

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of New Hampshire

Profile of Drug Indicators

November 2007



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

New Hampshire

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

Demographics

- Population (2006 American Community Survey): 1,314,895¹
- Race/Ethnicity (2006 American Community Survey): 95.1% white; 1.1% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 2.0% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.8% other race; 0.8% two or more races; 2.3% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)²

Politics

- Governor: John Lynch³
- Attorney General: Kelly Ayotte⁴
- Secretary of State: William Gardner⁵
- U.S. Senate: John Sununu (R), Judd Gregg (R)⁶
- U.S. House of Representatives (Districts 1-2, respectively): Carol Shea-Porter (D); Paul W. Hodes (D)⁷
- Capital: Concord⁸

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁹
Designated in 1999, the New England HIDTA is responsible for areas in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine and Hillsborough County in New Hampshire.
- Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment¹⁰
The purpose of the Governor's Commission is to significantly reduce alcohol and drug problems and their behavioral, health and social consequences. The Commission advises the Governor regarding policy, funding and the delivery of effective, efficient coordinated alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment services.
- Partnership for a Drug-Free New Hampshire¹¹
Launched in 1994 as part of the national Partnership for a Drug-Free America, the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Hampshire develops and distributes anti-drug messages and works with New Hampshire's media outlets to air and publish the messages and resources.
- New Futures¹²
The mission of New Futures is to foster, promote, and support effective strategies to reduce alcohol problems in New Hampshire. New Futures focuses on two goals: the reduction of underage alcohol problems and an increase in access to treatment.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 43 drug arrests in New Hampshire during 2006.¹³

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, New Hampshire, 2002-2006

Year	Arrests
2002	89
2003	104
2004	75
2005	61
2006	43

- There were 3,228 total arrests in New Hampshire for drug abuse violations during 2006.¹⁴

Number of Arrests, Select Offenses, New Hampshire, 2006

Offense	Juvenile	All Ages
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	0	8
Forcible rape	12	67
Robbery	24	145
Aggravated assault	68	372
Burglary	133	397
Larceny-theft	819	2,298
Motor vehicle theft	46	136
Arson	27	54
Drug abuse	715	3,228
DUI	102	4,783
Liquor laws	1,211	5,376

Drugs

- Cocaine¹⁵
Both powder and crack cocaine are readily available throughout New Hampshire in retail quantities. Furthermore, in recent years the seacoast region has experienced a significant increase in availability.
- Heroin¹⁶
Heroin remains readily available throughout New Hampshire at the retail level and its use is widespread. The state continues to experience increases in heroin availability, particularly along the seacoast, southeast region and western part of the state. Heroin prices on the retail level have remained stable. Heroin prices on the retail level have remained stable.
- Marijuana¹⁷
Marijuana is readily available throughout New Hampshire and is the predominant drug of choice in the state. Most of the marijuana available in the state originates in Mexico, although high grade hydroponic marijuana from Canada is increasingly available. THC content in excess of 22% has been encountered in the state.
- Methamphetamine¹⁸
There has been a growth in the availability of methamphetamine in the state, particularly in and around the seacoast area. Most of the methamphetamine available in New Hampshire is produced in Mexico.

- Club Drugs¹⁹
- MDMA is widely available and is frequently sold to teenagers and young adults at nightclubs, rave parties and on college campuses.
- Other Drugs²⁰
OxyContin® continues to be a pharmaceutical drug of abuse in the state, while the diversion and abuse of methadone is an emerging problem in New Hampshire.
- According to 2004-2005 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 98,000 (9%) of New Hampshire citizens (ages 12 or older) reported past month use of an illicit drug.²¹

Citizens (Ages 12 or Older) Reporting Drug Use, New Hampshire, 2004-2005 Data

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	98	8.88%
Past year marijuana use	139	12.59
Past month marijuana use	84	7.60
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	35	3.19
Past year cocaine use	25	2.31
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	51	4.66

* The number of users is in thousands

- Nearly 300,000 (27.1%) New Hampshire citizens reported that using marijuana occasionally (once a month) was a “great risk”.²²
- Additional 2004-2005 NSDUH results indicate that 32,000 (2.86%) New Hampshire citizens reported illicit drug dependence or abuse within the past year. Approximately 21,000 (1.88%) reported past year illicit drug dependence.²³

Juveniles

- Approximately 11% of New Hampshire high school students surveyed in 2005 reported abusing inhalants at least once during their lifetimes.²⁴

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Gender, New Hampshire, 2005

Drug Type and Use	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	42.7%	46.1%	44.4%
Current marijuana use	22.8	28.8	25.9
Lifetime cocaine use	8.2	9.8	9.0
Current cocaine use	3.3	3.3	3.3
Lifetime inhalant use	13.1	9.5	11.3
Lifetime heroin use	2.1	2.0	2.1
Lifetime illegal steroid use	2.6	3.4	3.0
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	2.0	1.5	1.8
Lifetime methamphetamine use	4.2	6.8	5.5
Lifetime ecstasy use	5.9	5.1	5.5
Tried marijuana before age 13	5.8	8.3	7.1

- During 2005, more than 50% of 11th and 12th grade New Hampshire students reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetimes.²⁵

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Grade, New Hampshire, 2005

Drug Type and Use	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Lifetime marijuana use	29.7%	39.9%	51.7%	59.8%
Current marijuana use	16.7	23.6	29.8	35.1
Lifetime cocaine use	7.0	6.2	10.2	12.9
Current cocaine use	4.1	3.5	2.2	2.8
Lifetime inhalant use	15.5	10.7	10.0	7.9
Lifetime heroin use	1.4	1.6	2.8	2.1
Lifetime illegal steroid use	2.8	2.2	2.9	3.6
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	0.9	1.2	2.4	2.2
Lifetime methamphetamine use	5.7	4.1	7.0	4.6
Lifetime ecstasy use	4.3	3.0	6.0	8.5
Tried marijuana before age 13	9.5	7.6	4.9	6.1

- According to 2004-2005 NSDUH data, approximately 11% of New Hampshire 12-17 year olds reported past month use of an illicit drug.²⁶

Youth (12-17 Year Olds) Reporting Drug Use, New Hampshire, 2004-2005 Data

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	13	10.98%
Past year marijuana use	17	14.60
Past month marijuana use	10	8.59
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	6	4.95
Past year cocaine use	2	1.85
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	8	7.36

* The number of users is in thousands

Enforcement

- New Hampshire Drug Task Force (DTF)²⁷
The New Hampshire DTF was created in 1986 within the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office to combat the increasing effects illicit drugs were having on the state. The DTF consists of investigators from the Attorney General's Office as well as police officers from local, county and state police departments.
- As of October 31, 2006, there were 3,197 full-time law enforcement employees in New Hampshire (2,414 officers and 783 civilians).²⁸

Trafficking and Seizures

- Dominican drug traffickers are the principal distributors of cocaine and heroin in the state.²⁹
- Most of the marijuana available in the region is transported from the southwestern U.S. and originates in Mexico with local Caucasian violators traveling weekly or bi-

monthly to Arizona and southern California to obtain 200-300 pound quantities of the drug. The marijuana is usually transported into the state via land vehicle.³⁰

- Hydroponic marijuana from Canada is smuggled into New Hampshire by a variety of methods, including concealment in couriers' backpacks and hockey-type travel bags, helicopter air drops and by the use of snowmobiles during the winter months.³¹
- Mexican produced Methamphetamine is primarily transported into the state via express mail packages, by common carrier and by privately owned vehicles from the West Coast of the United States.³²
- In 2006, authorities eradicated and seized more than 11,000 cultivated marijuana plants in New Hampshire under the DEA Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.³³

Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, New Hampshire, 2006

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		<u>Total Cultivated Plants Eradicated</u>
<u>Plots Eradicated</u>	<u>Cultivated Plants Eradicated</u>	<u>Grows Seized</u>	<u>Plants Eradicated</u>	
29	793	31	11,085	11,878

- Approximately 43.1 kilograms of marijuana were seized by Federal agencies in New Hampshire during 2006.³⁴

Amount of Federal Drug Seizures, New Hampshire, 2006

<u>Drug Type</u>	<u>Amount Seized</u>
Cocaine	7.5 kilograms
Heroin	0.0 kilograms
Methamphetamine	0.1 kilograms
Marijuana	43.1 kilograms
MDMA	1 dosage unit

- During 2006, the DEA and state and local authorities in New Hampshire reported 2 methamphetamine laboratory incidents.³⁵

Methamphetamine Laboratory Incidents, NH, 2002-2006

<u>Year</u>	<u>Laboratories Incidents</u>
2002	1
2003	1
2004	2
2005	6
2006	2

Courts

- Drug Courts³⁶
As of April 16, 2007, there were 7 drug courts in New Hampshire that were in operation or being planned. Five drug courts had been in existence for at least two years and 2 drug courts were being planned at that time.

- During FY 2006, 45.2% of the Federally sentenced defendants in New Hampshire had committed drug offenses. More than 40% of the drug offenses involved crack cocaine.³⁷

Federally-Sentenced Drug Offenders, New Hampshire, FY 2006

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Powder cocaine	15	15.2%
Crack cocaine	43	43.4
Heroin	8	8.1
Marijuana	10	10.1
Methamphetamine	2	2.0
Other	21	21.2

Corrections

- The New Hampshire Department of Corrections is made up of 4 State Prison Facilities: State Prison (NHSP) for Men (located in Concord); State Prison for Women (Goffstown); Northern New Hampshire Correctional Facility (Berlin); and the Lakes Region Facility (Laconia).³⁸
- As of June 30, 2006, the New Hampshire Department of Corrections prison population was 2,594. Approximately 11.26% of the inmates committed drug offenses.³⁹
- At yearend 2005, there were an estimated 4,615 adults on probation and 1,402 adults on parole in New Hampshire.⁴⁰

Consequences of Use

- During 2005, there were 2 New Hampshire methamphetamine laboratory sites reported to the El Paso Intelligence Center in which a child was present.⁴¹

Treatment

- During 2006, there were 5,729 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in New Hampshire.⁴² This is down from 4,976 treatment admissions in 2005.⁴³ During 2004, there were 5,611 admissions to treatment in New Hampshire.⁴⁴

Admissions to Treatment, by Primary Drug of Abuse, New Hampshire, 2004-2006

Drug Type	2004		2005		2006	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	1,803	32.1%	1,445	29.0%	1,585	27.7%
Alc. w/ second. drug	1,282	22.8	1,184	23.8	1,421	24.8
Cocaine – smoked	318	5.7	360	7.2	463	8.1
Cocaine – other route	214	3.8	251	5.0	356	6.2
Marijuana	923	16.4	747	15.0	806	14.1
Heroin	746	13.3	634	12.7	663	11.6
Other opiates	233	4.2	220	4.4	284	5.0
PCP	1	0.0	n/a	n/a	1	0.0
Hallucinogens	9	0.2	10	0.2	8	0.1

Amphetamines	30	0.5	52	1.0	73	1.3
Other stimulants	7	0.1	5	0.1	13	0.2
Tranquilizers	18	0.3	35	0.7	19	0.3
Sedatives	5	0.1	3	0.1	6	0.1
Inhalants	1	0.0	5	0.1	3	0.1
Other/none specified	21	0.4	25	0.5	28	0.5
Total	5,611	100.0	4,976	100.0	5,729	100.0

- According to 2004-2005 NSDUH data, approximately 28,000 (2.50%) New Hampshire citizens reported needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use within the past year.⁴⁵

Sources

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⁵ New Hampshire Secretary of State Web site: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/index.html>

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