

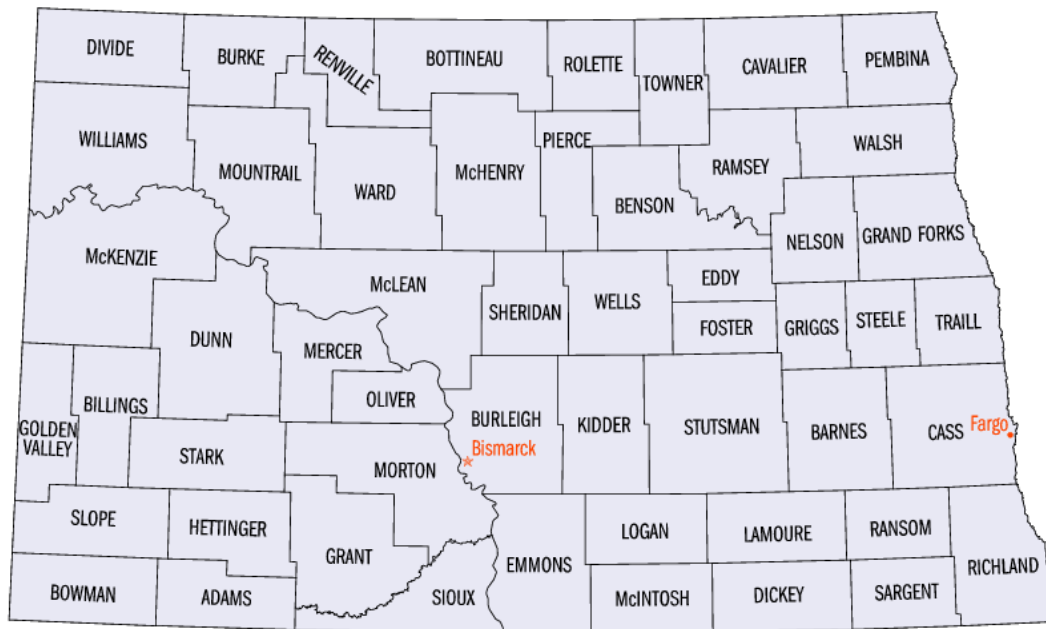
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### State of North Dakota

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

October 2008



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.

## North Dakota

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

### **Demographics**

- Population (2006 American Community Survey): 635,867<sup>1</sup>
- Race/ethnicity (2006 American Community Survey): 91.0% white; 0.9% black/African American; 5.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 0.7% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.8% other race; 1.3% two or more races; 1.5% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)<sup>2</sup>

### **Politics**

- Governor: John Hoeven<sup>3</sup>
- Lt. Governor: Jack Dalrymple<sup>4</sup>
- Attorney General: Wayne Stenehjem<sup>5</sup>
- U.S. Senate Members: Kent Conrad (D); Byron L. Dorgan (D)<sup>6</sup>
- U.S. House of Representative Member: Earl Pomeroy (D)<sup>7</sup>
- Capital: Bismarck<sup>8</sup>

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)<sup>9</sup>  
Designated in 1996, the Midwest HIDTA is responsible for sections of Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. The areas of North Dakota involved in Midwest HIDTA activities are Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, Morton, Ramsey, Richland, Walsh and Ward Counties.
- Retailers Meth Watch Program<sup>10</sup>  
The North Dakota Meth Watch Program is a partnership between the Attorney General's Office and concerned North Dakota retailers. The goals of the program are to raise awareness of the problems associated with methamphetamine labs, to educate and train retail employees to recognize signs of individuals obtaining meth production precursors, and to limit the availability of precursor chemicals.

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

- During 2007, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported making 55 arrests for drug violations in North Dakota.<sup>11</sup>

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, North Dakota, 2003-2007

Year	Arrests
2003	34
2004	45
2005	54
2006	62
2007	55

- There were 11 adult homicide arrests reported in North Dakota during 2007.<sup>12</sup>

Number of Adult & Juvenile Arrests, Index Offenses, North Dakota, 2007

Offense Type	Juvenile	Adult
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	2	11
Forcible rape	7	38
Robbery	8	33
Aggravated assault	30	239
Burglary	100	259
Larceny-theft	935	2,068
Motor vehicle theft	73	165
Arson	14	25

- Marijuana was involved in 1,532 adult arrests in North Dakota during 2007.<sup>13</sup>

Number of Drug Arrests, by Drug Involved, North Dakota, 2006-2007

Drug Type	Juvenile		Adult		Age Unreported	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Opiates/cocaine/derivatives	1	1	52	49	--	--
Marijuana	229	244	1,389	1,532	3	7
Other drugs/narcotics	34	33	542	454	6	3

- During 2007, there were 196 adult arrests for drug sale/manufacturing and 1,839 adult arrests for drug possession in North Dakota.<sup>14</sup>

Drug Arrests by Offense Type, North Dakota, 2006-2007

Offense	Juvenile		Adult		Age Unreported	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Sale/manufacturing	27	19	268	196	3	2
Possession	237	259	1,715	1,839	6	8

**Drugs**

- Heroin<sup>15</sup>  
The use of heroin is not a significant problem in North Dakota. Virtually all heroin found in the state is black tar heroin from Mexico.
- Marijuana<sup>16</sup>  
The presence of marijuana cultivated in Canada has increased dramatically in North Dakota.
- Methamphetamine<sup>17</sup>  
The trafficking and use of methamphetamine is the primary concern for law enforcement and public health officials in North Dakota. Because of the state's dependence on the agriculture industry, there is a high level of use and availability of anhydrous ammonia, commonly used in the "Birch" methamphetamine manufacturing method.
- Club Drugs<sup>18</sup>

There have been some indications that club drugs are appearing in the Fargo area of North Dakota in small quantities.

- Diverted Pharmaceuticals<sup>19</sup>  
Recent investigations indicate that diversion of hydrocodone products is taking place in North Dakota.
- According to 2005-2006 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 30,000 (6%) of North Dakota citizens (ages 12 or older) reported past month use of an illicit drug.<sup>20</sup>

Citizens (Ages 12 or Older) Reporting Drug Use, North Dakota, 2005-2006 Data

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	30	5.66%
Past year marijuana use	40	7.48
Past month marijuana use	23	4.37
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	13	2.52
Past year cocaine use	8	1.59
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	22	4.21

\* The number of users is in thousands

- Approximately 210,000 (39.64%) North Dakota citizens reported that using marijuana occasionally (once a month) was a “great risk”.<sup>21</sup>
- Additional 2005-2006 NSDUH results indicate that 12,000 (2.24%) North Dakota citizens reported illicit drug dependence or abuse within the past year. Approximately 9,000 (1.61%) reported past year illicit drug dependence.<sup>22</sup>

### Juveniles

- Approximately 4% of North Dakota high school students surveyed in 2007 reported using methamphetamine at least once during their lifetimes.<sup>23</sup>

Percent of Students Reporting Selected Drug Use, by Gender, North Dakota, 2007

Drug Type and Use	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	28.0%	32.2%	30.1%
Current marijuana use	12.7	16.7	14.8
Lifetime cocaine use	4.5	7.8	6.2
Current cocaine use	1.3	2.6	2.0
Lifetime heroin use	1.7	3.0	2.4
Lifetime inhalant use	12.1	10.2	11.1
Lifetime methamphetamine use	3.4	4.5	4.1
Lifetime ecstasy use	4.3	4.5	4.4
Lifetime illegal steroid use	1.1	3.7	2.6
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	1.4	2.2	1.8
Tried marijuana before age 13	3.8	6.9	5.4

- Approximately 9% of North Dakota 12th graders surveyed in 2007 reported using cocaine at least once during their lifetimes.<sup>24</sup>

Percent of Students Reporting Selected Drug Use, by Grade, North Dakota, 2007

Drug Type and Use	9th	10th	11th	12th
Lifetime marijuana use	20.3%	27.3%	28.6%	44.7%
Current marijuana use	9.1	12.3	15.2	22.5
Lifetime cocaine use	4.6	3.4	7.6	8.5
Current cocaine use	1.6	0.8	2.2	2.7
Lifetime heroin use	3.2	1.4	2.4	2.1
Lifetime inhalant use	12.1	10.5	10.7	10.6
Lifetime methamphetamine use	3.1	2.4	4.9	5.5
Lifetime ecstasy use	3.4	2.8	4.2	6.5
Lifetime steroid use	3.3	1.9	2.0	2.5
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	2.2	1.3	1.6	1.5
Tired marijuana before age 13	5.3	5.6	4.4	6.2

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 7% of North Dakota 12-17 year olds reported past month use of an illicit drug.<sup>25</sup>

Youth (12-17 Year Olds) Reporting Drug Use, North Dakota, 2005-2006 Data

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	3	6.76%
Past year marijuana use	5	10.55
Past month marijuana use	2	4.51
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	2	4.06
Past year cocaine use	1	1.59
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	3	6.21

\* The number of users is in thousands

**Enforcement**

- As of October 31, 2007, there were 1,664 full-time law enforcement employees in North Dakota (1,200 officers and 464 civilians).<sup>26</sup>

**Trafficking and Seizures**

- Methamphetamine produced by Mexican organizations based in California and Washington is transported into and distributed throughout North Dakota.<sup>27</sup>
- Canadian drug organizations from Vancouver and Manitoba use the wide North Dakota border with Canada to bring marijuana into the United States. The bulk of this marijuana is then transported to areas outside of North Dakota.<sup>28</sup>
- During 2007, the DEA and state and local authorities in North Dakota reported 18 methamphetamine lab incidents.<sup>29</sup>

Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, North Dakota, 2003-2007

Year	Number of Lab Incidents
2003	248
2004	232
2005	159

2006	37
2007	18

- There were 266.7 kilograms of marijuana seized by Federal agencies in North Dakota during 2007.<sup>30</sup>

Amount of Federal Drug Seizures, North Dakota, 2007

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cocaine	0.0 kilograms
Heroin	0.0 kilograms
Methamphetamine	1.1 kilograms/2 dosage units
Marijuana	266.7 kilograms
MDMA	3 dosage units

- During 2007, 574 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated in North Dakota under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.<sup>31</sup>

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated/Seized, North Dakota, 2007

Outdoor Operations		Indoor Operations		Total Plants Eradicated
Eradicated Plots	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
2	390	8	184	574

**Courts**

- Drug Courts<sup>32</sup>  
As of August 11, 2008, there were 9 drug courts in existence or being planned in North Dakota. Seven drug courts had been operating for at least two years and 2 were being planned at that time.
- During FY 2007, 33.8% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in North Dakota had committed a drug offense. More 80% of these drug offenses involved methamphetamine.<sup>33</sup>

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Cases, North Dakota, FY 2007

Drug Type Involved	Offenses	% of Total
Powder cocaine	9	12.7%
Marijuana	3	4.2
Methamphetamine	58	81.7
Other	1	1.4

**Corrections**

- As of December 31, 2006, there were 1,363 prisoners under the jurisdiction of state or Federal correctional authorities in North Dakota.<sup>34</sup>
- On December 31, 2006, there were 4,303 adult offenders on probation and 370 adult offenders on parole in North Dakota.<sup>35</sup>

### Consequences of Use

- During 2007, authorities reported that there were no children affected by methamphetamine laboratories in North Dakota.<sup>36</sup>
- Alcohol, drugs, and medications were contributing factors in 42 of the 111 North Dakota traffic fatalities during 2007.<sup>37</sup>

### Treatment

- There were 2,382 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in North Dakota in 2007.<sup>38</sup> During 2006, there were 2,623 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in North Dakota.<sup>39</sup> There were 2,312 such treatment admissions during 2005.<sup>40</sup>

Admissions to Treatment, North Dakota, 2005-2007

Drug Type	2005		2006		2007	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	657	28.4%	827	31.5%	771	32.4%
Alc. w/ second. drug	639	27.7	636	24.2	631	26.5
Cocaine – smoked	14	0.6	24	0.9	15	0.6
Cocaine – other route	11	0.5	25	1.0	19	0.8
Marijuana	499	21.6	638	24.3	604	25.4
Heroin	5	0.2	1	0.0	4	0.2
Other opiates	38	1.6	85	3.2	69	2.9
Hallucinogens	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0.0
Amphetamines	419	18.1	376	14.3	248	10.4
Other stimulants	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0
Tranquilizers	9	0.4	4	0.2	6	0.3
Sedatives	3	0.1	n/a	n/a	1	0.0
Inhalants	6	0.3	2	0.1	3	0.1
Other/none specified	11	0.5	4	0.2	9	0.4
Total	2,312	100.0	2,623	100.0	2,382	100.0

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 11,000 (2.02%) North Dakota citizens reported needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use within the past year.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> North Dakota Governor Web site: <http://www.governor.state.nd.us/hoeven/>

<sup>4</sup> North Dakota Lt. Governor Web site: <http://www.governor.state.nd.us/dalrymple/>

<sup>5</sup> North Dakota Attorney General Web site: <http://www.ag.state.nd.us/>

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Senate Web site, North Dakota Members:

[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm?State=ND](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=ND)

<sup>7</sup> U.S. House of Representatives Web site: <http://clerk.house.gov/>

<sup>8</sup> City of Bismarck Web site: <http://www.bismarck.org/>

<sup>9</sup> Office of National Drug Control Policy, Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site: <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/midwest.html>

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