

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Arizona

Profile of Drug Indicators

April 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.

Arizona

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

Demographics

- Population (2006 American Community Survey): 6,166,318¹
- Race/Ethnicity (2006 American Community Survey): 76.9% white; 3.4% black/African American; 4.5% American Indian/Alaskan Native; 2.3% Asian; 0.2% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 10.3% other race; 2.4% two or more races; 29.2% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)²

Politics

- Governor: Janet Napolitano³
- Attorney General: Terry Goddard⁴
- Secretary of State: Jan Brewer⁵
- U.S. Senators: Jon Kyl (R), John McCain (R)⁶
- U.S. House of Representatives: Rick Renzi (R), Trent Franks (R), John B. Shadegg (R), Ed Pastor (D), Harry E. Mitchell (D), Jeff Flake (R), Raul Grijalva (D), Gabrielle Giffords (D)⁷
- Capital: Phoenix⁸

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁹
Designated in 1990, the Southwest Border HIDTA/Arizona Region is responsible for the following Arizona counties: Cochise, La Paz, Maricopa, Mohave, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz and Yuma.
- Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP)¹⁰
ASAP serves as the single statewide council on substance abuse issues. ASAP brings together stakeholders at the Federal, state, tribal and local levels to: improve coordination across state agencies, address identified gaps in prevention, treatment and enforcement efforts and improve fund allocation.
- Governor's Division for Substance Abuse Policy¹¹
The mission of the Governor's Division for Substance Abuse Policy is to improve and expand substance abuse education, prevention and treatment throughout Arizona.
- Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Program¹²
The Arizona DEC was established in 2000 (as the Meth and Kids Task Force) to address the problems associated with meth production in homes where children are present. In 2003, the program was renamed the Drug Endangered Children Program to include a broader range of drug cases involving child endangerment.
- Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention¹³
Created by the passage of Proposition 200 ("The Drug Medicalization, Prevention and Control Act"), the mission of Arizona's Parents Commission is to fund programs that will increase and enhance parental involvement and increase education about the serious risks and public health problems caused by abuse of alcohol and controlled substances.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2007, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) made 965 drug arrests in Arizona.¹⁴

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Arizona, 2003-2007

Year	Arrests
2003	959
2004	1,087
2005	1,356
2006	1,051
2007	965

- During FY 2007, Arizona drug apprehension project activities resulted in the arrests of 5,220 drug violators.¹⁵
- There were 462 homicides reported by police in Arizona during 2006.¹⁶

Number of Index Offenses Reported by Police, Arizona, 2006

Offense	# Reported
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	462
Forcible rape	1,909
Robbery	9,106
Aggravated assault	19,356
Burglary	55,095
Larceny-theft	170,925
Motor vehicle theft	53,787
Arson	1,879

- During 2006, there were 26 juvenile and 271 adult homicide arrests in Arizona.¹⁷

Number of Arrests, Index Offenses, Arizona, 2006

Offense	Juvenile	Adult
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	26	271
Forcible rape	27	191
Robbery	343	1,236
Aggravated assault	1,251	5,415
Burglary	1,438	3,248
Larceny-theft	6,830	19,349
Motor vehicle theft	1,074	3,508
Arson	190	103

- There were 5,225 juvenile and 24,145 adult drug arrests in Arizona during 2006.¹⁸

Number of Drug Arrests, Arizona, 2006

Offense	Juvenile	Adult
Sale/manufacturing	533	4,073
Opium, cocaine, derivatives	78	1,355
Marijuana	314	1,162
Synthetic narcotics	46	726
Other dangerous non-narcotics	95	830
Possession	4,692	20,072
Opium, cocaine, derivatives	163	2,645
Marijuana	3,565	13,202
Synthetic narcotics	233	4,225
Other dangerous non-narcotics	731	6,526
Total	5,225	24,145

Drugs

- Cocaine
Cocaine is readily available throughout Arizona while crack is readily available in Arizona's inner cities and in some smaller communities.¹⁹ Powder cocaine retail prices average \$85-\$130/gram and crack retails for an average price of \$10-\$20/rock.²⁰
- Heroin²¹
Although heroin is the least abused of all drugs in Arizona, the availability of heroin continues to increase as the demand and distribution networks throughout the U.S. increases. Mexican black tar heroin is the predominant type of heroin found in Arizona.
- Marijuana²²
Marijuana remains readily available and is considered the most widely used illegal drug throughout the state. Mexican-produced marijuana retails for \$10-\$25/quarter ounce in the state. Prices for domestically grown plants average approximately \$500/pound.
- Methamphetamine²³
Mexican-produced methamphetamine is the predominant form found in Arizona.
- Pharmaceutical Diversion²⁴
Current investigations indicate that diversion of oxycodone and hydrocodone products continues to be a problem in Arizona.
- According to 2005-2006 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 395,000 (8%) Arizona citizens (ages 12 or older) reported past month use of an illicit drug.²⁵

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

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	395	8.07%
Past year marijuana use	438	8.95
Past month marijuana use	254	5.18
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	218	4.45

Past year cocaine use	133	2.72
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	276	5.65

* The number of users is in thousands

- Approximately 1.89 million (38.72%) Arizona citizens reported that using marijuana occasionally (once a month) was a “great risk”.²⁶
- Additional 2005-2006 NSDUH results indicate that 137,000 (2.81%) Arizona citizens reported illicit drug dependence or abuse within the past year. Approximately 92,000 (1.89%) reported past year illicit drug dependence.²⁷

Juveniles

- Approximately 20% of Arizona high school seniors surveyed in 2006 reported lifetime illegal use of prescription drugs.²⁸

Percent of High School Students Reporting Lifetime Drug Use, by Grade, Arizona, 2006

Drug Type	8th	10th	12th
Marijuana	18.3%	34.0%	42.6%
Inhalants	15.2	11.9	9.8
Hallucinogens	2.1	4.1	5.6
Cocaine	3.6	7.6	11.6
Sedatives	10.0	14.3	17.4
Stimulants	3.4	7.1	8.5
Ecstasy	1.9	3.4	4.4
Heroin	1.4	2.1	2.8
Methamphetamines	2.6	5.0	6.6
Steroids	1.6	2.0	2.2
Prescription drugs	9.8	16.0	20.0
Any drug	35.9	46.7	52.5

- Approximately 18% of Arizona high school seniors surveyed in 2006 reported current (past 30 day) marijuana use.²⁹

Percent of High School Students Reporting Current Drug Use, by Grade, Arizona, 2006

Drug Type	8th	10th	12th
Marijuana	8.5%	15.7%	18.1%
Inhalants	6.2	3.1	1.7
Hallucinogens	1.0	1.7	1.7
Cocaine	1.7	2.9	3.4
Sedatives	4.5	6.6	7.1
Stimulants	1.5	2.9	2.6
Ecstasy	0.8	1.0	0.9
Heroin	0.7	0.7	0.8
Methamphetamines	1.0	1.7	1.4
Steroids	0.8	1.0	1.0
Prescription drugs	4.5	7.3	8.1
Any drug	19.4	25.3	26.3

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 76,000 (15%) Arizona 12-17 year olds reported past month use of an illicit drug.³⁰

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

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	57	10.84%
Past year marijuana use	76	14.53
Past month marijuana use	38	7.24
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	28	5.37
Past year cocaine use	12	2.30
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	43	8.18

* The number of users is in thousands

Enforcement

- Arizona Department of Public Safety, Narcotics Enforcement Bureau³¹
This Bureau provides drug enforcement services statewide through participation in 23 multi-agency task forces. The Narcotics Enforcement Bureau is organized into 3 districts: the Northern Narcotics District in Flagstaff; the Central Narcotics District in Phoenix; and the Southern Narcotics District in Tucson.
- Joint Drug Intelligence Group (JDIG)³²
JDIG is a multi-agency drug intelligence task force compiled of investigators and analysts, whose purpose is to proactively collect, evaluate, collate, analyze and disseminate detailed and relevant source information concerning drug trafficking organizations.
- As of October 31, 2006, there were 21,434 full-time law enforcement employees in Arizona (11,932 officers and 9,502 civilians).³³

Trafficking and Seizures

- Arizona is experiencing escalated violence associated with drug and human trafficking along the border. This increasingly violent drug activity is a result of conflict among cartels to control key drug and human smuggling routes into the United States.³⁴
- United States border communities have become vulnerable to the spill-over of drug related violence from Mexico. Conflicts over control of smuggling routes have expanded drug-related violence to border communities.³⁵
- Arizona's 370-mile border with Mexico consists of sparsely populated areas, vast expanses of rugged mountainous terrain aligned in north-south corridors, and broad valleys and deserts providing unlimited opportunities for drug-related activity.³⁶
- Major drug smuggling organizations based in Mexico continue to dominate the movement of cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana and heroin into and through Arizona.³⁷
- More than 400,000 kilograms of marijuana were seized by Federal agencies in Arizona during 2007.³⁸

Amount of Federal Drug Seizures, Arizona, 2007

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cocaine	2,196.4 kilograms
Heroin	48.0 kilograms
Methamphetamine	331.8 kilograms/138 dosage units
Marijuana	428,800.9 kilograms
MDMA	47 dosage units

- During 2007, there were 8 methamphetamine laboratory incidents in Arizona reported by the DEA and state and local authorities.³⁹

Methamphetamine Laboratory Incidents, Arizona, 2003-2007

Year	Laboratory Incidents
2003	119
2004	71
2005	75
2006	41
2007	8

- During FY 2007, multi-jurisdictional task forces (MJTF) in Arizona seized 861,692 grams of cocaine.⁴⁰

Drug Seizures (in grams unless specified otherwise) by Arizona MJTF, FY 2004-2007

Drug Type	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Cocaine	1,798,175	1,038,888	683,344	861,692
Marijuana	221,205	250,530	252,007	276,906
Marijuana plants	20,527 plants	13,728 plants	114,783 plants	83,656 plants
Heroin	55,547	10,007	14,707	15,300
Methamphetamine	206,231	317,516	261,796	190,776

- During 2006, more than 82,000 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated and seized in Arizona as part of the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁴¹

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Arizona, 2006

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Cultivated Plants Eradicated
Eradicated Plots	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
46	82,244	13	537	82,781

Courts

- Drug Courts⁴²
As of April 2007, there were 26 drug courts in Arizona that had been operating for at least two years, 5 that had recently been implemented and 8 that were being planned.

- Drug Prosecution Projects⁴³
During FY 2007, there were 15 drug prosecution projects located throughout Arizona. As a result of the drug prosecution projects' efforts, a total of 24,605 drug violators were convicted in Arizona during FY 2007. More than 62% of the FY 2007 cases were felony convictions.
- During FY 2006, 30.5% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in Arizona had committed a drug offense. Approximately 73% of these drug cases involved marijuana.⁴⁴

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Cases, Arizona, FY 2006

Drug Type	Number	Percent of Total
Powder cocaine	163	12.5%
Crack cocaine	5	0.4
Heroin	23	1.8
Marijuana	946	72.7
Methamphetamine	158	12.1
Other	6	0.5

Corrections

- On February 29, 2008, there were 7,771 prisoners within the Arizona Department of Corrections (DOC) incarcerated for drug offenses. There were also 1,916 offenders under community supervision at that time for drug offenses.⁴⁵

Number of DOC Offenders, by Offense, Arizona, February 29, 2008

Offense	Inmates	Community Supervision
Violent	14,050	1,426
Property	9,858	2,241
Drug	7,771	1,916
Other	5,421	1,328
Total	38,100	6,911

Consequences of Use

- There were 799 drug-induced deaths in Arizona during 2005.⁴⁶
- During 2006, there were 32,426 drug-related hospital discharges in Arizona.⁴⁷

Number of Drug-Related Hospital Discharges, by Category, Arizona, 2004-2006

Category	2004	2005	2006
Drug dependence and drug abuse	21,397	23,032	25,091
Noxious influences affecting the fetus	1,408	1,504	1,399
Poisonings by drugs	5,507	5,892	5,936
Total drug-related discharges	28,312	30,428	32,426

Treatment

- During 2006, there were 24,360 admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in Arizona.⁴⁸ There were 28,309 such treatment admissions during 2005.⁴⁹

Admissions to Treatment, Arizona, 2005-2006

Drug Type	2005		2006	
	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	3,503	12.4%	3,374	13.9%
Alcohol with secondary drug	2,400	8.5	1,991	8.2
Cocaine (smoked)	957	3.4	877	3.6
Cocaine (other route)	512	1.8	549	2.3
Marijuana	2,004	7.1	1,866	7.7
Heroin	1,262	4.5	1,057	4.3
Other opiates	154	0.5	259	1.1
Hallucinogens	25	0.1	17	0.1
Amphetamines	4,503	15.9	3,618	14.9
Other stimulants	21	0.1	15	0.1
Tranquilizers	24	0.1	52	0.2
Sedatives	29	0.1	29	0.1
Inhalants	10	0.0	4	0.0
Other unknown	12,905	45.6	10,652	43.7
Total	28,309	100.0	24,360	100.0

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 124,000 (2.53%) Arizona citizens reported needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use within the past year.⁵⁰

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- ⁶ U.S. Senate Web site: <http://www.senate.gov/>
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- ⁸ U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>
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ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse
PO Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000

Web Site: <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov>

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