysphoria. During the tweaking stage, the user often has not slept in days and, consequently, is extremely irritable. The tweaker also craves more methamphetamine, which results in frustration and contributes to anxiety and restlessness. In this stage the individual may become violent without provocation. Case histories have revealed that some tweakers are antagonized by the mere sight of a police uniform.

## Production

Mexican criminal groups using the hydriodic acid/red phosphorus reduction method in high volume laboratories in Mexico, California, and southwestern states produce most of the methamphetamine available in Kansas. Local independent producers, primarily Caucasians, also produce the drug in Kansas. They generally use the Birch reduction method to produce gram to ounce quantities of methamphetamine for personal use and for distribution to friends. Mexican criminal groups have recruited some Caucasian local independent producers in Wichita to produce methamphetamine. These Mexican criminal groups combine the locally produced methamphetamine with lower quality methamphetamine (produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states) in order to increase the purity of their product.

The number of methamphetamine laboratories seized in Kansas increased each year from 1998 through 2001. According to DEA and KBI statistics, there were 189 laboratories, chemicals/glassware, and dumpsites seized in Kansas in 1998, 511 in 1999, 702 in 2000, and 846 in 2001. According to EPIC, Kansas ranked fourth in the nation for the total number of methamphetamine

**Chart 1. Number of Methamphetamine Laboratories, Chemicals/Glassware, and Dumpsites Seized, Kansas, 1998–2001**



Source: DEA; KBI.

laboratories, chemicals/glassware, and dumpsites seized in 2001. In 2001 the counties in which the largest number of seizures occurred were Shawnee (90), Cowley (67), Saline (62), Reno (55), and Sedgwick (48). Most laboratories are relatively small, rudimentary, and portable, making detection a challenge for law enforcement

### Methamphetamine Production Methods

#### Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine Reduction:

**Hydriodic acid/red phosphorus.** The principal chemicals are ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, hydriodic acid, and red phosphorus. This method can yield multipound quantities of high quality d-methamphetamine and often is associated with Mexican drug trafficking organizations.

**Iodine/red phosphorus.** The principal chemicals are ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, iodine, and red phosphorus. The required hydriodic acid in this variation of the hydriodic acid/red phosphorus method is produced by the reaction of iodine in water with red phosphorus. This method yields high quality d-methamphetamine. Another iodine/red phosphorus method, limited to small production batches, is called the cold cook method because the chemicals, instead of being heated, are placed in a hot environment such as in direct sunlight.

**Iodine/hypophosphorous acid.** The principal chemicals are ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, iodine, and hypophosphorous acid. The required hydriodic acid in this variation of the hydriodic acid/red phosphorus method is produced by the reaction of iodine in water with hypophosphorous acid. Known as the Hypo method, this method yields lower quality d-methamphetamine. Hypophosphorous acid is more prone than red phosphorus to cause a fire and can produce deadly phosphine gas.

**Birch.** The principal chemicals are ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, anhydrous ammonia, and sodium or lithium metal. Also known as the Nazi method, this method typically yields ounce quantities of high quality d-methamphetamine and often is used by independent dealers and producers.

#### Phenyl-2-propanone:

**P2P.** The principal chemicals are phenyl-2-propanone, aluminum, methylamine, and mercuric acid. This method yields lower quality dl-methamphetamine and traditionally was associated with outlaw motorcycle gangs.

authorities. The portability of these laboratories enables producers to assemble them in abandoned farmhouses, automobiles, campers, hotel rooms, recreational vehicles, and warehouses.

The chemicals used in methamphetamine production are readily available in Kansas. Anhydrous ammonia often is stolen from farms and farm supply stores. Iodine typically is acquired at local feed stores. Lithium often is extracted from camera batteries available at most retail stores. Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine often are extracted from diet pills and many over-the-counter cold medicines using coffee filters, coffeepots, tabletop grills, and microwave ovens.

Law enforcement initiatives, partnerships between law enforcement authorities and retail merchants, as well as increased regulatory controls, have decreased the availability of some of the chemicals used to produce methamphetamine. Topeka and other cities have a Methamphetamine

Watch Program to identify individuals involved in methamphetamine production. Under the program—a collective effort involving KBI, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and major retail stores—retailers report multiple purchases of chemicals that are commonly used in the methamphetamine production process. In addition, authorities throughout Kansas have requested that retailers limit the sale of common household items such as cold medicines that contain ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, which may be used to produce methamphetamine. Furthermore, stricter federal and state controls on bulk purchases of ephedrine have impacted methamphetamine production and forced methamphetamine producers to use pseudoephedrine, which is costlier and less efficient.

The Birch reduction method is common in Kansas as in other agricultural states because of the widespread availability of anhydrous ammonia, which is used legitimately as a fertilizer. During

2001 more than 83 percent (706) of the 846 methamphetamine laboratories, dumpsites, and chemicals/glass/equipment sites seized in Kansas employed the Birch reduction method. Theft of anhydrous ammonia from storage tanks on farms and at farm supply outlets is common. Law enforcement officials in Manhattan and the Kansas City area reported that methamphetamine producers have stored diverted anhydrous ammonia in fire extinguishers, and law enforcement officials in Colby reported anhydrous ammonia being stored in propane tanks and thermos bottles. Anhydrous ammonia also reportedly has been stored inside steel containers normally used to hold syrup for carbonated beverages. In 1999 in an effort to curb the theft of anhydrous ammonia, the Kansas legislature enacted a law making anhydrous ammonia theft a felony.

The iodine/red phosphorus method was the primary method used to produce methamphetamine in Kansas until 1998 but has been used less frequently in recent years. In 2001, 115 of the 846 laboratories, chemicals/glassware, and dumpsites seized in Kansas used the iodine/red phosphorus method. These laboratories were seized in various locations including Kansas City, Lawrence, Pittsburg, and Wichita as well as Jackson County. According to the Kansas City Metro Meth Task Force, producers using the iodine/red phosphorus method sometimes use one location for the pseudoephedrine extraction process, a second location for the iodine and red phosphorus step, and another to produce the finished product. Law enforcement authorities in other parts of Kansas also report decentralized methamphetamine production operations of this type.

## Transportation

Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of most of the methamphetamine available in Kansas. These groups transport the drug from Mexico, California, and southwestern states in commercial vehicles and in hidden compartments in the consoles, dashboards, or spare

Methamphetamine production poses serious safety and environmental concerns. The production process creates toxic and hazardous waste that endangers law enforcement personnel, emergency response teams, children (particularly those in the homes of methamphetamine producers), and the environment. The chemicals used in the production process are toxic, highly flammable, and generate poisonous vapors. Production of 1 pound of methamphetamine yields approximately 5 to 7 pounds of toxic waste, and methamphetamine laboratory operators often dump waste chemicals in areas accessible to the public. These chemicals contaminate soil, streams and rivers, and public sewer systems. Dumpsites are discovered frequently in Kansas. For example, in 2001 law enforcement authorities in Cowley and Saline Counties identified 46 dumpsites and 31 dumpsites, respectively. Remediation of laboratory sites costs federal, state, and local governments millions of dollars every year. The average cost of cleaning one site is \$5,000; however, costs can exceed \$100,000.

### **Methamphetamine Laboratory Explosion Kills Man**

In August 2000 two individuals in Lyons produced methamphetamine and then buried the laboratory under the dirt floor of a farm shed. The laboratory exploded, killing one of the men. The other individual allegedly removed the body and dumped it in a remote cow pasture in Reno County.

Source: Rice County Sheriff's Office.

tire storage areas of private vehicles. Passenger trains and package delivery services also are used, but to a lesser extent. Mexican criminal groups sometimes recruit Mexican immigrants to transport methamphetamine into Kansas. Typically, methamphetamine is transported into Kansas on



I-35 and I-70. In addition, US 54, accessible via I-35, also is used to transport methamphetamine, primarily to Wichita. According to KBI, in 2000 Mexican criminal groups operating in southwestern states transported 40 pounds of methamphetamine weekly to Dodge City, Garden City, and Liberal. Topeka Police Department officials report that some Mexican criminal groups associated with the Mexican Mafia and the Sinaloa Cowboys transport methamphetamine into Topeka. Caucasian local independent producers also transport small quantities of locally produced methamphetamine throughout the state using private vehicles.

**Methamphetamine Seized  
En Route To Wichita**

Methamphetamine destined for Kansas has been seized in other states. In December 2001 the Utah Highway Patrol seized nearly 20 pounds of methamphetamine from a van in Moab. The methamphetamine was wrapped in cellophane and concealed behind radio speakers. Two couriers—a Hispanic female from Wichita and a male illegal Mexican national—were transporting the drug from Los Angeles to Wichita.

Source: DEA Drug Task Force, Wichita; KHP.

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**Distribution**

Mexican criminal groups are the primary wholesale distributors of methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states. To a lesser extent, local independent dealers, primarily Caucasian, distribute methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states as well as locally produced methamphetamine at the wholesale level. In 2001 law enforcement authorities in Coffeyville, Fort Scott, Garden City, Independence, Leavenworth, and Newton and in Barton, Dickinson, Jefferson, and Montgomery Counties reported that Caucasian local independent dealers distribute wholesale quantities of methamphetamine in their jurisdictions.

Several Kansas cities serve as methamphetamine distribution centers for the state. Cities located along I-35—particularly Kansas City and Wichita—serve as distribution centers for the methamphetamine that is transported into the state from Mexico, California, and southwestern states. Dodge City, Garden City, Liberal, and Topeka also serve as distribution cities within the state for methamphetamine produced in Kansas as well as in Mexico, California, and southwestern states.

Mexican criminal groups, Caucasian local independent dealers and, to a lesser extent, street gangs and OMGs distribute methamphetamine at

the retail level. Mexican criminal groups are the primary retail distributors of methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states. Caucasian local independent dealers distribute methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states as well as locally produced methamphetamine. Caucasian local independent dealers in Kansas City distribute methamphetamine in one-half ounce to ounce quantities at the retail level. In some metropolitan areas of Kansas, Hispanic street gangs such as Sureños, Vatos Locos, Central 13, and Spanish Disciples distribute methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states at the retail level. Some members of Sureños recruit Native American women from the Potawatomi Indian Reservation to distribute the drug. The 10/9 Folks street gang, which is composed of Caucasian, Hispanic, and African American members, distributes methamphetamine in Kansas City. The Sons of Silence OMG, with chapters in Chanute, Fort Hays, Hutchinson, Junction City, Kansas City, Manhattan, Russell, Salina, and Topeka, distributes methamphetamine throughout the state. The OMG also is recruiting members in three other cities in Kansas. Fine Upstanding Citizens of Kansas, a Kansas-based OMG, distributes methamphetamine in southeastern Kansas. Members of El Forastero,

Galloping Goose, and Hells Angels also distribute methamphetamine throughout the state. Retail quantities of methamphetamine in Kansas usually

are distributed from residences, at used car dealerships, in parking lots and bars and restaurants.

## Cocaine

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Cocaine, particularly crack, poses a significant drug threat to Kansas largely because of crack's highly addictive nature and association with violent crime. Crack cocaine is available primarily in metropolitan areas, and powdered cocaine is available throughout the state. Mexican criminal groups transport powdered cocaine into Kansas from Mexico through California and southwestern states primarily in private and commercial vehicles. These groups also dominate wholesale cocaine distribution throughout the state. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, and street gangs distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level. Retail distributors in Kansas typically convert

powdered cocaine into crack on an as-needed basis at or near distribution sites. However, some African American street gangs transport crack cocaine into Kansas from metropolitan areas in surrounding states. African American street gangs and local independent dealers distribute crack cocaine at the retail level. Retail distribution of cocaine commonly is facilitated by pagers, pay phones, and cellular telephones. Retail quantities are distributed on street corners, at bars, and from residences. Crack cocaine distributors and abusers in Kansas commit a wide range of violent crimes, including assault, carjacking, and drive-by shooting.

## Abuse

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Law enforcement officials in Kansas report that cocaine abuse is common in the state. Respondents to the NDTS 2002 in Liberal, Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita and in Miami, Reno, and Sedgwick Counties reported that rates of powdered and crack cocaine abuse in their jurisdictions were high. Law enforcement officials in Olathe, a few miles southwest of Kansas City, and in Douglas, Montgomery, and Shawnee Counties reported that rates of crack abuse were high and that rates of powdered cocaine abuse were moderate. The percentage of Kansas residents who report having abused cocaine in the past year is statistically comparable to the percentage nationwide. According to the 1999–2000 NHSDA, 1.5 percent of Kansas residents reported having abused cocaine in the year prior to the survey compared with 1.6 percent of individuals nationwide.

Cocaine-related treatment admissions to publicly funded facilities in Kansas increased somewhat from 2,189 in 1997 to 2,279 in 2001, according to TEDS. Cocaine abuse accounted for more admissions to publicly funded treatment facilities in Kansas in 2001 than any other illicit drug except marijuana. (See Table 1 on page 3.) From 1997 through 2001 admissions for smoked cocaine (crack) significantly outnumbered admissions for cocaine administered via another route. In 2001, 1,866 (82%) admissions were smoked cocaine-related. Data from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services indicate that there were 2,307 treatment admissions for cocaine abuse in SFY2001. (Disparities between federal and state reporting on admissions to substance abuse treatment programs occur because of differences in data collection and reporting methodologies.)

## Availability

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Cocaine, particularly crack, is readily available in urban population centers, medium-size cities, and a few smaller towns in Kansas. Law enforcement respondents to the NDTs 2002 in Abilene, Kansas City, Liberal, Salina, Topeka, and Wichita and in Reno County reported that crack cocaine and powdered cocaine were readily available in their jurisdictions. Law enforcement officials in Junction City and Olathe and in Douglas, Montgomery, and Riley Counties reported that crack cocaine was readily available and powdered cocaine was moderately available.

Seizure data reflect the ready availability of cocaine in Kansas. According to FDSS, federal law enforcement officials in Kansas seized 27.7 kilograms of cocaine in 1998, 194.4 kilograms in 1999, 139.6 kilograms in 2000, and 305.4 kilograms in 2001. Law enforcement officials reporting to Operation Pipeline seized more than 900 kilograms of cocaine on Kansas highways in 1999 and over 160 kilograms in FY2000. KHP seized over 168 kilograms of powdered cocaine in 2000 and over 77 kilograms in 2001. KHP seized more than 113 grams of crack cocaine in 2000 and slightly more than 195 grams in 2001.

In FY2001 the percentage of drug-related federal sentences that were cocaine-related in Kansas was comparable to the national percentage. According to USSC, in FY2001 almost 38 percent (17.1% powdered and 20.8% crack) of drug-related federal sentences in Kansas resulted from cocaine violations compared with almost 43 percent (22.1% powdered and 20.4% crack) nationwide. The percentage of crack cocaine-related federal

sentences in Kansas was higher than the national percentage each year from FY1997 through FY2001. (See Table 2 on page 5.) The number of crack cocaine-related sentences increased from 25 in FY1997 to 45 in FY2001, and the number of powdered cocaine-related sentences increased from 26 in FY1997 to 37 in FY2001. In addition, from October 1998 to May 2001, 9 of the 17 OCDETF investigations initiated in Kansas were cocaine-related.

The price of powdered cocaine varies widely across the state, according to reporting from federal and local law enforcement officials. Prices for powdered cocaine ranged from \$15,000 to \$20,000 per kilogram and \$600 to \$2,800 per ounce throughout the state. In 2002 in Wichita powdered cocaine sold for \$800 to \$1,200 per ounce, according to DEA. According to local law enforcement officials, powdered cocaine sells for \$60 per gram in Dodge City and \$80 to \$90 per gram in Wichita. According to DEA, purity levels of powdered cocaine seized in the state ranged from 70 to 90 percent in 2000.

Crack cocaine prices also vary throughout the state. The Kansas City Police Department reports that crack cocaine sells for \$800 to \$1,000 per ounce. In 2002 crack cocaine sold for \$800 to \$1,200 per ounce in Wichita, according to DEA. According to local law enforcement officials, crack cocaine throughout the state sells for \$20 to \$50 per rock, depending on the size. In Garden City a rock weighing less than one-quarter gram sells for \$20 to \$30, and in Pittsburg a rock weighing one-tenth to two-tenths gram sells for \$20.

## Violence

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Crack cocaine is the drug most often associated with violent crime in Kansas, particularly in inner-city neighborhoods and housing projects. Crack abusers often commit violent crimes to support their addictions, and crack distributors

commonly commit violent crimes to protect their drug operations. Street gangs that distribute crack cocaine commit assault, carjacking, drive-by shooting, home invasion, robbery, and firearms violations. Respondents to the NDIC National

Gang Survey 2000 reported that street gangs in Kansas that distribute cocaine also commit violent crimes. These gangs include Florencia 13, South Dale Bloods, and Spanish Disciples in Kansas City; School Yard Crips in Lawrence; 301 Posse, Aryan Brotherhood, Eastside Crips, Hilltop Crips, Latin Kings, Northside Bloods,

One G Posse, Swan Bloods, Vice Lords, and Westside Players in Leavenworth; Gangster Disciples in Overland Park; and Bloods, East Side Vatos Locos, Folks, Four Corner Hustlers, Gangster Disciples, Sureños 13, and Vice Lords in Topeka.

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## Production

Coca is not cultivated nor is cocaine produced in Kansas. The drug is produced in South America, primarily Colombia. However, retail distributors in Kansas commonly convert powdered cocaine into crack on an as-needed basis in an attempt to avoid federal penalties that are harsher for the

possession of crack than for the possession of powdered cocaine. Conversion commonly occurs near distribution areas and often in stash houses or in the homes of local independent dealers and street gang members.

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## Transportation

Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of wholesale quantities of powdered cocaine. They generally smuggle the drug from Mexico through California and southwestern states into Kansas. Mexican criminal groups transport powdered cocaine from Amarillo, Dallas, El Paso, Los Angeles, and Oklahoma City to Wichita, which serves as a distribution center for powdered cocaine destined for Kansas City and Omaha. Mexican criminal groups also transport wholesale quantities of powdered cocaine from Chihuahua, Mexico, through El Paso or McAllen, Texas, to Kansas City. In addition, powdered cocaine is transported from Mexico to Liberal via the Texas cities of Amarillo, Midland, and Odessa.

Cocaine typically is transported into Kansas via Interstates 35 and 70 and US 54 in private or commercial vehicles equipped with hidden compartments; couriers aboard commercial buses are used to a lesser extent. Transporters also intermingle cocaine with legitimate goods or conceal the drug in luggage in private vehicles and on buses. In addition, some Mexican criminal groups transport kilogram quantities of powdered cocaine

to Kansas City in tractor-trailers often concealing the drug in steel containers in the tires.

Powdered cocaine destined for other states often is transported through Kansas. Law enforcement authorities in Kansas have seized powdered cocaine destined for Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. In January 2002 Olathe Police Department officers seized 120 kilograms of powdered cocaine from a private vehicle on I-35. The cocaine was being transported from El Paso to Rockford, Illinois. In May 2001 Thomas County law enforcement authorities seized 15 kilograms of powdered cocaine from a Caucasian man in a private vehicle on I-70 en route from San Diego to Washington, D.C. In March 2001 Salina law enforcement authorities seized 200 kilograms of powdered cocaine from a pickup truck en route from Texas to Pennsylvania.

Although most of the crack cocaine available in Kansas is converted locally to avoid the stricter penalties associated with crack possession, street gangs and local independent dealers transport

some crack cocaine from neighboring states into Kansas. Rolling 30s Crips members transport crack cocaine from Denver to Manhattan. According to

the Pittsburg Police Department, African American local independent dealers transport crack from Coffeyville and Kansas City to Pittsburg.

## Distribution

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Mexican criminal groups are the primary wholesale distributors of powdered cocaine throughout Kansas. These groups supply wholesale quantities of powdered cocaine to retail distributors including other Mexican criminal groups, African American street gangs, and local independent dealers. Law enforcement authorities in Dodge City, Garden City, Kansas City, Liberal, Newton, Olathe, and Topeka identified Mexican criminal groups as wholesale distributors of powdered cocaine in their jurisdictions.

The major cities in Kansas—Dodge City, Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita—are located along highways and serve as distribution centers for cocaine destined for other areas of Kansas and neighboring states. Wichita serves as a cocaine distribution center for Kansas City and Omaha. Kansas City is a cocaine distribution city for smaller towns in northeastern Kansas and southeastern Nebraska. Dodge City is a regional cocaine distribution city for the smaller southwestern Kansas towns of Bucklin, Cimarron, and Kinsley.

Mexican criminal groups, street gangs, and local independent dealers distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level. Barton County and Franklin County law enforcement authorities report that Mexican criminal groups distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level in their jurisdictions. Local independent dealers and street gangs also distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level in Kansas. Dodge City law enforcement officials report that Las Carnales Chingones, 18th Street, Diablos Viejos, and Lomas (Hispanic street gangs) and the Asian Boyz and Dead Everlasting

Gangsters (Asian street gangs) distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level in their area. Master Criminal Boyz, a street gang composed of Hispanic and Caucasian members, also distributes powdered cocaine at the retail level in Dodge City. Vatos Locos, composed of Hispanic and Caucasian members, and 805 Piru Bloods, an African American street gang, distribute powdered cocaine at the retail level in Newton. Moreover, members of Dead Everlasting Gangsters distribute retail quantities of powdered cocaine in Wichita. Retail-level cocaine transactions commonly are prearranged or made using pagers, pay phones, and cellular telephones, and they typically take place on street corners, at bars, or in residences.

Kansas-based African American street gangs and African American local independent dealers are the primary retail distributors of crack cocaine in the state, particularly in Dodge City, Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita. Street gangs that distribute crack at the retail level in Kansas include Playing For Keeps (composed of African Americans and Caucasians) and Diablos Viejos in Dodge City and Inglewood Family Gangster Bloods in Kansas City. In Topeka members of Gangster Disciples, Sureños 13, and Vice Lords distribute crack; in Wichita members of Dead Everlasting Gangsters, Junior Boys, and Neighborhood Crips are crack distributors. Many of these street gangs acquire powdered cocaine to convert to crack from Mexican criminal groups who sell the gangs higher purity cocaine than they sell to cocaine abusers.

## Marijuana

Marijuana is the most widely available and frequently abused illicit drug in Kansas. Marijuana abuse is associated with more drug-related admissions to publicly funded treatment facilities than any other illicit drug. Most of the marijuana available in the state is produced in Mexico, although some cannabis is cultivated locally. Mexican criminal groups transport marijuana into and through Kansas in private and commercial

vehicles. A significant portion of the Mexico-produced marijuana seized in Kansas is destined for other states. Mexican criminal groups and, to a lesser extent, Caucasian local independent dealers are the primary wholesale marijuana distributors in Kansas. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, street gangs, and OMGs also distribute marijuana at the retail level.

### Abuse

Law enforcement officials report that there are high levels of marijuana abuse throughout Kansas. According to responses to the NDTs 2002, of the 39 respondents who reported marijuana abuse in their jurisdictions, 32 indicated that abuse was high and 7 indicated that abuse was moderate. The percentage of Kansas residents who report having abused marijuana in the past month is lower than the percentage nationwide. According to the 1999–2000 NHSDA, 3.7 percent of Kansas residents reported having abused marijuana in the year prior to the survey compared with 4.8 percent of individuals nationwide.

Marijuana is the most commonly abused illicit drug in Kansas. Marijuana abuse is associated with more admissions to publicly funded treatment facilities in Kansas than any other illicit drug, and the number of marijuana-related treatment admissions has increased. According to TEDS, marijuana-related treatment admissions increased from 2,569 in 1997 to 3,477 in 2001. (See Table 1 on page 3.) The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services reports that there were 3,331 marijuana-related treatment admissions in SFY2001. (Disparities between federal and state reporting on admissions to substance abuse treatment programs occur because of differences in data collection and reporting methodologies.)

### Availability

Marijuana, particularly commercial-grade marijuana produced in Mexico, is the most widely available illicit drug in Kansas. Marijuana produced in Kansas also is available. Of the 39 Kansas respondents to the NDTs 2002 who reported marijuana availability, 35 indicated that availability was high and 4 indicated that availability was moderate.

Seizure data reflect the ready availability of marijuana in Kansas. According to FDSS data, federal law enforcement officials in Kansas seized 1,741.3 kilograms in 1998, 3,484.8 kilograms in

#### Combination Drug Use

Marijuana sometimes is combined with other drugs such as methamphetamine prior to distribution. According to Montgomery County law enforcement authorities, in 2001 a Caucasian local independent dealer sold marijuana laced with methamphetamine to high school students.

Source: Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

1999, 5,827.6 kilograms in 2000, and 2,539.4 kilograms in 2001. Law enforcement authorities

that reported to Operation Pipeline seized more than 4,900 kilograms of marijuana in 1999 and over 10,000 kilograms in 2000. KHP seized 7,566 kilograms of marijuana in 2000 and 2,884 kilograms in 2001. In 2001 the Kansas City Police Department seized 488 kilograms of marijuana. Further, from October 1998 to May 2001, 10 of the 17 OCDETF investigations initiated in Kansas were marijuana-related.

In FY2001 the percentage of drug-related federal sentences that were marijuana-related in Kansas was lower than the national percentage. According to USSC, in FY2001, 21 percent of drug-related federal sentences in Kansas resulted from marijuana-related offenses compared with

33 percent nationally. (See Table 2 on page 5.) The number of federal sentences for marijuana violations in Kansas increased from 25 in FY1997 to 46 in FY2001.

Marijuana prices throughout Kansas vary depending on type and location. Marijuana sells for \$550 per pound in Kansas City, \$750 per pound in Overland Park, \$800 per pound in Sedgwick County, and \$1,000 per pound in Shawnee County. Retail quantities of marijuana sell for \$40 to \$175 per ounce depending on the area. According to the DEA St. Louis Division, Mexico-produced marijuana sold for \$650 to \$1,200 per pound in 2001, and locally produced marijuana sold for \$750 to \$2,000 per pound.

## **Violence**

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Violence has been associated with marijuana production and distribution in Kansas but to a limited extent. Domestic cannabis cultivators sometimes are armed and use booby traps to protect their cultivation sites from law enforcement authorities. Firearms occasionally are seized from cannabis growing sites in Kansas. DEA Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCE/SP) statistics indicate that law enforcement officials in Kansas seized 2 firearms in 1998, 10 in 1999, and 42 in 2000 during cannabis eradication operations. Kansas respondents to the NDIC National Gang Survey 2000 reported that many street gangs that distribute marijuana commit violent crimes such as assault, home invasion, and carjacking. These gangs include Florencia 13, South Dale Bloods, and Spanish Disciples in Kansas City; Schoolyard Crips and Somos Pocos

Pero Locos in Lawrence; 301 Posse, Aryan Brotherhood, Eastside Crips, Hilltop Crips, Latin Kings, Northside Bloods, One G Posse, Swan Bloods, Vice Lords, and Westside Players in Leavenworth; East Side Vatos Locos and Gangster Disciples in Overland Park; and Bloods, Crips, Eastside Vatos Locos, Four Corner Hustlers, Folks, and Sureños 13 in Topeka.

### **Man Shoots Friend for Smoking His Marijuana**

In 2001 in Wichita a Caucasian man fatally shot a friend for smoking his marijuana. After the shooting the man tossed his friend's body into a trash bin.

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Source: Wichita Police Department.

## **Production**

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Most of the marijuana available in Kansas is produced in Mexico; however, some cannabis also is cultivated throughout the state, primarily by local independent Caucasian growers. Law enforcement officials statewide report that outdoor

cannabis cultivation is more common than indoor cultivation. Cannabis is cultivated both outdoors and indoors in Barton County and in Coffeyville, Garden City, Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita.

In Kansas outdoor cannabis grow sites typically yield more cannabis than indoor sites. According to DCE/SP data, law enforcement officers in Kansas seized 48 outdoor plots containing 14,294 cannabis plants in 1999 and 39 outdoor plots containing 2,795 plants in 2000. DCE/SP reported that in 1999 indoor grow seizures at 14

sites yielded 473 plants and in 2000, 32 indoor grow operations yielded 543 plants.

Outdoor cannabis growers often conceal cannabis plants to avoid detection by law enforcement authorities. In Lyon County cultivators place small groups of cannabis plants around utility poles. In Jefferson County camouflage netting is used to conceal cannabis in remote wooded locations.

## Transportation

Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of wholesale quantities of Mexico-produced marijuana into Kansas. According to law enforcement officials in Liberal, Mexican criminal groups transport marijuana into their jurisdiction from Mexico through Amarillo, Midland, and Odessa, Texas. Law enforcement officials in Thomas County report that Mexican criminal groups and local independent dealers transport marijuana to their area, particularly to Colby, from Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Diego, San Francisco, and Tucson. Investigations in Colby also have revealed that some marijuana from Mexico destined for Kansas is routed from El Paso to Arizona then north to Denver—a distribution center for marijuana destined for Colby. Marijuana also is transported by Mexican criminal groups into Montgomery County from El Paso, Tulsa, and Wichita.

Marijuana typically is transported into Kansas in private and commercial vehicles and by couriers on buses following the same routes used to transport methamphetamine and cocaine. In December 2001 Pratt law enforcement authorities

### Marijuana Seized in Paola

In October 2001 Miami County law enforcement authorities in Paola seized 584 pounds of marijuana from a group of Mexican nationals. The marijuana was transported via tractor-trailer through Texas and Oklahoma to Liberal and then on US 54 to Wichita. The Mexican nationals then transported the marijuana via I-35 to a farm field in Paola to unload the shipment. A farmer contacted local authorities to report the suspicious activity. Further investigation revealed that these Mexican nationals were members of, or affiliated with, a marijuana distribution group composed of Spanish-speaking Mennonites based in Chihuahua, Mexico, which had connections to a Mexican criminal group in Kansas City.

Source: Miami County Sheriff's Office.

seized 65 pounds of marijuana from a private vehicle on US 54 traveling from Deming, New Mexico, to Wichita. Two similar seizures also occurred during that month.

### Transporters Use Commercial Trucking Companies to Ship Marijuana

From April 2000 through January 2002, Jayhawk Task Force law enforcement authorities and numerous local police departments seized approximately 2,200 pounds of marijuana in a multijurisdictional investigation. Mexican criminals used commercial trucking companies based in El Paso to transport marijuana concealed in pallets of dry food goods or machinery parts to Kansas and other states. For example, in January 2002 law enforcement authorities seized approximately 560 pounds of bricked marijuana from a fiberglass pallet container shipped from an El Paso business to Edwardsville.

Source: Jayhawk Task Force.



Transporters use a variety of means to conceal marijuana during transportation. In December 2000 the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office seized 40 pounds of marijuana concealed in gift-wrapped packages in a vehicle. In September 2000 Lyon County law enforcement authorities seized more than 1,300 pounds of marijuana from a motor home. The marijuana was hidden in a false floor and in the walls of the motor home.

Kansas is a transit state for Mexico-produced marijuana destined for drug markets throughout the United States. More than 80 percent of the 10,000 kilograms of marijuana seized on Kansas highways as part of Operation Pipeline in 2000 was destined for other areas, including Florida,

Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. In December 2001 Lenexa law enforcement officers seized 295 pounds of bricked marijuana from a pickup truck on I-35. The marijuana was being transported from Bravo, Mexico, to Muscatine, Iowa. Also in December 2001 Pratt law enforcement officials seized 285 pounds of marijuana from a recreational vehicle en route to Aurora, Illinois, on US 54. In addition, Operation Jetway reporting indicates that in 2000, law enforcement officials in Kansas City seized over 4 kilograms of marijuana from a passenger on board a bus traveling from Laredo, Texas, to Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## Distribution

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Mexican criminal groups and, to a lesser extent, Caucasian local independent dealers are the primary wholesale distributors of Mexico-produced marijuana in Kansas. Caucasian local independent dealers also are the primary wholesale distributors of marijuana produced in Kansas. Wholesale marijuana distributors supply marijuana to other Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, street gangs, and OMGs for retail distribution.

Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, street gangs, and OMGs are the principal retail distributors of locally produced and Mexico-produced marijuana in Kansas. Mexican criminal groups in Barton County and in Dodge City and Garden City, and Caucasian local independent dealers in Franklin County and in Coffeyville, Independence, Lenexa, and Overland Park distribute marijuana at the retail level. Street gangs also

are involved in retail-level marijuana distribution in Kansas. In Dodge City some Asian street gangs such as Asian Boyz and Dead Everlasting Gangsters distribute marijuana at the retail level. Hispanic street gangs including Diablos Viejos and Master Criminal Boyz in Dodge City and Vatos Locos in Wichita distribute marijuana at the retail level; African American street gangs including Insane Crips, Junior Boys, and Neighborhood Crips distribute retail quantities of marijuana in Wichita. In addition, OMGs such as Hells Angels distribute marijuana at the retail level throughout Kansas. Retail quantities of marijuana typically are packaged in plastic bags or in black film canisters and are distributed from residences, parking lots, used car dealerships, or businesses such as bars and restaurants.

## Other Dangerous Drugs

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Other dangerous drugs (ODDs) pose a threat to Kansas. ODDs include the stimulant MDMA; the depressant GHB and its analogs; the hallucinogens LSD, PCP, psilocybin, and ketamine; and diverted pharmaceuticals including opioids (narcotic analgesics) such as codeine, Darvocet, Dilaudid, hydrocodone (Lortab, Vicodin), methadone,

oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet, Percodan), and sedative hypnotics (benzodiazepines) such as Valium and Xanax. ODDs are becoming increasingly available in some areas of the state, especially in cities with colleges or universities. ODDs are sold primarily by Caucasian local independent dealers and abused by young adults.

## MDMA

MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), also known as Adam, ecstasy, XTC, E, and X, is a stimulant and low-level hallucinogen. MDMA is generally taken orally in tablet or capsule form. MDMA abuse is a concern among law enforcement and public health agencies in the state because the drug can cause psychological problems similar to those associated with methamphetamine and cocaine abuse including confusion, depression, sleeplessness, anxiety, and paranoia. Physical effects can include muscle tension, involuntary teeth clenching, blurred vision, and increased heart rate and blood pressure. MDMA abuse can also cause a marked increase in body temperature leading to muscle breakdown, kidney failure, cardiovascular system failure, stroke, seizure, or heart attack as reported in some fatal cases at raves. Researchers suggest that MDMA abuse may result in long-term and sometimes permanent damage to parts of the brain that are critical to thought and memory.

The availability and abuse of MDMA are increasing in Kansas, particularly among teenagers and young adults. Law enforcement respondents to the NDTs 2002 in Johnson County reported that MDMA availability was high in their jurisdiction. Law enforcement authorities in Abilene and in Dickinson, Finney, and Montgomery Counties indicated that availability and abuse of MDMA in their jurisdictions was moderate.

Most MDMA available in Kansas is produced outside the United States, typically in the Netherlands and Belgium. It is transported by couriers aboard commercial aircraft through distribution centers such as Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, Phoenix, and Washington, D.C., and via package delivery services. MDMA generally is transported in private vehicles from distribution centers to the Kansas City area in quantities of 6,000 to 10,000 tablets.

Caucasian local independent dealers are the primary wholesale distributors of MDMA in

### Raves

Throughout the 1990s high energy, all-night dances known as raves, which feature hard-pounding techno-music and flashing laser lights, increased in popularity among teens and young adults. Raves occur in most metropolitan areas of the country. They can be either permanent dance clubs or temporary "weekend event" sites set up in abandoned warehouses, open fields, empty buildings, or civic centers. Club drugs are a group of synthetic drugs often sold at raves and dance clubs. MDMA is one of the most popular club drugs. Rave managers often sell water, pacifiers, and glow sticks at rave parties. "Ravers" require water to offset dehydration caused by MDMA, use pacifiers to prevent the grinding of teeth (a common side effect of MDMA use), and wave glow sticks in front of their eyes because MDMA stimulates light perception.

### MDMA Laboratory Seized

In August 2001 an MDMA laboratory was seized in Leawood. The Caucasian individual who operated the laboratory allegedly had been producing MDMA for 1 year prior to the seizure. Precursor chemicals and 2 ounces of MDMA were seized. The precursor chemicals could have yielded more than 260,000 MDMA tablets.

Source: DEA.

Kansas. Asian street gangs also distribute wholesale quantities of MDMA but to a lesser extent. In 2001 Dead Everlasting Gangsters and Krazy Boyz in Kansas City obtained wholesale quantities of 100 to 2,000 MDMA tablets via package delivery services from Vietnamese distributors in Irvine, California, and Sioux City, Iowa. The tablets varied in color and had logos printed on them. The MDMA tablets were distributed in Kansas City at Vietnamese nail salons owned by members of these street gangs.

Retail-level MDMA distributors typically are Caucasian local independent dealers, college age students, and street gangs. Asian local independent dealers also distribute MDMA at the retail level. Law enforcement authorities in Emporia, Junction City, and Leavenworth, and in Johnson County reported that Caucasian local independent dealers distribute MDMA at the retail level in their jurisdictions. Asian Boyz, Buc Lao Killers, Crazy Boyz, and Viet Boyz distribute MDMA at the retail level in Wichita. MDMA is distributed at nightclubs, raves, and on university campuses throughout Kansas. According to local law enforcement officials, in 2001 MDMA tablets in

the state generally sold for \$15 to \$30 each. In Kansas City 100 tablets sold for \$1,500 to \$1,700.

Law enforcement authorities in Kansas sometimes seize substances that are sold as MDMA but contain other substances. In Johnson County law enforcement officials reported that a compound of ketamine and methamphetamine was sold as MDMA. Also in Johnson County dextromethorphan (DXM, a cough suppressant) was identified as the main ingredient in tablets marketed as MDMA. In another incident, tablets sold as MDMA were actually 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenethylamine, also known as Nexus or 2C-B.

## GHB and Analogs

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GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate) and its analogs pose an emerging threat to Kansas. GHB, also known as liquid ecstasy, grievous bodily harm, and Georgia home boy, is an illicit drug known for its euphoric, sedative, and anabolic effects. GHB is colorless, tasteless, and odorless, and its effects include drowsiness, sedation, loss of consciousness, and anterograde amnesia; it often is administered to intended victims of sexual assault. GHB is difficult to detect in abusers or victims of sexual assault because the drug is quickly metabolized in the body.

GHB analogs, drugs that possess chemical structures similar to GHB, also are abused in Kansas. The most commonly encountered GHB analogs in Kansas are GBL (gamma-butyrolactone) and BD (1,4-butanediol). GBL is a solvent commonly used as a paint stripper. BD is a chemical used in the production of plastics and adhesives. GBL and BD convert to GHB upon ingestion. GBL is widely available as a powder and liquid at gyms, fitness centers, and some disreputable health food stores. BD can be produced in clear liquid, white powder, and pill and capsule forms.

The availability and abuse of GHB in Kansas is increasing. According to the NDTs 2002, law enforcement officials in Great Bend, Hays, Topeka, and Wichita and in McPherson County

indicated that GHB availability and abuse was moderate. In Barton County and Great Bend, law enforcement officials reported an increase in GHB overdoses and arrests for driving under the influence of the drug. Most of the GHB available in Kansas is produced outside the state; however, some GHB production does occur in Kansas. In June 2000 Coffeyville Police Department authorities seized a GHB laboratory at the residence of a known methamphetamine producer. Law enforcement authorities seized scales, beakers, filters, jars, and nearly 2 pounds of GHB from the laboratory site. GHB and its analogs are available in Kansas primarily at colleges and universities, social venues such as bars, nightclubs, raves, and strip clubs. Young adults, usually Caucasian, are the principal producers, distributors, and abusers of the drug. Recipes and do-it-yourself kits for GHB production are available on several Internet sites.

## Hallucinogens

**LSD.** The distribution and abuse of LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide) pose a low threat to Kansas. LSD, also known as acid, boomers, and yellow sunshine, is a hallucinogen that induces abnormalities in sensory perceptions. The effects of LSD are unpredictable depending on the amount ingested, the environment in which it is abused, and the abuser's personality, mood, and expectations. Abusers may feel the effects for up to 12 hours. Physical effects include dilated pupils, elevated body temperature, increased heart rate and blood pressure, sweating, loss of appetite, nausea, numbness, weakness, insomnia, dry mouth, and tremors. Two long-term disorders associated with LSD are persistent psychosis and hallucinogen persisting perception disorder (flashbacks). LSD typically is ingested orally.

Most LSD available in Kansas is produced in California and transported to Kansas primarily via package delivery services; however, the drug has been produced in Kansas. Caucasian local independent dealers are the primary retail distributors of the drug. LSD is distributed primarily at raves, bars, and nightclubs in large cities and college towns in Kansas. It is sold in powder and liquid forms, in tablets or capsules, on pieces of blotter paper that absorb the drug, and on small candies. According to the Lenexa Police Department, distributors in its area reportedly lace candy with LSD, and some dealers use an eyedropper to place LSD on the purchaser's tongue to ensure that the individual is not an undercover law enforcement officer. This method of administration is common in other areas of the country as well. In Kansas in 2001 LSD sold for \$5 to \$8 per dose, according to DEA.

**PCP.** PCP (phencyclidine) was developed as an intravenous anesthetic, but use of the drug in humans was discontinued in 1965 because patients who were administered the drug became agitated, delusional, and irrational. PCP, also known as angel dust, ozone, wack, and rocket

### LSD Laboratory Seized

In December 2000 an LSD laboratory was seized in an abandoned missile silo in Wamego. Officials from the DEA Kansas City District Office seized approximately 140,000,000 dosage units of the drug from the laboratory site. DEA officials estimate that the laboratory produced 1 kilogram of LSD per month.

Source: DEA St. Louis Division.

fuel, is illegally produced in laboratories in the United States. It is a white crystalline powder that is soluble in water and has a bitter taste. The drug can be mixed with dyes and is available as a tablet, capsule, liquid, or colored powder. PCP may be snorted, smoked, injected, or swallowed. For smoking purposes, PCP may be applied to mint, parsley, oregano, or marijuana. When combined with marijuana, the mixture is called a killer joint or crystal supergrass.

The threat posed by the distribution and abuse of the hallucinogen PCP in Kansas is limited to the Kansas City area. African American gang members in California produce most of the PCP available in the Kansas City area. The drug is transported to Kansas City typically by package delivery services and in private vehicles. In early 2001 a 2-liter bottle of PCP was seized after being sent via a package delivery service to an individual in Olathe. The bottle was covered with duct tape and peanut butter to mask the odor. The shipment originated in Los Angeles and was concealed inside a microwave oven. African American gang members in Kansas City typically distribute PCP—known on the street as water—to other gang members and their associates. PCP is sold in liquid form for \$250 to \$300 per fluid ounce and typically is stored in vanilla extract bottles. Dealers also sell individual cigarettes dipped in PCP, known as sticks, for \$10 each.

**Psilocybin.** The hallucinogen psilocybin presents a low threat to Kansas. Psilocybin

mushrooms are consumed after being dried and crushed to a powder. Taken in nontoxic doses, psilocybin produces changes in perception, thought, and mood. Effects typically last for about 6 hours. Psilocybin mushrooms are available in Kansas primarily in areas with colleges or universities. Typical abusers are young Caucasian adults. Distribution of psilocybin commonly occurs at music concerts. In 2000 KHP seized more than 20 grams of psilocybin mushrooms.

**Ketamine.** Also called K, special K, vitamin K, and cat valium, ketamine is an injectable anesthetic that is approved for both human and animal use. Ketamine is sold commercially and is produced in liquid, powder, or pill form. In liquid form, it can be injected either intramuscularly or

intravenously. In powder form, it is snorted or is smoked with marijuana or tobacco products.

The availability of ketamine is low in Kansas, although significant seizures of the drug have occurred in the state. According to KHP, nearly 24,000 vials of ketamine hydrochloride were seized near Russell in July 2001. The ketamine, packaged in 10-milliliter bottles, was produced in Mexico and intended for distribution in the eastern United States. According to DEA, this was the largest seizure of ketamine in the United States. In November 2001 law enforcement authorities seized nearly 3 liters of ketamine on a passenger train in Dodge City. The ketamine was concealed in a dietary supplement bottle and was destined for Chicago.

## Diverted Pharmaceuticals

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Diverted pharmaceuticals pose a significant and increasing threat to Kansas. The most commonly diverted pharmaceuticals in Kansas are opioids (narcotic analgesics) such as codeine, Darvocet, Dilaudid, hydrocodone (Lortab, Vicodin), methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet, Percodan), and sedative hypnotics (benzodiazepines) such as Valium and Xanax. Narcotic analgesics are prescribed to relieve moderate to severe pain. Most sedative hypnotics are prescribed to relieve anxiety; however, some are used as anticonvulsants to treat muscle spasms.

Pharmaceuticals are diverted in a variety of ways in Kansas. The primary sources of diverted pharmaceuticals are pharmacies and medical practitioners. Unscrupulous medical professionals either steal the drugs or sell fraudulent prescriptions. In a process known as doctor shopping, abusers

visit several doctors to obtain multiple prescriptions. Individuals also call pharmacies with fraudulent prescription refills or alter prescriptions. Another common method is to place an after-hours call to a clinic that has numerous physicians on staff. The caller will speak to the on-call physician and claim to have a prescription from another staff doctor. The on-call physician may fail to confirm the information and will unknowingly prescribe the drug to an abuser. Pharmaceuticals also occasionally are stolen from pharmacies. In January 2002 two robberies occurred at Wichita pharmacies. On each occasion an armed Caucasian male robbed the pharmacy. In the first case 3 bottles of Dilaudid, 12 bottles of Lortab, and 5 bottles of OxyContin were stolen. In the other incident, two bottles of Diazepam, three bottles of Lorazepam, and two bottles of Tylenol with codeine were stolen.

## Heroin

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Heroin poses a low threat to Kansas. Mexican black tar heroin and brown powdered heroin are available on a limited basis in metropolitan areas of the state such as Kansas City and Wichita. Mexican criminal groups are the primary

transporters of heroin to drug markets in Kansas. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, and street gangs distribute heroin at the retail level.

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## Abuse

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Rates of heroin abuse are low throughout Kansas. According to the NDTs 2002, of the 29 respondents who reported heroin abuse in their jurisdictions, 26 indicated that abuse was low and 3 indicated that abuse was moderate.

Already at low levels, heroin-related treatment admissions to publicly funded facilities in Kansas decreased slightly from 1997 through 2001. According to TEDS, there were 79 heroin-related treatment admissions in 1997 and 75 in 2001. (See Table 1 on page 3.) In 2001 heroin was

associated with fewer admissions to publicly funded treatment facilities than any other illicit drug. Caucasians accounted for 76 percent of heroin-related treatment admissions in 2001. The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services reports that there were 66 heroin-related treatment admissions in SFY2001. (Disparities between federal and state reporting on admissions to substance abuse treatment programs occur because of differences in data collection and reporting methodologies.)

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## Availability

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Mexican black tar heroin and brown powdered heroin are available on a limited basis in Kansas, primarily in metropolitan areas. Mexican black tar heroin and brown powdered heroin are available in Kansas City and Wichita. According to the DEA Kansas City District Office, Mexican brown powdered heroin is the predominant type available in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Law enforcement officials in nearby Overland Park indicated that Mexican black tar heroin is moderately available in their jurisdiction.

The amount of heroin seized in Kansas has fluctuated at low levels over the past several years. Federal law enforcement officials seized 1.1 kilograms of heroin in Kansas in 1998; none in 1999; 0.8 kilogram in 2000; and 1.7 kilograms in 2001, according to FDSS data. KHP seized 0.9 kilogram of heroin in 2000 and 1.2 kilograms in 2001. The Kansas City Police Department seized approximately 100 grams of heroin in 2001.

In FY2001 the percentage of drug-related federal sentences that were heroin-related in Kansas was lower than the national percentage. According to USSC, in FY2001, 5 percent of federal sentences in Kansas resulted from heroin violations compared with 7 percent nationally. (See Table 2 on page 5.) The number of heroin-related federal sentences in Kansas increased from 2 in FY1997 to 10 in FY2001. However, from October 1998 to May 2001, only 1 of 17 OCDETF investigations initiated in Kansas was heroin-related.

Heroin prices in Kansas vary depending on the area. According to local law enforcement officials, heroin sells for \$300 per gram in Kansas City and \$100 per gram in Olathe and Topeka. In 2002 the DEA Wichita Resident Office reported that heroin sold for \$100 per gram.

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## Violence

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There are few reported occurrences of violence associated with heroin distribution or abuse in Kansas. Heroin abusers generally are nonviolent;

however, some commit property crimes in order to support their drug use.

## Production

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Opium is not cultivated nor is heroin produced in Kansas. Heroin is produced in four source regions: South America, Southeast Asia,

Southwest Asia, and Mexico. The heroin available in Kansas is produced in Mexico.

## Transportation

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Mexican criminal groups are the primary transporters of heroin into Kansas, and they generally use private vehicles and package delivery services. Lenexa Police Department authorities seized nearly 1 kilogram of heroin from a car

destined for Kansas City in May 2001. The heroin was concealed in eight tubular, cellophane-wrapped packages hidden in the bumper. Heroin seizures of this size are infrequent in Kansas.

## Distribution

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Wholesale quantities of heroin generally are not available in Kansas; most heroin distribution occurs at the retail level. Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, and street gangs distribute heroin at the retail level. According to the Wichita Police Department, African American local independent dealers distribute heroin at the

retail level in its jurisdiction. In Dodge City, Playing For Keeps, a gang with African American and Caucasian members, distributes retail quantities of Mexican black tar heroin. Heroin is sold at residences and on street corners and typically is packaged in paper or aluminum foil.

## Outlook

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Methamphetamine will remain a significant drug threat to Kansas. The availability of methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states will increase as Mexican criminal groups expand wholesale distribution operations in Kansas. The availability of locally produced methamphetamine likely will increase due to the ease of obtaining anhydrous ammonia and the demand for higher purity methamphetamine. As a consequence, methamphetamine-related environmental damage will persist throughout the state.

Crack cocaine will continue to be abused at higher levels than powdered cocaine. Crack cocaine represents the greatest threat to inner-city neighborhoods, and violent crime associated with the distribution and abuse of crack will continue to be a threat to Kansas. Street gangs and

African American local independent dealers in metropolitan areas will continue to dominate the retail distribution of crack cocaine. Powdered cocaine will remain available in sufficient quantities to meet user demand. However, demand for powdered cocaine may decline in some areas of the state as methamphetamine abuse increases.

Marijuana will continue to be the most commonly abused illicit drug in Kansas. Mexico-produced marijuana will continue to be the most prevalent type available, but locally produced marijuana will become increasingly available. Mexican criminal groups will remain the primary transporters of Mexico-produced marijuana to Kansas. Caucasian local independent dealers will continue to cultivate cannabis in the state as well as distribute the marijuana they produce.

ODDs, particularly MDMA, will continue to increase in popularity in Kansas, especially among teenagers and young adults. The demand for MDMA, as well as LSD and GHB, may expand as the number of rave parties increases throughout the state. The demand for diverted pharmaceuticals such as hydrocodone also will likely increase.

Heroin abuse will remain stable at low levels compared with other illicit drugs in Kansas. Heroin availability and abuse will likely remain limited to metropolitan areas such as Kansas City and Wichita.



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## *Sources*

### **State**

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Abilene Police Department

Barton County Sheriff's Office

Chanute Police Department

Cloud County Sheriff's Office

Coffeyville Police Department

Colby Police Department

Columbus Police Department

Crawford County Sheriff's Office

Dickinson County Sheriff's Office  
Drug Enforcement Unit

Dodge City Police Department

Douglas County Sheriff's Office

Emporia Police Department

Finney County Sheriff's Office

Ford County Sheriff's Office

Franklin County Sheriff's Office

Garden City Police Department

Great Bend Police Department

Greeley County Sheriff's Office

Hays Police Department

Independence Police Department

Jayhawk Task Force

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Johnson County Sheriff's Office

## **Kansas Drug Threat Assessment**

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Junction City Police Department

Kansas City Metro Meth Task Force

Kansas City Police Department

Kearny County Sheriff's Office

Kingman Police Department

Labette County Sheriff's Office

*Lawrence Journal-World*

Lawrence Police Department

Leavenworth Police Department

Lenexa Police Department

Liberal Police Department

Lyon County Police Department

McPherson County Sheriff's Office

Merriam Police Department

Miami County Sheriff's Office

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

Newton Police Department

Olathe Police Department

Ottawa Police Department

Overland Park Police Department

Paola Police Department

Pittsburg Police Department

Potawatomi Tribal Police

Pratt County Sheriff's Office

Reno County Sheriff's Office

Rice County Sheriff's Office

Riley County Police Department

Salina Police Department

I-135/I-70 Drug Task Force

Saline County Sheriff's Office

Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office

Shawnee County Sheriff's Office

Shawnee Police Department

State of Kansas

Bureau of Investigation

Great Bend Regional Task Force

Southeast Kansas Drug Enforcement Task Force

Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Highway Patrol

Topeka Police Department

*The Wichita Eagle*

Wichita Police Department

Wilson County Sheriff's Office

## **National**

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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

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Office of Applied Studies

National Household Survey on Drug Abuse

Treatment Episode Data Set

U.S. Department of Justice

Drug Enforcement Administration

Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program

Drug Task Force, Wichita

El Paso Intelligence Center

Operation Jetway

Operation Pipeline

Federal-wide Drug Seizure System

St. Louis Division

Garden City Post of Duty

Kansas City District Office

Wichita Resident Office

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U.S. Attorney's Office

Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force

U.S. Sentencing Commission

**Other**

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*Associated Press*

Columbia University

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse

University of Mississippi

Marijuana Potency Monitoring Project

Utah Highway Patrol



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RISS [ndic.riss.net](http://ndic.riss.net)

INTERNET [www.usdoj.gov/ndic](http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic)