NIDA-NIJ Joint Initiative for Research on Retail Drug Markets

JOINT INITIATIVE

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) partnered with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) on a research initiative to address one of the nation's drug priorities—methamphetamine. The purpose of the initiative is to integrate epidemiology with behavioral and economic studies of the composition and dynamics of drug markets, including drug manufacture, sale and use. Findings from the four grants awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2007 will increase our capacity to address the needs of drugs and crime research, practice and policy. Final briefings and publications are expected in FY 2010.

DYNAMICS OF RETAIL METHAMPHETAMINE MARKETS IN NEW YORK CITY

Travis Wendel,[1] Ric Curtis, Kirk Dombrowski and Bilal Khan

Access to information on methamphetamine markets is limited by traditional research methods that are inconsistent with network-based drug markets. This project pilots a mixed qualitative-quantitative technique to document and analyze demographics, abuse behaviors, social networks, and market behaviors among methamphetamine

Sample social network diagram displays relationships

users and distributors in New York City. Innovations include respondent-driven sampling for open-ended structured interviews, and social network analysis to map and measure relationships.
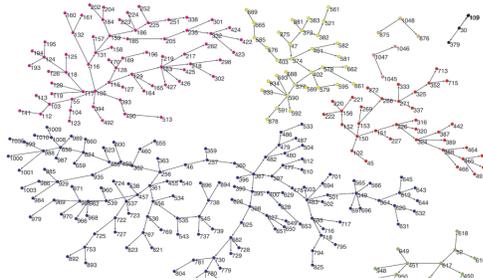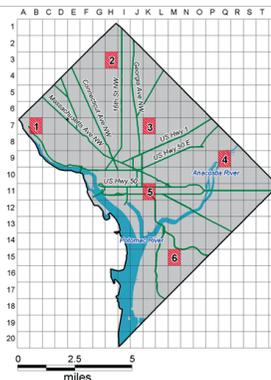
THE DYNAMICS OF METHAMPHETAMINE MARKETS: A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO THE PROCESS

Henry Brownstein,[2] Phyllis Newton, Timothy Mulcahy, Bruce Taylor and Bruce Kubu

Nonfederal narcotics officers are important sources of information on how local methamphetamine markets evolve, operate and impact communities. This study will examine emerging, established and declining markets. Researchers will collect information via 4,400 law enforcement agency surveys, 75 semi-structured telephone interviews with narcotics police, and 9 market case studies from municipal and county jurisdictions nationwide.

Sample map to identify methamphetamine markets

Send comments and questions to:

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DRUG MARKET CHARACTERISTICS: ANTECEDENTS AND SEQUELAE ON THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER

Steffanie Strathdee,[3] Robin Pollini, Remedios Lozada and Tom Patterson

The southwest border is key to U.S. and international drug and crime issues. The "Parashoots" project will identify trends in drug market characteristics, cross-border mobility, drug use patterns, and medical consequences in the border cities of San Diego, Calif. and Tijuana, Baja California (Mexico). Data from 6-, 12- and 18-month interviews with 600 injection drug users and their HIV tests will be combined with U.S. border patrol records and information on drug purity, price and availability for analysis. Parashoots builds upon other research projects — "Proyecto el Cuete" funded by NIDA and "Fastlane" funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.
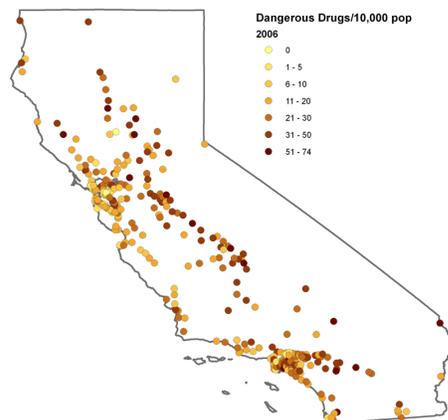
ASSESSING THE DEVELOPMENT OF DRUG MARKETS USING BAYESIAN SPACE–TIME MODELS

Paul Gruenwald[4]

This project will examine spatial diffusion, rate of growth, and temporal relationships between local drug markets and social problems at the community level by linking the California Index Locations Database to other archival data spanning 1990 to 2006. Geospatial methods will be used to apply hierarchical generalized linear models with spatial correlation, variable coefficient models for drug epidemiology, and spatial analysis of location distributions on a network.

Dangerous Drug Arrests for 330 CA Cities per 10,000 population

Dangerous Drugs/10,000 pop 2006
- 0
- 1 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 21 - 30
- 31 - 50
- 51 - 74