



Drugs and Crime Facts

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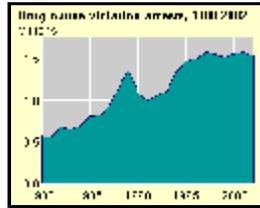
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Drugs & Crime Facts

This site summarizes U.S. statistics about drug-related crimes, law enforcement, courts, and corrections from Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and non-BJS sources (See [Drug data produced by BJS](#) below). It updates the information published in *Drugs and Crime Facts, 1994*, (NCJ 154043) and will be revised as new information becomes available. The data provide policymakers, criminal justice practitioners, researchers, and the general public with online access to understandable information on various drug law violations and drug-related law enforcement.

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To ease printing, a [consolidated version](#) in Adobe Acrobat format (659K) of all of the web pages in *Drugs & Crime Facts* is available for downloading.

Drug data produced by BJS

Most of the information presented here is collected from BJS reports and from other statistical agencies.

The primary sources of information include --

- The **National Crime Victimization Survey** (NCVS), which asks victims of personal crimes if they believed the offenders had been using drugs
- The **Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics** (LEMAS) program, which produces information on drug-related programs of State and local police agencies
- **Correctional programs**, which provide data on Federal and State prisoners, jail inmates, and incarcerated youth, including data on their histories of drug use and drug offenses
- The **Federal Justice Statistics Program**, which collects and publishes detailed data on drug law violators in the Federal justice system
- The **Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics**, which presents data on drug use in the general population and on public opinion toward drugs and enforcement of drug laws, and administrative law enforcement data from agencies such as the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

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Drug use and crime

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At the time of the offense

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Drug-related crime

Of convicted property and drug offenders, about 1 in 4 had committed their crimes to get money for drugs. A higher percentage of drug offenders in 1996 (24%) than in 1989 (14%) were in jail for a crime committed to raise money for drugs.

Percent of jail inmates who committed offense to get money for drugs

Offense	1996	1989
Total	15.8%	13.3%
Violent	8.8	11.5
Property	25.6	24.4
Drugs	23.5	14.0
Public-order	4.2	3.3

Source: BJS, *Profile of Jail Inmates, 1996*, NCJ 164620, April 1998

In 1997, 19% of State prisoners and 16% of Federal inmates said they committed their current offense to obtain money for drugs. These percentages represent a slight increase from 1991, when 17% of State and 10% of Federal prisoners identified drug money as a motive for their current offense.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997*, NCJ 172871, January 1999.

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reported that in 2002, 4.7% of the 14,054 homicides in which circumstances were known were narcotics related. Murders that occurred specifically during a narcotics felony, such as drug trafficking or manufacturing, are considered drug related.

Drug-related homicides

Year	Number of homicides	Percent drug related
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1987	17,963	4.9%
1988	17,971	5.6
1989	18,954	7.4
1990	20,273	6.7
1991	21,676	6.2
1992	22,716	5.7
1993	23,180	5.5
1994	22,084	5.6
1995	20,232	5.1
1996	16,967	5.0
1997	15,837	5.1
1998	14,276	4.8
1999	13,011	4.5
2000	13,230	4.5
2001	14,061	4.1
2002	14,054	4.7

Note: The percentages are based on data from the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) while the totals are from the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR). Not all homicides in the UCR result in reports in the SHR
Source: Table constructed by ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff from FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

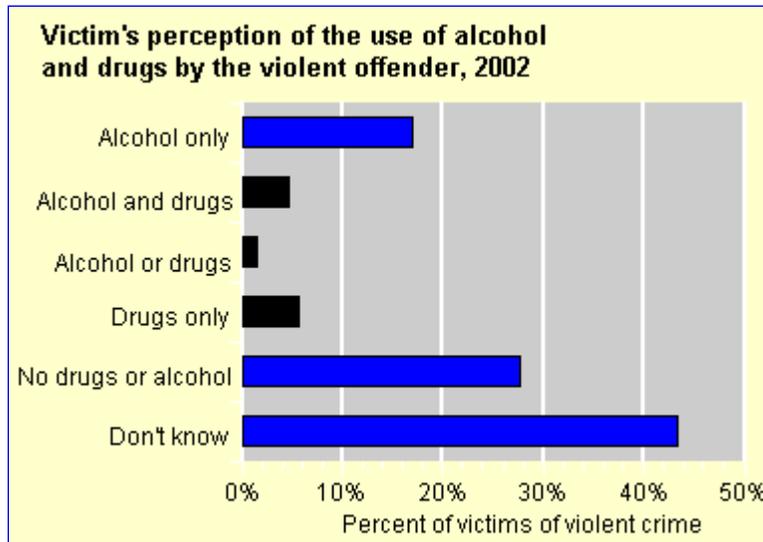
Offenders under the influence at the time of the offense

- **Victim's perception**
 - **College student victims**
 - **Victims of workplace violence**
 - **American Indian victims**
- **Perspectives of probationers, State and Federal prisoners, and jail inmates**

Victim's perception

According to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), in 2002, there were 5.3 million violent victimizations of residents age 12 or older. Victims of violence were asked to describe whether they perceived the offender to have been drinking or using drugs.

- About 29% of the victims of violence reported that the offender was using drugs, alone or in combination with alcohol.
- Based on victim perceptions, about 1.0 million violent crimes occurred each year in which victims were certain that the offender had been drinking. For about 1 in 5 of these violent victimizations involving alcohol use by the offender, victims believed the offender was also using drugs at the time of the offense.



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Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: Table constructed by staff from the U.S. Census Bureau for the *National Crime Victimization Survey*, annually.

College student victims

Overall 41% of violent crimes committed against college students and 38% of nonstudents were committed by an offender perceived to be using drugs, 1995-2000. About 2 in 5 of all rape/sexual assaults and about a quarter of all robberies against a college student were committed by an offender perceived to be using drugs.

Source: BJS, *Violent Victimization of College Students, 1995-2000*, NCJ 196143, December 2003.

Victims of workplace violence

Of workplace victims of violence --

- 35% believed the offender was drinking or using drugs at the time of the incident
- 36% did not know if the offender had been drinking or using drugs
- 27% of all workplace offenders had not been drinking or using drugs

Victims of workplace violence varied in their perception of whether the offender used alcohol or drugs by occupation.

- 47% in law enforcement perceived the offender to be using alcohol or drugs
- 35% in the medical field
- 31% in retail sales

Source: BJS, *Violence in the Workplace, 1993-99*, NCJ 190076, December 2001.

American Indian victims

Alcohol and drug use was a factor in more than half of violent crimes against American Indians.

Substantial differences can be found by race in the reports of victims of violence of their perceptions of drug and alcohol use by offenders. Among those who could describe alcohol or drug use by offenders, American Indian victims of violence were the most likely to report such perceived use by the offender.

Overall, in 55% of American Indian violent victimizations, the victim said the offender was under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or both. The offender's use of alcohol and/or drugs was somewhat less likely in violent crimes committed against whites (44%) or blacks (35%).

Violent crime, by the perceived drug or alcohol use of the offender and by race of victim, 1992-96

Race of victim	Total	Perceived drug or alcohol use by offender			
		Alcohol	Drugs	Both	Neither
Total	100%	28%	8%	7%	57%
American Indian	100	38	9	8	45
White	100	29	8	7	56
Black	100	21	7	7	65
Asian	100	20	3	2	75

Note: Table excludes those respondents who were unable to report whether or not they perceived the offender to have been using drugs or alcohol.

Source: BJS, *American Indians and Crime*, NCJ 173386, February 1999.

Perspectives of probationers, prisoners, and jail inmates

- Probationers
- Prisoners
- Jail inmates

Probationers

The first national survey of adults on probation, conducted in 1995, reported that 14% of probationers were on drugs when they committed their offense.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment of Adults on Probation, 1995*, NCJ 166611, March 1998.

Among probationers, 49% of the mentally ill and 46% of others reported alcohol or drug use at the time of the offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment and Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

Prisoners

In the 1997 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities, 33% of State prisoners and 22% of Federal prisoners said they had committed their current offense while under the influence of drugs. Drug offenders (42%) and property offenders (37%) reported the highest incidence of drug use at the time of the offense.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997*, NCJ 172871, January 1999.

About 60% of mentally ill and 51% of other inmates in State prison were under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of their current offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment and Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

Abused State inmates were more likely than those reporting no abuse to have been using illegal drugs at the time of their offense. This pattern occurred especially among female inmates. Forty-six percent of the abused women committed their current offense under the influence of illegal drugs. Among women who were not abused, 32% committed their offense while on drugs.

Source: BJS, *Prior Abuse Reported by Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 172879, April 1999.

According to the 1997 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities, veterans in State prisons (26%) were less likely than nonveterans (34%) to have been under the influence of drugs while committing their offense. In Federal prisons, about the same percentages of veterans (21%) and nonveterans (34%) reported drug use at the time of their offense.

Source: BJS, *Veterans in Prison or Jail*, NCJ 178888, January 2000.

A third of the parents in State prison reported committing their current offense while under the influence of drugs. Parents were most likely to report the influence of cocaine-based drugs (16%) and marijuana (15%) while committing their crime. About equal percentages of parents in State prison reported the use of opiates (6%) and stimulants (5%) at the time of their offense, while 2% used depressants or hallucinogens.

Thirty-two percent of mothers in State prison reported committing their crime to get drugs or money for drugs, compared to 19% of fathers.

Source: BJS, *Incarcerated Parents and Their Children*, NCJ 182335, August 2000.

Jail inmates

In 1996, those jail inmates convicted of drug trafficking (60%), drug possession (57%), fraud (45%), or robbery (44%) were most likely to have reported to be using drugs at the time of the offense.

Source: BJS, *Profile of Jail Inmates, 1996*, NCJ 164620, April 1998.

According to the *Survey of Inmates in Local Jails, 1996*, more than half of prison of the jail inmates with an intimate victim had been drinking or using drugs when they committed the violent crime.

Source: BJS, *Violence by Intimates*, NCJ 167237, March 1998.

Sixty-five percent of mentally ill jail inmates and 57% of other jail inmates were under the influence of both alcohol and drug use at the time of the offense. These percentages were the highest compared to State inmates and probationers.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment of Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

Based on data from the *1996 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails*, 29% of veterans and 32% of nonveterans in local jails were under the influence of drugs at the time of offense.

Source: BJS, *Veterans in Prison or Jail*, NCJ 178888, January 2000.

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Drug use at arrest

The *Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM)* program collects data from adult arrestees in 38 sites across the country. In most sites, a half or more of the adult arrestees tested positive for at least one drug.

In 2000 the ADAM program reported that adult male arrestees tested positive for at least one drug almost as often as adult female arrestees. In 35 of the 38 ADAM sites, 64% of male arrestees tested positive; compared to 63% of female arrestees in 29 of the sites.

Marijuana

In 2000 men were generally more likely than women to test positive for marijuana.

For adult arrestees testing positive for marijuana use ranged from --

- 57% in Oklahoma City to 29% in Laredo for males.
- 45% in Oklahoma City to 17% in Laredo for females.

A comparison between 1999 and 2000 results indicated that marijuana-positive percentages relatively remained the same in most of the sites.

Cocaine

In 2000 women were more likely than men to test positive for cocaine.

For adult arrestees testing positive for cocaine use ranged from --

- 49% in Atlanta and New York to 11% in Des Moines for males.
- 59% in Chicago to 8% in San Jose for females.

A comparison between 1999 and 2000 results indicated that cocaine-positive percentages increased in most of the sites.

Methamphetamine

In 2000 methamphetamine use was more likely in the Western region, and more prevalent for women than men.

For adult arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine use ranged from --

- 36% in Honolulu to 11% in Oklahoma City and Omaha for males.
- 47% in Honolulu to 21% in Las Vegas for females.

In comparison between 1999 and 2000 results indicated that methamphetamine-positive percentages increased some in most of the sites.

Juvenile detainees

Data were collected from more than 2,000 juvenile male arrestees in 9 sites, and more than 400 juvenile female arrestees in 8 sites. In most sites, half or more of juvenile arrestees tested positive for at least one drug. Juvenile arrestees interviewed by ADAM ranged from ages 12 to 18. In 2000, the largest proportion was between ages 15 and 17. Among those who tested positive for use of any drug, the largest group was age 17. In half the sites, 70% of more of the juvenile detainees said they were still in school, with the range 55% in Phoenix to 93% in San Antonio.

- Marijuana was the leading drug use among juveniles.
- Cocaine came in a distant second; the percentages testing positive for methamphetamine were also low.

Source: *2000 Annual Report on Drug Use Among Adult and Juvenile Arrestees, Arrestees Drug Abuse Monitoring Program (ADAM)*, National Institute of Justice, NCJ 193013, April 2003.

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Prior drug use by offenders

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Probationers

In 1995 the first national survey of adults on probation reported --

- nearly 70% of probationers reported past drug use
- 32% said they were using illegal drugs in the month before their offense.

Marijuana (10%) was the most commonly used drug among probationers at the time of the offense.

Prior drug use of adults on probation at the time of offense, by type of drugs, 1995

Type of drug	Percent of adults on probation who were under the influence of drugs at the time of offense
Any drug	14%
Marijuana/hashish	10
Cocaine/crack	4
Heroin and other opiates	1

Barbiturates	1
Stimulants	2
Hallucinogens	1

Note: Excludes 11,712 probationers for whom information on drug use was not provided.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment of Adults on Probation, 1995*, NCJ 166611, March 1998.

In 1995 adults age 44 years old or younger on probation (87% of all probationers) reported similar levels of prior drug abuse, and their incidence of drug use was consistently higher than that of older probationers. Over 70% of probationers under age 45 reported some prior drug use, compared to 37% of those age 45 or older. Thirty-five percent of probationers under age 45 -- but 9% of older probationers -- reported drug use in the month before their offense.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment of Adults on Probation, 1995*, NCJ 166611, March 1998.

Two-thirds of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) offenders on probation reported using drugs in the past. Among DWI probationers, marijuana (65%) and stimulants (29%) were the most commonly used drugs. Seventeen percent of those on probation reported drug use in the month prior to arrest.

Prior drug use reported by probationers

Level of prior drug use	Percent of probationers	
	DWI offenders	Other offenders
Ever used drugs/a	67.9%	69.9%
Marijuana/hashish	64.6	67.2
Cocaine/crack	28.1	31.7
Heroin/opiates	5.7	8.8
Depressants/b	14.6	15.6
Stimulants/c	28.5	24.4
Hallucinogens/d	19.9	19.6
Ever used drugs regularly/e	55.6%	64.2%
Used drugs in month before arrest	16.6%	35.7%
Used drugs at time of arrest	3.3%	16.1%

a/Other unspecified drugs are included in the totals.

b/Includes barbiturates, tranquilizers, and Quaaludes.

c/Includes amphetamines and methamphetamines.

d/Includes LSD and PCP.

e/Used drugs at least once a week for at least a month.

Source: BJS, *DWI Offenders under Correctional Supervision*, NCJ 172212, June 1999.

Among DWI offenders, the most commonly reported experience associated with drug use was domestic disputes:

- 19% of probationers said they had arguments with their family, friends, spouse, or boyfriend/girlfriend while under the influence of drugs.
- About 1 in 10 of those on probation for DWI had been arrested or held in a police station as a result of their drug use.
- 3% of those on probation had lost a job because of their drug use.
- 8% of those on probation said they had been in a physical fight while under the

influence of drugs.

Source: BJS, *DWI Offenders under Correctional Supervision*, NCJ 172212, June 1999.

Nearly 40% of mentally ill probationers and 30% of other probationers reported using drugs in the month before their offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment and Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

Jail inmates

Of those inmates held in local jails, only convicted offenders were asked if they had used drugs in the time leading up to their current offense. In 1996, 55% of convicted jail inmates reported they had used illegal drugs during the month before their offense, up from 44% in 1989. Use of marijuana in the month before the offense increased from 28% to 37% and of stimulants from 5% to 10%. Reported cocaine or crack use was stable at about 24%.

Half of inmates in both 1989 and 1996 reported trying cocaine. Overall, 82% of all jail inmates in 1996 said they had ever used an illegal drug, up from 78% in 1989. A higher percentage of jail inmates in 1996 than in 1989 reported ever using for every other type of drug:

- marijuana rose from 71% to 78%;
- stimulants (amphetamine and methamphetamine) from 22% to 34%;
- hallucinogens, including LSD and PCP, from 24% to 32%;
- depressants, including Quaalude, barbiturates, and tranquilizers without a doctor's prescription, from 21% to 30%; and
- heroin or other opiates from 19% to 24%.

Source: BJS, *Profile of Jail Inmates, 1996*, NCJ 164620, April 1998.

Prior drug use of jail inmates, by type of drug, 1996 and 1989 Used drugs in

Type of drug	Ever used drugs		Ever used drugs regularly/a		the month before the offense		Used drugs at the time of the offense	
	1996	1989	1996	1989	1996	1989	1996	1989
Any drug	82.4%	77.7%	64.2%	58.0%	55.0%	43.8%	35.6%	27.0%
Marijuana	78.2	70.7	54.9	47.8	36.8	28.0	18.5	9.0
Cocaine or crack	50.4	50.4	31.0	30.7	24.1	23.5	15.2	13.7
Heroin or opiates	23.9	18.6	11.8	11.8	8.8	7.2	5.6	4.9
Depressants/c	29.9	21.1	10.4	9.0	5.9	3.9	2.4	1.2
Stimulants/d	33.6	22.1	16.5	12.1	10.4	5.4	6.1	2.2
Hallucinogens/e	32.2	23.7	10.5	9.4	4.6	3.2	1.6	1.6
Inhalants	16.8	--	4.8	--	1.0	--	0.3	--

Note: Detail add to more than total because inmates may have used more than one drug.

--Not reported.

a/Used drugs at least once week for a month.

b/Other unspecified drugs are included in the totals.

c/Includes barbiturates, tranquilizers, and Quaaludes.

d/Includes amphetamines and methamphetamines.

e/Includes LSD and PCP.

Source: BJS, *Profile of Jail Inmates, 1996*, NCJ 164620, April 1998.

Over three-quarters of DWI offenders in jail reported using drugs in the past. Among jail inmates held for DWI, marijuana (73%) and cocaine-based drugs including crack (41%) were the most commonly used drugs. Thirty percent of those in jail reported drug use in the month prior to arrest.

Domestic disputes were also one of the most commonly reported experiences associated with drug use:

- 25% of jail inmates said they had arguments with their family, friends, spouse, or boyfriend/girlfriend while under the influence of drugs.
- Nearly 1 in 5 of those in jail for DWI had been arrested or held in a police station as a result of their drug use.
- About 10% of DWI offenders in jail had lost a job because of their drug use.
- About 15% of jail inmates said they had been in a physical fight while under the influence of drugs.

Source: BJS, *DWI Offenders under Correctional Supervision*, NCJ 172212, June 1999.

Fifty-eight percent of mentally ill jail inmates and 47% of other jail inmates were using drugs in the month before the offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment and Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

In local jails, veterans (81%) reported levels of prior drug use similar to nonveterans (83%), but lower levels (44%) of drug use in the month prior to the offense than nonveterans (50%) in 1997.

Source: BJS, *Veterans in Prison or Jail*, NCJ 178888, January 2000.

State and Federal prison inmates

In the 1997 Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities, over 570,000 of the Nation's prisoners (51%) reported the use of alcohol or drugs while committing their offense.

In 1991, 60% of Federal prisoners reported prior drug use, compared to 79% of State prisoners. In 1997 this gap in prior drug use was narrowed, as the percentage of Federal inmates reporting past drug use rose to 73%, compared to 83% of State inmates. This increase was mostly due to a rise in the percentage of Federal prisoners reporting prior use of marijuana (from 53% in 1991 to 65% in 1997) and cocaine-based drugs (from 37% in 1991 to 45% in 1997).

Most other drug types showed modest increases over this period. A fifth of Federal prisoners had used stimulants and hallucinogens, followed by depressants and opiates, including heroin (both 16%). About 1 in 12 Federal prisoners reported the prior use of inhalants.

Although the proportion of Federal prisoners held for drug offenses rose from 58% in 1991 to 63% in 1997, the percentage of all Federal inmates who reported using drugs in the month before the offense rose more dramatically from 32% to 45%.

The proportion of State prison inmates reporting the past use of cocaine or crack remained stable between 1991 and 1997 --

- Marijuana (77%) use had increased slightly since 1991 (74%), and remained the most commonly used drug.
- Past use of cocaine-based drugs remained unchanged at 49% since 1991.
- Twenty percent of all inmates reported the past use of intravenous drugs, down from 25% in 1991.

Drug use by State prisoners, 1997 and 1991

Type of drug	Percent of inmates who had ever used drugs	
	1997	1991
Any drug	83%	79%
Marijuana	77	74
Cocaine/crack	49	49
Heroin/opiates	24	25
Depressants	24	24
Stimulants	28	30
Hallucinogens	29	27

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997*, NCJ 172871, January 1999.

Nineteen percent of State inmates told interviewers that they had been physically or sexually abused before their current offense. For State prisoners reporting prior abuse, 89% had ever used illegal drugs: 76% of the men and 80% of the women had used them regularly. Of those not reporting prior abuse, 82% had used illegal drugs: 68% of the men and 65% of the women had used them regularly.

Illegal drug use was more common among abused State prison inmates than among those who said they were not abused. An estimated 76% of abused men and 80% of abused women had used illegal drugs regularly, compared to 68% of men and 65% of women who had not been abused.

Current and past violent offenses and past drug use, by whether abused before admission to State prison, 1997

Offense history and drug use	Percent of State prison inmates					
	Reported being abused			Reported being not abused		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Current or past violent offense	70.4%	76.5%	45.0%	60.2%	61.2%	29.1%
Used an illegal drug						
Ever	88.6%	88.5%	88.9%	81.8%	81.9%	77.4%
Ever regularly	76.3	75.5	79.7	67.9	67.9	65.0
In month before offense	61.4	59.7	68.6	55.3	55.3	54.0
At time of offense	39.6	38.0	46.2	30.7	30.7	32.0

Source: BJS, *Prior Abuse Reported by Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 172879, April 1999.

About 60% of mentally ill State prisoners and 56% of other inmates were using drugs in the month before their offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment and Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

In 1997 a majority of parents in State prison reported some type of prior drug use --

- 85% reported any past drug use
- 58% reported use in the month before the current offense.

Nonparents in State prison reported slightly lower levels of prior drug use --

- 80% reported any past drug use
- 55% reported use in the month before the current offense.

Percent of parents in State prison who used drugs in the month before the current offense, 1997

Marijuana	39%
Cocaine/crack	27
Heroin/opiates	10
Stimulants	9
Depressants	5
Hallucinogens	3
Inhalants	1

In 1997 mothers in State prison were more likely than fathers to report drug use in the month before their offense: 65% for mothers and 58% for fathers. Cocaine/crack was the most common drug used: 45% for mothers and 26% for fathers.

Nearly half of parents in Federal prison reported using drugs in the month before their offense and 3 in 4 had ever used drugs. Nearly a quarter of parents in Federal prison were under the influence of drugs when committing their offense. Aside from marijuana use (higher among fathers), mothers and fathers in Federal prison reported similar drug use histories.

Source: BJS, *Incarcerated Parents and Their Children*, NCJ 182335, August 2000.

79% of veterans in State prison reported prior drug use during their military service.

Prior drug use of veterans in State prison, 1997

Drug use	Percent of veterans who reported prior drug use	
	Combat	Noncombat
Any prior drug use	69%	82%
In the month before	30	49
Prior use of intravenous drugs	23	25

Vietnam-era veterans varied little from other veterans in State prison concerning prior drug

abuse --

- 77% of Vietnam-era veterans compared to 80% of other veterans reported ever using drugs.
- 41% of Vietnam-era veterans compared to 47% of other veterans used drugs in the month before the offense.

Source: BJS, *Veterans in Prison or Jail*, NCJ 178888, January 2000.

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Enforcement

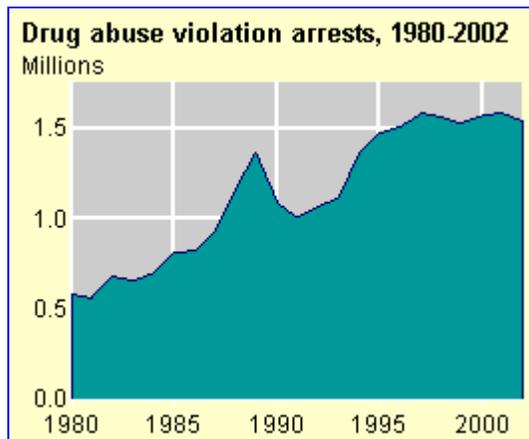
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Arrests and seizures

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Arrests

Federal, State, and local agencies share responsibility for enforcing the Nation's drug laws, although most arrests are made by State and local authorities. In 2002 the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) estimated that there were 1,538,800 State and local arrests for drug abuse violations in the United States.

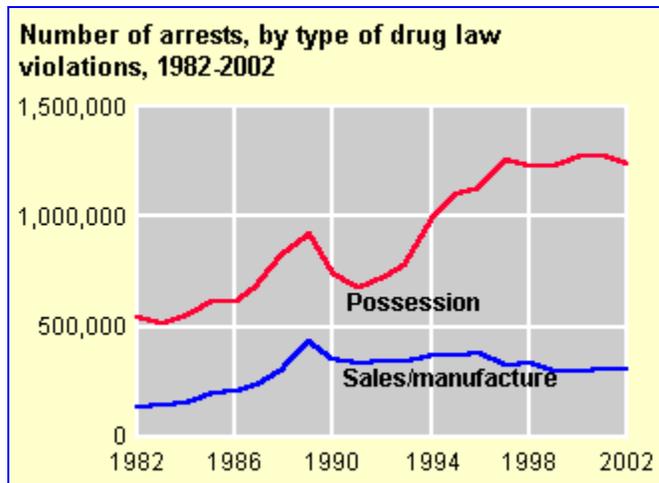
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Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

According to the UCR, drug abuse violations are defined as State and/or local offenses relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs including opium or cocaine and their derivatives, marijuana, synthetic narcotics, and dangerous nonnarcotic drugs such as barbiturates.

More than four-fifths of drug law violation arrests are for possession.

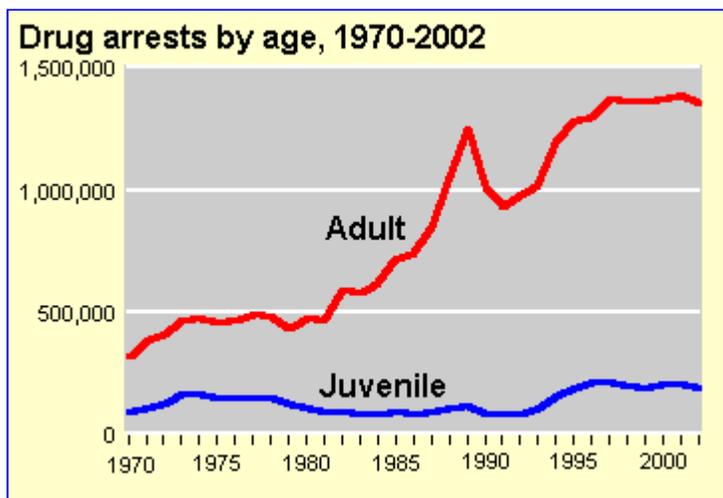


[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

The number of arrests for drug abuse violations changed little from 2000 to 2002; arrests of adults increased slightly and arrests of juveniles decreased slightly. Juveniles are defined as persons under age 18. Adults are defined as persons age 18 or older. In 1987 drug arrests were 7.4% of the total of all arrests reported to the FBI; by 2002, drug arrests had risen to 11.0% of all arrests.



[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

In 2002, according to the UCR, law enforcement agencies nationwide made an estimated 13.7 million arrests for all criminal infractions except traffic violations. Among the specific categories, the highest arrest counts were --

- 1.5 million for drug abuse violations;
- approximately 1.5 million for driving under the influence;
- 1.3 million for simple assaults; and
- 1.2 million for larceny-thefts.

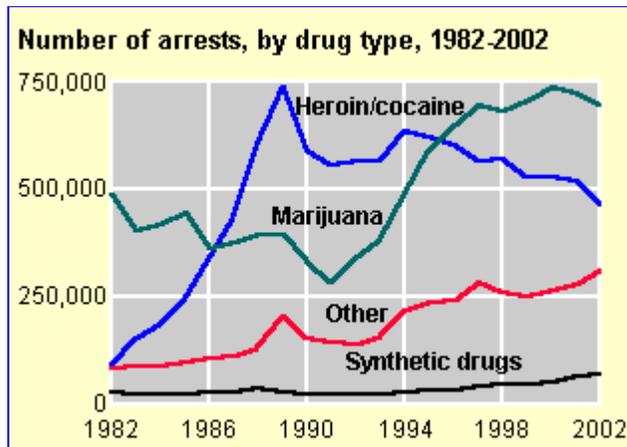
Estimated totals of top 7 arrest offenses, United States, 2002

Type of arrest	Number of arrests*
Total arrests*	13,741,400
Drug abuse violations	1,538,800
Driving under the influence	1,461,700
Simple assaults	1,288,700
Larceny/theft	1,160,100
Disorderly conduct	669,900
Liquor laws	653,800
Drunkenness	572,700

*Arrest totals are based on all reporting agencies and estimates for unreported areas.

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

From 1987 to 1995 more drug arrests involved heroin or cocaine than other types of drugs. Since 1996 the number of arrests involving marijuana exceeded that for other types of drugs.



[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

The Northeastern region had a higher proportion of sale/manufacturing drug arrests than the other regions.

Arrests for drug abuse violations, by geographic region, 2002

Type of violations	Percent of arrests for drug abuse violations				
	U.S. total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Total*	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sale/manufacture*	19.7%	27.9%	23.1%	17.2%	16.4%
Heroin or cocaine	8.8	19.1	6.0	7.8	6.2
Marijuana	5.4	6.5	7.4	4.8	4.4
Synthetic or manufactured drugs	1.4	1.0	1.3	2.6	0.8
Other dangerous nonnarcotic drugs	4.0	1.3	8.3	2.0	5.0
Possession*	80.3%	72.1%	76.9%	82.8%	83.6%

Heroin or cocaine	21.3	23.4	11.5	22.0	24.4
Marijuana	39.9	41.6	49.4	48.6	27.1
Synthetic or manufactured drugs	3.0	1.8	2.7	4.4	2.5
Other dangerous nonnarcotic drugs	16.0	5.4	13.3	7.8	29.7

*Because of rounding, percentages may not add to total.

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, annually.

Drug seizures

Many Federal agencies are involved in the removal of illicit drugs from the market. The Federal-Wide Drug Seizure System (FDSS) contains information about drug seizures made within the jurisdiction of the United States by the FBI, DEA, U.S. Customs Service (USCS), and U.S. Border Patrol as well as maritime seizures made by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Drug	Seizures in pounds			
	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002
Total	2,571,355	2,894,200	2,919,608	2,644,580
Heroin	2,733	6,640	4,392	6,900
Cocaine	284,631	248,827	239,957	225,122
Marijuana	2,282,313	2,614,746	2,674,826	2,412,365
Hashish	1,678	23,987	433	193

Note: Table constructed by staff of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal-wide Drug Seizure System (FDSS), *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, 2002*, NCJ 203301, July 2004.

According to the *Drug Enforcement Administration* (DEA) --

- the Federal government seized 16,270 illegal drug laboratories between fiscal years 1975 and 2002
- in fiscal year 2002, of the 570 labs seized, 544 (95%) manufactured methamphetamines
- in 2002 the DEA program for eradicating domestic marijuana resulted in the destruction of 3.3 million plants in 33,329 plots, 8,247 arrests, 3,511 weapons seized, and assets seized valued at \$28.3 million.

Source: Data provided by U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration as reported in the BJS, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 2002*, NCJ 203301, July 2004.

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Law enforcement operations

- **Federal agencies**
- **State agencies**
- **Local agencies**
- **Multiagency task forces**
- **Drug testing for applicants**

Federal agencies

As of June 2002 Federal agencies employed more than 93,000 full-time personnel authorized to make arrests and carry firearms, according to data provided by agencies in response to a Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) survey. Compared with data reported by agencies for June 2000, employment of such personnel increased by about 6%.

The DEA employed 4,020 officers with the authority to make arrests and carry firearms as of June 2002. These DEA agents primarily investigate major narcotics violators, enforce regulations governing the manufacture and dispensing of controlled substances, and perform various other functions to prevent and control drug trafficking.

The FBI employed 11,248 full-time personnel with arrest and firearm authority. These agents investigate more than 200 types of Federal crimes. The FBI has concurrent jurisdiction with the DEA over drug offenses under the Controlled Substances Act.

Source: BJS, *Federal Law Enforcement Officers, 2002*, NCJ 199995, August 2003.

State agencies

Among those State agencies with 100 or more officers, 76% operated a full-time drug enforcement unit in 1999.

Local agencies

Of those local agencies with 100 or more officers a large percentage operated a full-time drug enforcement unit in 2000.

Special drug unit operation participation of agencies with primary drug enforcement responsibility:

Type of agency	Agencies with 100 or more officers
County police	90%
Municipal police departments	99
Sheriffs' departments	95

Source: BJS, *Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics, 1999: Data for Individual State and Local Agencies with 100 or More Officers*, NCJ 184481, November 2000.

In 2000 about 9 in 10 local police departments regularly performed drug enforcement functions. More than 90% of the departments in each population category of 2,500 or more had drug enforcement responsibilities, including all of those serving 100,000 or more residents. Departments with drug enforcement responsibilities employed 98% of all local police officers.

Source: BJS, *Local Police Department 2000*, NCJ 196002, January 2003.

In 2000, 95% of sheriffs' offices regularly performed drug enforcement functions. More than 90% of the offices in each population category below 250,000 had drug enforcement responsibilities. Offices with drug departments in jurisdictions with a population of less than 25,000 were responsible for drug enforcement, compared to 79% of those in jurisdictions with 500,000 to 999,999 residents.

Source: BJS, *Sheriffs' Offices 2000*, NCJ 196534, January 2003.

Drug enforcement responsibilities of local police and sheriffs' offices, by size of population served, 2000

Type of agency and population served	Percent of agencies regularly providing drug enforcement
Local police departments	
All sizes	91%
1,000,000 or more	100%
500,000-999,999	100
250,000-499,999	100
100,000-249,999	100
50,000-99,999	99
25,000-49,999	99
10,000-24,999	97
2,500-9,999	94
Under 2,500	84
Sheriffs' offices	
All sizes	95%
1,000,000 or more	68%
500,000-999,999	79
250,000-499,999	84
100,000-249,999	92
50,000-99,999	96
25,000-49,999	97
10,000-24,999	97
Under 10,000	96

Source: BJS, *Local Police Departments 2000*, NCJ 196002, January 2003, and *Sheriffs' Offices 2000*, NCJ 196534, January 2003.

Multiagency task force

In 2000 an estimated 21% of local police departments had one or more officers assigned full time to a multiagency drug enforcement task force. About two-thirds of all local police officers worked for a department that assigned officers to a task force. About 5,800 officers were assigned full time to a drug task force.

The average number of officers assigned full time ranged from 35 in departments serving a population of 1 million or more to about 2 in those serving fewer than 100,000 residents.

Source: BJS, *Local Police Departments 2000*, NCJ 196002, January 2003.

In 2000 an estimated 40% of sheriffs' offices had one or more officers assigned full time to a multiagency drug enforcement task force. About 2,900 sheriffs' deputies were assigned full time to a drug task force. The average number ranged from 12 in jurisdictions with a population of 1 million or more to 1 in those serving fewer than 25,000 residents.

Source: BJS, *Sheriffs' Offices 2000*, NCJ 196534, January 2003.

Multiagency drug enforcement task force participation of local police and sheriffs' offices, by size of population served, 2000

Population served	Multiagency drug enforcement task forces	
	Percent of agencies participating	Number of officers assigned full time Total Average*
Local police departments		
All sizes	21%	5,778 2
1,000,000 or more	87%	455 35
500,000-999,999	88	281 9
250,000-499,999	90	265 7
100,000-249,999	84	614 4
50,000-99,999	78	673 2
25,000-49,999	65	892 2
10,000-24,999	36	1,155 2
2,500-9,999	16	984 1
Under 2,500	6	457 2
Sheriffs' offices		
All sizes	40%	2,940 2
1,000,000 or more	68%	270 12
500,000-999,999	76	382 7
250,000-499,999	63	260 4
100,000-249,999	68	492 3
50,000-99,999	62	567 2
25,000-49,999	47	494 2
10,000-24,999	29	345 1
Under 10,000	13	130 1

*Excludes agencies not having number assigned full time.
 Source: BJS, *Local Police Departments 2000*, NCJ 196002, January 2003 and *Sheriffs' Offices 2000*, NCJ 196534, January 2003.

In 1994, 46% of all prosecutors' offices indicated that at least one prosecutor has been a member of a multijurisdictional task force. Of offices on such a task force, 76% indicated drug enforcement to be the goal. In 1992, 30% of prosecutors' offices reported involvement with a multijurisdictional task force. Almost 80% of these offices also were involved with a drug task force.

Source: BJS, *Prosecutors in State Courts, 1992 and 1994*, NCJ 145319, June 1996.

Over 80% of full-time offices in large jurisdictions had at least one prosecutor who served as a member of a multijurisdictional task force. The percentages of full-time large offices with at least one prosecutor serving on a multi-jurisdictional task force were --

Drug	91%
Gang	54

Crime prevention	41
Organized crime	28

Source: BJS, *Prosecutors in State Courts, 1992 and 1994*, NCJ 145319, June 1996.

Drug testing for applicants

State agencies

In 1997, 82% of State agencies with 100 or more officers use drug test screening as one of their procedures for selecting new officer recruits.

Source: BJS, *Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics, 1997: Data for Individual State and Local Agencies with 100 or More Officer*, NCJ 171681, April 1999.

Local agencies

In 2000, at least 8 in 10 departments in each population category of 25,000 or more administered drug tests in the selection of new officer recruits. About 7 in 10 departments serving a population of 2,500 to 24,999, and 5 in 10 departments serving fewer than 2,500 residents did also.

Source: BJS, *Local Police Departments 2000*, NCJ 196002, January 2003.

In 2000, Departments serving a population of 100,000 or more were the most likely to administered drug tests in the selection of new officer recruits, with percentages in these categories ranging from 73% to 88%. Departments serving a population of under 10,000 (37%) were the least likely to test any officers for drug use.

Source: BJS, *Sheriffs' Offices 2000*, NCJ 196534, January 2003.

Drug testing of applicants for sworn positions in local police and sheriffs' departments, by size of population served, 1997

Type of agency and population served	Percent of agencies with a drug testing program			
	Any type of testing program	Mandatory (all are tested)	Random selection process	Use of drugs is suspected
Local police departments (sworn positions)				
All sizes	61%	22%	16%	31%
1,000,000 or more	87%	6%	62%	62%
500,000-999,999	83	8	54	67
250,000-499,999	87	17	41	63
100,000-249,999	85	18	33	60
50,000-99,999	83	21	20	56
25,000-49,999	80	19	18	57
10,000-24,999	73	24	16	44
2,500-9,999	68	26	20	32
Under 2,500	49	20	12	21
Sheriffs' departments (sworn positions)				
All sizes	61%	23%	20%	25%

1,000,000 or more	86%	32%	25%	46%
500,000-999,999	77	16	22	61
250,000-499,999	87	35	16	39
100,000-249,999	83	31	24	40
50,000-99,999	71	29	21	27
25,000-49,999	65	26	23	26
10,000-24,999	56	21	21	20
Under 10,000	45	16	16	19

Note: Some agencies had more than one type of testing.
Source: BJS, *Local Police Departments 1997*, NCJ 173429,
February 2000 and *Sheriffs' Departments 1997* NCJ 173428,
February 2000.

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Pretrial, prosecution, and adjudication

Pretrial release | Prosecution and adjudication

Pretrial release

Federal court

About 60% of Federal drug defendants adjudicated were detained between arrest and adjudication during 1999. Of those defendants released prior to adjudication, about half were released on their own recognizance; more than a quarter after posting bail; 19%, on an unsecured bond; and 4%, under restrictive conditions imposed by the court.

Source: BJS, *Federal Drug Offenders, 1999 with Trends 1984-99*, NCJ 187285, August 2001.

Defendants charged with drug or weapon offenses who were released prior to trial and terminated pretrial services during 2002 (30%), were more likely than other defendants to incur at least one violation during the release period.

Source: BJS, *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2002*, NCJ 205368, September 2004.

State court

The State Court Processing Statistics (SCPS) program revealed that of persons charged with a felony drug offense in 2000 in the 75 most populous counties --

- 64% were released prior to case disposition
- 30% were held on bail
- 5% were denied bail

Pretrial status of defendants charged with drug offenses, 1996-2000

Pretrial status and type of release	1996	1998	2000
Total	100%	100%	100%
Released	66%	68%	64%
Financial total	28%	33%	31%
Surety bond	18	23	22
Deposit bond	7	5	7
Full cash bond	1	3	1

Property bond	2	2	--
Nonfinancial			
total	37%	34%	33%
Emergency			
release	1%	--	--
Detained	34%	32%	35%

Note: Detail may not add to total because of rounding
-- Less than 0.5%.

Source: BJS, *Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 2000*, NCJ 202021, December 2003.

In 2000, among felony drug defendants, those charged with drug trafficking (62%) were less likely to be released than those charged with other drug offenses (66%).

Percent of felony defendants released before trial, by type of offense, 1996-2000

Most serious felony arrest charge	1996	1998	2000
All offenses	63%	64%	62%
Violent offenses			
Murder	16	13	13
Rape	51	47	56
Robbery	39	38	44
Assault	66	62	61
Property offenses			
Burglary	47	50	49
Theft	66	73	68
Drug offenses	66	68	64
Trafficking	62	63	62
Other drug	71	72	66
Public-order offenses	71	69	66

Source: BJS, *Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 2000*, NCJ 202021, December 2003.

In 2000 detained drug defendants had a median bail amount of \$20,000. Among drug defendants, those charged with drug trafficking (22%) were about twice as likely to have bail set at \$50,000 or more, compared to other drug defendants (11%).

Of felony drug defendants released prior to the disposition of their case, 47% were released within 1 day of their arrest, 76% within 1 week, and 93% within 1 month.

In 2000 of felony drug defendants released before case disposition, 27% failed to make a scheduled court appearance within 1 year. Twenty percent of the drug defendants who failed to appear returned to court by the end of the 1-year study period, while 7% remained fugitives. By original arrest offense category, released

drug defendants (21%) had the highest rearrest rate. This included 15% of defendants released after being charged with drug trafficking.

Source: BJS, *Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 2000*, NCJ 202021, December 2003.

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Prosecution and adjudication

- **Prosecution of drug law violators**
 - **Federal**
 - **State**
 - **Juveniles**
- **Drug-related activities of prosecutors offices**

Prosecution of drug law violators

Federal

As reported in the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics*, drug prosecutions have comprised an increasing proportion of the Federal criminal caseload -- from 21% of defendants during 1982 to 35% during 2002.

During 2002, U.S. attorneys initiated investigations involving 38,154 suspects for drug offenses.

Source: BJS, *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2002*, NCJ 205368, September 2004.

Of the suspects referred to U.S. attorneys during 1999, 31% were involved with marijuana; 28%, cocaine powder; 15%, crack cocaine; 15%, methamphetamine; 7%, opiates; and 3%, other drugs.

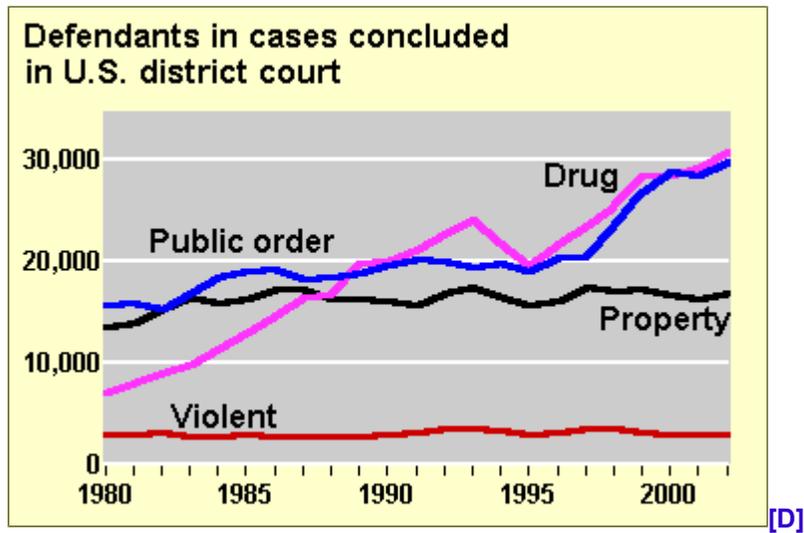
Sixty-five percent of those charged during 1999 had previously been arrested; 28% had 5 or more prior arrests. Half of those charged had previously been convicted; a third of a felony.

Source: BJS, *Federal Drug Offenders, 1999 with Trends 1984-99*, NCJ 187285, August 2001.

Drug and immigration offenders were more likely than others to be prosecuted before U.S. district court judges (75% and 82%, respectively). U.S. attorneys declined to prosecute 18% of drug offenders investigated during 2002. During 2002, a quarter (24%) of those declined for prosecution were referred to other authorities for prosecution or received an alternative resolution. During 1981 drug defendants accounted for less than a fifth of all Federal prosecutions compared to 35% during 2002. Between 1981 and 2002 the number of suspects prosecuted for drug offenses increased 6% annually, on average, from 8,077 to 30,775.

Source: BJS, *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2002*, NCJ 205368, September 2004.

Of cases concluded in Federal district court since 1989, drug and public order cases (includes immigration offenders) have increased at the greatest rate.



Click on the chart to view the data.

Note: Public order offenses include weapons and immigration offenses.

Source: BJS, *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics*, annual.

Approximately 92% of drug defendants adjudicated during 2002 were convicted, compared to 76% during 1981. Thirty percent of drug defendants convicted during 2002 were identified as noncitizens; more than half (55%) had at least one prior adult conviction.

Source: BJS, *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2002*, NCJ 205368, September 2004.

The proportion of defendants sentenced to prison increased from 54% during 1988 to 75% during 2002. The proportion of drug offenders sentenced to prison increased from 79% to 91%.

Prison sentences imposed increased from 55.1 months during 1988 to 57.1 months during 2002. For drug offenses, prison sentences increased from 71.3 months to 76.0 months; for weapons offenses, sentences imposed increased from 52.3 months to 91.4 months.

Source: BJS, *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2002*, NCJ 205368, September 2004.

Drug offenders involved with crack cocaine (114 months), possessing a firearm (133 months), or with extensive prior records (125 months) received the longest prison terms, on average, during 1999.

Twenty-eight percent of convicted Federal drug defendants received a reduced sentence for providing substantial assistance to prosecutors.

Source: BJS, *Federal Drug Offenders, 1999 with Trends 1984-99*, NCJ 187285, August 2001.

In addition to the 1,477 defendants charged with money laundering as the primary charge during 2001, money laundering was a secondary offense in 630 cases. Of these 630 cases, the most serious offense charged was drug-related (90%), followed by property (6%), public-order (4%), and violent offenses (1%).

Ninety-two percent of the 623 defendants adjudicated for money laundering as a secondary offense during 2001 were convicted. Of those convicted, 6% of convictions were obtained via trial verdicts. Drug trafficking had the highest rate of conviction (92%).

About 90% of defendants convicted of money laundering as a secondary offense received a prison sentence. Rates of imprisonment varied across the types of offenses (drug offenses, 90%; property offenses, 73%; and public-order offenses, 72%). Defendants with a drug offense as the most serious offense received prison terms with an average 97 months, compared to 44 months for property offenders. Prison terms for public-order offenses (including racketeering/extortion) had an average of 70 months.

Source: BJS, *Money Laundering Offenders, 1994-2001*, NCJ 199574, June 2003.

Federal drug offenders sentenced during 1986 could expect to serve approximately 58% of the prison sentence imposed. The remaining portion of the sentence was served on parole, provided the offender did not violate any conditions of release. Under the Sentencing Reform Act, defendants are required to serve at least 87% of the prison sentence imposed.

Source: BJS, *Time Served in Prison by Federal Offenders, 1986-97*, NCJ 171682, June 1999.

State

From 1998 to 2000 the estimated numbers for drug traffickers --

- decreased from 286,899 to 261,402 adults arrested for drug trafficking
- increased to 195,183 to 203,400 persons convicted of felony drug trafficking
- increased to 138,580 to 140,346 drug traffickers sentenced to incarceration
- decreased from 87,832 to 83,394 drug traffickers sentenced to State prison (or 32 for every 100 drug trafficking arrests).

Of persons convicted of drug trafficking in State courts in 2000 --

- 84% were males
- 43% were between ages 20 and 29.

The racial composition of drug traffickers convicted in State courts changed from to 1998 to 2000:

	Percent of drug traffickers convicted		
	White	Black	Other
1998	42%	57%	1%
2000	44	55	1

Source: BJS, *Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2000*, NCJ 198821, June 2003.

In 2000, drug offenders comprised a third of all persons convicted of a felony in State courts. Drug traffickers accounted for 22% of all convicted felons; drug possessors also accounted for 13% of all convicted felons.

- Ninety-six percent of drug trafficking convictions in 2000 resulted from guilty pleas; 2% resulted from jury trials; and 2% from bench trials.
- Sixty-nine percent of persons convicted of drug trafficking in 2000 were sentenced to some kind of incarceration: 41% to prison, 28% to jail, and 31% on probation.
- The average prison sentence for persons convicted of drug trafficking was 4 years and 3 months, of which the estimated time to be served was more than 2 years.

**Felony convictions and sentences in State courts relative to the number of arrests, 2000
For 100 arrests**

Offense	Felony conviction	Incarcerations	Prison sentences
Murder*	72	68	67
Robbery	46	41	34
Aggravated assault	19	14	8
Burglary	41	31	21
Motor vehicle theft	12	9	5
Drug trafficking	78	54	32

*Includes nonnegligent manslaughter.

Source: BJS, *Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2000*, NCJ 198821, June 2003.

In 2000 of persons convicted of drug possession, 33% were sentenced to prison, 31% to jail, and 36% to probation. The average prison sentence was 2 years and 8 months, of which the estimated time to be served was 17 months.

Mean State prison sentence and estimated time to be served in prison, by offenses, 2000

Most serious conviction offense	Mean State prison sentence	Estimated time to be served/a
Murder/b	248mos.	158mos.
Sexual assault/c	108	69
Robbery	94	55
Aggravated assault	59	38
Burglary	52	29

Larceny/d	34	20
Drug offenses		
Possession	34	17
Trafficking	52	26

a/ Derived by multiplying the percentage of sentence to be served by the mean sentence imposed. Percentages are based on data from 219,044 persons released from State prisons in 2000 (National Corrections Reporting Program, 2000; tables 2-8 and 2-12).

b/ Includes nonnegligent manslaughter.

c/ Includes rape.

d/ Includes motor vehicle theft.

Source: BJS, *Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2000*, NCJ 198821, June 2003.

The median time from arrest to State court sentencing was 158 days for a drug trafficking case in 2000.

More drug offenders incurred additional penalties in 2000 than in 1998. In 2000, besides being sentenced to incarceration or probation, drug offenders incurred other penalties --

- 27% were ordered to pay a fine
- 6% pay victim restitution
- 7% receive treatment
- 6% perform community service
- 7% comply with some other additional penalty (for example, undergo house arrest or appear periodically for drug testing).

Source: BJS, *Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2000*, NCJ 198821, June 2003.

Juveniles

In 1999 juvenile courts in the United States processed an estimated 1,673,000 delinquency cases. Delinquency cases involve juveniles charged with violations of the law that would be crimes if committed by adults. The number of delinquency cases handled by juvenile courts increased 27% between 1990 and 1999. During this time period, the number of drug law violation cases (191,200) increased 169%.

In 1999 males accounted for 84% (160,800) of drug law violation cases, compared to 76% of all delinquency cases.

Juveniles under age 16 were responsible for 40% (76,600) of drug law violation cases but almost 60% of delinquency cases in 1999.

Source: OJJDP, *Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Courts, 1999*, Fact Sheet, NCJ FS 200302, September 2003.

In 1999 the proportion of adjudicated cases of a drug offense placed outside the home was under 30% for youth age 15 and 16 or older. Between 1990 and 1999, the use of out-of-home placement for adjudicated delinquency cases involving youth under age 15 declined for drug offense cases.



Correctional populations and facilities

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Correctional populations

- [Probationers](#)
- [Jail inmates](#)
- [State prison inmates](#)
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Probationers

Probationers are criminal offenders who have been sentenced to a period of correctional supervision in the community. On December 31, 2003, a total of 4,073,987 adult men and women were serving a probation sentence in the United States. Twenty-five percent of probationers had a drug law violation.

Source: BJS, *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2003*, NCJ 205336, July 2004.

An estimated 16% of mentally ill probationers and 21% of other probationers reported their current offense was a drug offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment of Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

Jail inmates

In 1996 an estimated 109,200 jail inmates were held for a drug offense, an increase from 87,400 in 1989 and 20,400 in 1983.

The rapid increase in the percentage of jail inmates held for a drug offense during the 1980's slowed in the 1990's. The percentage charged with a drug offense rose from 9% in 1983 to 23% in 1989 but remained at 22% in 1996.

Most serious offense of jail inmates, 1996, 1989, and 1983

	Percent of jail inmates		
Most serious offense	1996	1989	1983
Violent offenses	26.3%	22.5%	30.7%

Murder/a	2.8	2.8	4.1
Assault	11.6	7.2	8.6
Other sexual assault	2.7	2.6	2.0
Property offenses	26.9%	30.0%	38.6%
Burglary	7.6	10.7	14.3
Larceny/theft	8.0	7.9	11.7
Drug offenses	22.0%	23.0%	9.3%
Possession	11.5	9.7	4.7
Trafficking	9.2	12.0	4.0
Other drug	1.3	1.3	0.6
Public-order offenses	24.3%	22.8%	20.6%
Driving while intoxicated/b	7.4	8.8	7.0
Drunkness/c	2.0	1.7	3.4

Note: Excludes inmates for whom offense was unknown.

a/Includes nonnegligent manslaughter.

b/Includes public and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

c/Includes drunkenness, vagrancy, disorderly conduct, unlawful assembly, morals, and commercialized vice.

Source: BJS, *Profile of Jail Inmates, 1996*, NCJ 164620, April 1998.

Among jail inmates who said they had been tested for HIV/AIDS, those held for drug offenses were the most likely to be HIV positive (3.3%). Drug offenders were twice as likely as violent offenders (1.5%) to report that they tested positive for HIV.

Source: BJS, *HIV in Prisons and Jails, 1995*, NCJ 164260, August 1997.

Local jail inmates testing HIV positive, by offense and prior drug use, 1995-96

Characteristics	Percent of tested jail inmates who reported HIV positive results	
	Ever tested	Tested positive results
Current offense/a		
Violent	61.5%	1.5%
Property	66.3	2.2
Drug	65.7	3.3
Public-order	57.6	1.7
Prior drug use/b		
Never used	52.3%	1.6%
Ever used	65.0	2.3
Used month before offense/c	67.4	3.0

Used needle to inject drugs/d	77.6	4.0
Shared a needle/e	78.6	6.3

a/Excludes jail inmates whose offense was unknown.

b/ Inmates were asked a detailed set of questions about past use of illegal drugs. These drugs included marijuana, barbiturates, methaqualone, tranquilizers (without a doctor's prescription), methamphetamine, other amphetamines, crack, cocaine other than crack, heroin, other opiates, PCP, LSD, inhaled or sniffed substances, and other drugs.

c/ Inmates who were unconvicted (awaiting arraignment, awaiting trial or on trial) were not asked any questions about drug use during the month before the arrest for which they were current characteristically detained.

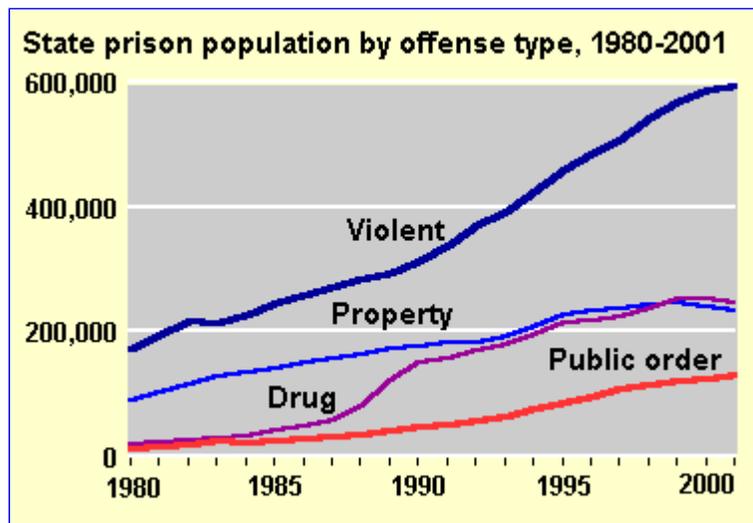
d/ All inmates who reported prior drug use were asked: "Have you ever used a needle to get any drug injected under your skin, into a muscle or into a vein for non-medical reasons?"

e/ Inmates who reported ever using a needle to inject drugs were asked: "Have you ever used a needle that you knew or suspected had been used by someone else for injecting drugs or shared a needle that you had used with someone else?"

Source: BJS, *HIV in Prisons and Jails, 1995*, NCJ 164260, August 1997.

State prison inmates

From 1995 to 2001 the number of drug offenders in State prison increased by 30,600 inmates (15%).



[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: BJS, *Correctional Populations in the United States*, annually and *Prisoners in 2002*

An estimated 246,100 inmates in State prison were held for drug offenses. Between 1995 and 2001 the largest growth of State inmates were violent offenders. During the period, the number of violent offenders grew 130,800, while the number of drug offenders grew 30,600. As a percentage of the total growth, violent offenders accounted for 63% of the total growth, drug offenders 15%, property offenders 2%, and public-order offenders 20%.

Source: BJS, *Prisoners in 2002*, NCJ 200248, July 2003.

About 13% of mentally ill inmates and 22% of other inmates in State prison were incarcerated for a drug offense.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment of Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

In 1997 parents in State prison were more likely to be serving a sentence for drug offenses (24%) than nonparents (17%). Mothers were more likely than fathers to be sentenced for drug offenses (35% compared to 23% of fathers).

In Federal prison, drug offenses (67%) were the most common type of crime for which parents were serving time in 1997.

Source: BJS, *Incarcerated Parents and Their Children*, NCJ 182335, August 2000.

Those inmates being held on a drug offense in State prisons reported the highest HIV positive rate (2.9%).

State inmates ever tested, by offenses

		Percent HIV Numberpositive
Violent	360,370	1.9%
Property	178,601	2.4
Drug	164,256	2.9
Public-order	77,049	1.9

Note: Data are from the 1996 Survey of Inmates in Local Jails and the 1997 Surveys of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities.

Source: BJS, *1996-1997 Update: HIV/AIDS, STDs, and TB in Correctional Facilities*, NCJ 176344, July 1999.

An estimated 32% of State inmates who reported ever using a needle to inject

drugs said they had a medical problem (excluding injury) since admission to prison, compared to 25% of those who did not use a needle.

Inmates who reported ever using a needle to inject drugs reported a higher prevalence of physical impairments or mental conditions. Among State prisoners, about 36% of those who used a needle and 30% of those who did not use a needle to inject drugs reported having some physical impairments or mental condition.

Source: BJS, *Medical Problems of Inmates, 1997*, NCJ 181644, January 2001.

Population by gender

Violent offenders accounted for the largest source of the total growth of female inmates (49%), compared to 64% among male inmates.

Percent of total growth of sentenced prisoners under State jurisdiction, by offense and gender, 1995-2001

	Male	Female
Total	100%	100%
Violent	64	49
Property	--	22
Drug	15%	13%
Public-order	21	16

Source: BJS, *Prisoners in 2002*, NCJ 200248, July 2003.

Population by race

The increasing number of drug offenses accounted for 23% of the total growth among black inmates and 18% of the growth among white inmates.

Total growth of sentenced prisoners under State jurisdiction, by offense, race, and Hispanic origin, 1995-2001

	White		Black		Hispanic	
	Increase, 1995-2001	Percent of total	Increase, 1995-2001	Percent of total	Increase, 1995-2001	Percent of total
Total	90,700	100%	83,200	100%	35,300	100%
Violent	53,000	59	47,400	57	29,900	82
Property	3,000	3	0	--	-100	--
Drug	16,200	18	19,100	23	-1,400	--
Public-order	18,000	20	16,800	20	6,800	18

Source: BJS, *Prisoners in 2002*, NCJ 200248, July 2003.

Federal prisoners

Prisoners sentenced for drug offenses constitute the largest group of Federal inmates (55%) in 2001, down from 60% in 1995. On September 30, 2001, Federal prisons held 78,501 sentenced drug offenders, compared to 52,782 at year end 1995.

Source: BJS, *Prisoners in 2002*, NCJ 200248, July 2003.

In 1997, 16% of incarcerated Federal drug offenders reported being an importer, grower, or manufacturer of illicit drugs; 25% reported that they distributed drugs to street-level dealers.

Source: BJS, *Federal Drug Offenders, 1999 with Trends 1984-99*, NCJ 187285, August 2001.

In Federal prison, where the majority of inmates are incarcerated for a drug offense, 40% of those identified as mentally ill and 64% of other Federal inmates were in prison for a drug-related crime.

Source: BJS, *Mental Health and Treatment of Inmates and Probationers*, NCJ 174463, July 1999.

Correctional facilities

Juveniles

In 2001, the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, a data collection conducted by the Office of Juveniles Justice and Delinquency (OJJDP), reported that a total of 9,086 juveniles were confined in a facility had committed a drug offense. Of this number, 5,685 juveniles were confined in a public facility and 3,390 in a private facility. The number decreased from 9,882 in 1999.

Source: OJJDP, *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook*, FS 200008, 2001.

As of September 30, 1994, 124 juvenile delinquents were confined in a State juvenile correctional facility under contract to the Federal Bureau of Prisons. (The Federal Bureau of Prisons does not have its own facilities for juveniles.) Most (64%) were adjudicated delinquent of a violent offense, and 14% were delinquent of a drug offense.

Juvenile delinquents confined by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, 1994

Most serious offense	Number	Percent
Total*	124	100.0%
Violent offenses	77	64.7
Property offenses	16	13.4
Drug offenses	17	14.3
Public-order offenses	9	7.6

*Includes cases for which an offense category could not be determined.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, SENTRY system data file, fiscal year ending September 30, 1994 as presented in *Juvenile Delinquents in the Federal Criminal Justice System*, NCJ 163066, January 1997.

During 1994, 102 juvenile delinquents were released by the Federal Bureau of Prisons from a juvenile correctional facility. The average time served was --

- 14 months for all those released
- 21 months for drug offenders
- 17 months for violent offenders.

Source: BJS, *Juvenile Delinquents in the Federal Criminal Justice System*, NCJ 163066, January 1997.

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Drug treatment under correctional supervision

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On probation

Almost all probationers (99%) had one or more conditions to their sentence required by the court or probation agency. Among such conditions were drug testing and substance abuse treatment.

Conditions of sentences of adult probationers, by severity of offense, 1995

Condition of sentence	Severity of offense		
	Total	Felony	Misdemeanor
Any condition	98.6%	98.4%	98.9%
Alcohol/drug restrictions	38.2%	48.1%	23.7%
Mandatory drug testing	32.5	43.0	17.1
Remain alcohol/drug free	8.1	10.4	5.2
Substance abuse treatment	41.0%	37.5%	45.7%
Alcohol	29.2	21.3	41.0
Drug	23.0	28.3	14.8
Number of probationers*	2,558,981	1,470,696	982,536

Note: Detail may not sum to total because probationers may have more than one condition on their sentences and totals may include items not shown in the table.

*Excludes 61,579 probationers (2% of all adults on probation) for whom information on conditions of probation was not reported.

Source: BJS, *Characteristics of Adults on Probation, 1995*, NCJ 164267, December 1997.

Drug or alcohol treatment was a sentence condition for 41% of adults on probation; 37% had received treatment. An estimated 29% of probationers were required to get treatment for alcohol abuse or dependency and 23% for drug abuse. Drug treatment was required nearly twice as frequently among felons as misdemeanants (28%

compared to 15%).

Thirty-two percent of all probationers were subject to mandatory drug testing -- 43% of felons and 17% of misdemeanants.

Source: BJS, *Characteristics of Adults on Probation, 1995*, NCJ 164267, December 1997.

Seventeen percent of all probationers reported having participated in a drug treatment program during their probation sentence. The percentage rose as the severity of prior drug use increased. Of those with any past drug use, 25% had received treatment, and the percentage grew to 42% of those using drugs in the month before the offense. A majority of those using drugs at the time of offense reported participation in drug treatment during their current sentence.

Of the individual drug treatment programs, the most common among all probationers were --

- 11% Narcotics/Cocaine Anonymous groups
- 8% drug rehabilitation, and
- 6% outpatient clinics.

The types of treatment programs did not differ according to the level of the probationers' past drug use.

For probationers using drugs in the month prior to the offense, the most common programs were --

- 27% Narcotics/Cocaine Anonymous,
- 20% drug rehabilitation, and
- 17% outpatient clinics.

Nearly a third of alcohol- or drug-involved probationers were currently enrolled in an alcohol or drug treatment program when interviewed. Half of alcohol- or drug-involved probationers said they were treated on their current sentence to probation, and about two-thirds had been treated at some time in their lives.

Treatment history of alcohol- or drug-involved probationers, 1995

Participated in an alcohol or drug treatment program	Percent of alcohol- or drug-involved probationers
Ever	64.2 %
While incarcerated	10.2
Before current sentence	39.8
During current sentence	53.6
Currently in program	30.1
Number of probationers	1,390,572

Note: Probationers may have received treatment at multiple times in the past.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment of Adults on Probation, 1995*, NCJ 166611, March 1998.

Since their sentence began, over 40% of DWI offenders on probation who reported using drugs at the time of their offense had participated in drug treatment or programs: 13% of those who reported prior drug use, and 22% of those who were regular drug users.

Source: BJS, *DWI Offenders under Correctional Supervision*, NCJ 172212, June 1999.

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In Jail

The number of persons under jail supervision who participated in some type of treatment program (drug, alcohol, mental health, and other medical treatment) outside of a jail facility decreased by 78% from 2000 to 2002; 5,714 in 2000; and 1,256 in 2002.

Source: BJS, *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2002*, NCJ 198877, April 2003.

Substance abuse treatment includes detoxification, professional counseling, a residential stay, or maintenance drug programs. Other programs include Alcoholic Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), and other self-help groups, and drug or alcohol education or awareness. Although jail jurisdictions were unlikely to mandate treatment for inmates after a positive drug test, almost three-quarters provided substance abuse treatment or other programs for their inmates.

In 1998 about 43% of jail jurisdictions provided substance abuse treatment, while 68% provided other programs. Within the specific types of substance abuse programs provided in jails, self-help groups (such as AA, NA, and other peer group counseling) were the most common (64%). About 30% had education or awareness programs.

Overall, 12% of jail jurisdictions provided all types of programs and treatment, and about 22% had only AA, NA, or other self-help programs.

In 1996 based on self-reported information in the jail inmates survey, over half of jail inmates who said they had ever used drugs and those who used regularly had participated in substance abuse treatment or programs in the past. Among convicted inmates 58% of those who had used drugs in the month before the offense and 61% of those who had used drugs at the time of the offense had participated in substance abuse treatment or programs.

Source: BJS, *Drug Use, Testing, and Treatment in Jails*, NCJ 179999, May 2000.

Of DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) offenders in jail who reported using drugs at the time of their offense, 25% reported some type of drug treatment since their admission, as did 7% of those who reported any prior drug use and 9% of those who were regular users.

Source: BJS, *DWI Offenders under Correctional Supervision*, NCJ 172212, June 1999.

Veterans

In 1996 veterans' in local jails substance abuse treatment histories were similar to those of other inmates. Since their admission, veterans in local jails reported the same level of participation as nonveterans (10% of both) in substance abuse treatment or programs. Veterans (48%) were also about as likely as other inmates (42%) to report participation in any drug treatment or other programs at some time in their past.

Source: BJS, *Veterans in Prison or Jail*, NCJ 178888, January 2000.

In State and Federal prisons

- **Prisoners' drug treatment experience**
- **Treatment facilities**

Prisoners' drug treatment experience

In 1997, an estimated 340,047 (24.4% of total) State prisoners and 24,729 (24.5% of total) Federal prisoners said that they had participated in either professional substance abuse treatment or other abuse programs since their admission.

A third of State prisoners reported past participation in alcohol or drug abuse treatment, such as time spent in a residential facility, professional counseling, detoxification, or use of a maintenance drug. About 1 in 8 State prisoners had participated in these types of alcohol or drug treatment since their admission to prison.

In both State and Federal prisons, the percentage of inmates who reported being treated for drug abuse since their admission dropped since 1991.

In 1997, 1 in 10 State prisoners reported being treated for drug abuse since admission; a decrease from the 1 in 4 prisoners reporting such treatment in 1991. There was also a drop in the percentage of Federal prisoners (9%) reporting treatment since admission (16% in 1991).

Among both State and Federal prisoners, enrollment in other drug abuse programs, such as self-help or peer groups and drug education classes, had gone up over this period. In 1997, 20% of both State and Federal prisoners reported participation in drug abuse programs during their current prison term, up from 16% of State and 10% of Federal prisoners in 1991. Among those prisoners who used drugs at the time of

offense, participation in these programs had risen to 32% of State and 38% of Federal prisoners in 1997, compared to about 25% of each in 1991.

Source: BJS, *Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997*, NCJ 172871, January 1999.

Veterans

In both State and Federal prisons, veterans' substance abuse treatment histories were similar to those of other inmates in 1997. Since their admission, veterans in both State and Federal prisons reported similar levels of participation in substance abuse treatment or programs as nonveterans (32% and 28%, respectively). Veterans (59%) were also as likely as other State prisoners (56%) to report participation in any drug treatment or other programs at some time in their past.

Source: BJS, *Veterans in Prison or Jail*, NCJ 178888, January 2000.

Treatment facilities

After nearly doubling between 1990 and 1995, the number of correctional facilities that operated primarily as alcohol or drug treatment institutions increased 8% from 233 in 1995 to 249 in 2000. Confinement facilities with drug or alcohol treatment as a main function rose from 192 to 200 community-based facilities with this specialty rose from 41 to 49.

More than 80% of the 200 confinement facilities functioning primarily as drug or alcohol treatment facilities in 2000 were State operated, about 10% were private contract facilities, and 8% Federal institutions. Community-based facilities were nearly evenly split between privately operated institutions (55%) and State facilities (45%).

Overall, in 2000, 96% of the Nation's correctional facilities offered counseling. Both drug and alcohol counseling were available in about 90% of the facilities. This pattern was similar among Federal, State, and privately operated facilities.

Total number of correctional facilities under State or Federal authority that provided counseling programs to inmates, midyear 2000

Characteristics	All facilities			
	Total	Federal	State	Private
All facilities	1,668	84	1,320	264
With counseling programs	1,603	77	1,284	242
Drug dependency, counseling, awareness	1,480	77	1,175	228
Alcohol dependency, counseling, awareness	1,464	77	1,162	225

Source: BJS, *Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities, 2000*, NCJ 198272, August 2003.

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Drugs and Crime Facts

Drug control budget

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Federal

The FY 2005 National Drug Control Budget reflects a significant restructuring from prior years. The drug budget now reflects only those expenditures aimed at reducing drug use, rather than those associated with the consequences of drug use. The requested drug control funding amount for FY 2005 is approximately \$12.6 billion. Budget figures back to FY 1996 also been changed to reflect this restructuring.

	Total Federal drug control budget (in millions)
FY 1996 actual	\$6,274.1
FY 1997 actual	7,531.2
FY 1998 actual	7,628.0
FY 1999 actual	9,209.1
FY 2000*	10,151.5
FY 2001*	9,823.8
FY 2002*	10,891.9
FY 2003*	11,397.0
FY 2004 enacted	12,082.3
FY 2005 request	12,648.6

*final budget authority

Fiscal Year 2003-2005 Federal drug control budget by function (in millions)

Function area	FY 2002 (final)	FY 2004 (enacted)	FY 2005 (request)
Total	\$11,397.0	\$12,082.3	\$12,648.6
Treatment with research	\$3,223.9	\$3,392.1	\$3,717.3
Prevention with	1,966.4	1,985.3	1,977.7

research			
Domestic law enforcement	2,954.1	3,080.5	3,201.1
Interdiction	2,147.5	2,490.6	2,602.7
International	1,105.1	1,133.9	1,149.9

Source: ONDCP, **National Drug Control Strategy: FY 2005 Budget Summary**, March 2004.

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State

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA) released its 3-year study, *Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets*, revealing that in 1998 States spent conservatively \$81.3 billion dollars on substance abuse and addiction -- 13.1 percent of the \$620 billion in total State spending. This report found that in 1998 States spent the following amounts to deal with substance abuse --

State spending for substance abuse, 1998

	FY1998 (in billions)
Total	\$77.9
Justice	\$30.7
Education	16.5
Health	15.2
Child/family assistance	7.7
Mental health and developmental disabilities	5.9
Public safety	1.5
State workforce	4

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University: "**Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets**", January, 2001, press release.

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Drug use

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Youth

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Use

The Monitoring the Future Study asked high school seniors, "On how many occasions, if any, have you used drugs or alcohol during the last 12 months or month?"

Reported drug and alcohol use by high school seniors, 2003

Drugs	Used within the last:	
	12 months*	30 days
Alcohol	70.1%	47.5%
Marijuana	34.9	21.2
Stimulants	9.9	5.0
Other opiates	9.3	4.1
Tranquilizers	6.7	2.8
Sedatives	6.0	2.9
Hallucinogens	5.9	1.8
Cocaine	4.8	2.1
Inhalants	3.9	1.5
Steroids	2.1	1.3
Heroin	0.8	0.4

*Including the last month.
 Source: University of Michigan, Drug Use from the *Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003*, 2004.

Self-reports of drug use among high school seniors may under represent drug use among youth of that age because high school dropouts and truants are not included, and these groups may have more involvement with drugs than those who stay in school.

Percent of all college students, 1993-2003

Drug use 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003

Marijuana

Daily within

last month	1.9%	1.8%	3.7%	2.8%	3.7%	4.0%	4.0%	4.6%	4.5%	4.1%	4.7%
Last month	14.2	15.1	18.6	17.5	17.7	18.6	20.7	20.0	20.2	19.7	19.3
Last year	27.9	29.3	31.2	33.1	31.6	35.9	35.2	34.0	35.6	34.7	33.7%

Cocaine

Daily within

last month	0.0	0.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Last month	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.9
Last year	2.7	2.0	3.6	2.9	3.4	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.8	5.4

* Less than 0.05%

Rates of past year cocaine use by college students have varied over the past 10 years from a low of 2.0% in 1994 to a high of 5.4% in 2003. Past year marijuana use has ranged from a low of 27.9% in 1993 to a high of 35.9% in 1998.

Source: University of Michigan, *Monitoring the Future National Survey Results on Drug Use, 1975-2003, Volume II: College Students and Adults Ages 19-45*, 2004.

Of high school seniors in 2003 --

- 46.1% reported having ever used marijuana/hashish
- 7.7% reported having ever used cocaine
- 1.5% reported having ever used heroin.

Source: University of Michigan, *Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003*, 2004.

The increase in the use of marijuana has been especially pronounced. Between 1992 and 2003 past-month use of marijuana increased from:

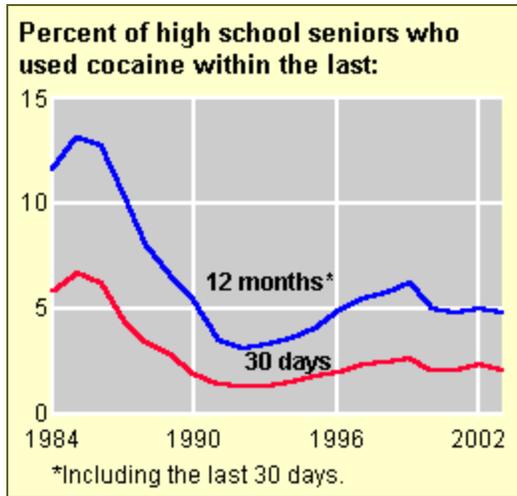
- 12% to 21% among high school seniors.
- 8% to 17% among 10th graders.
- 4% to 8% among 8th graders.

Reported use of marijuana by high school seniors during the past month peaked in 1978 at 37% and declined to its lowest level in 1992 at 12%.

The use of cocaine within the past month of the survey by high school seniors peaked in 1985 at 6.7%, up from 1.9% in 1975 at the survey's inception. Cocaine use declined to a low of 1.3% in 1992 and 1993. In 2003, 2.1% of high school seniors reported past-month cocaine use.

Source: University of Michigan, *Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003*, 2004.

Cocaine use among high school seniors peaked in 1985.



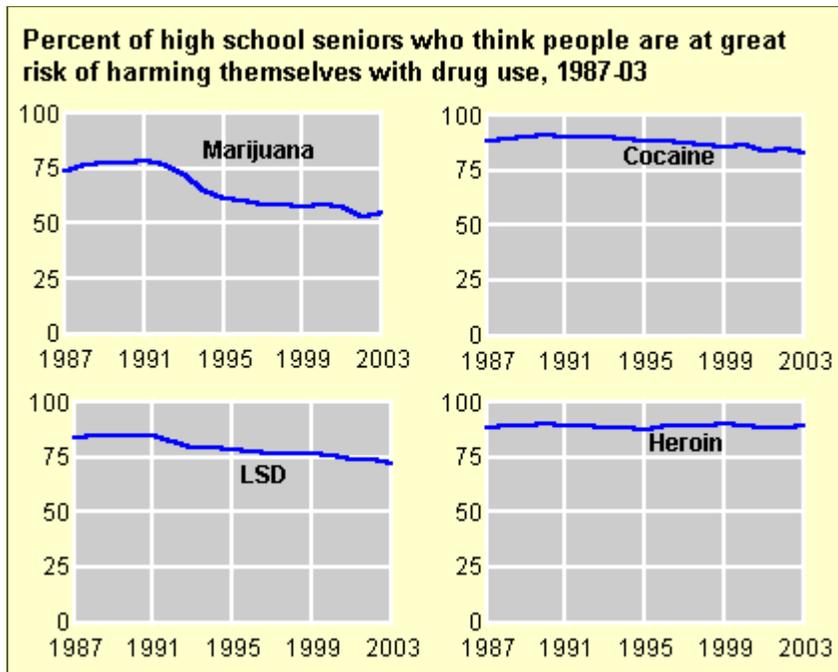
[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: University of Michigan, *Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003, 2004.*

Perceived risk

From 1987 to 2003 the percentage of high school seniors that were asked, "How much do you think people risk harming themselves?" remained virtually stable. Those students answering "great risk" in regular use accounted for the following --



[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

Source: University of Michigan, *Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003, 2004.*

Student reports of availability of drugs

Percent of high school seniors reporting they could obtain drugs fairly easily or very easily, 2003

Marijuana	87.1%
Amphetamines	55.0
Cocaine	43.3
Crack	35.3
Barbiturate	35.3
LSD	33.6
Tranquilizers	29.8
Heroin	27.9
Crystal methamphetamine	26.1
PCP	21.9
Amyl/butyl nitrites	19.7

Source: University of Michigan, the *Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003*, 2004.

In 2001, 29% of all students in grades 9 through 12 reported someone had offered, sold, or given them an illegal drug on school property. This was an increase from 1993 when 24% of such students reported that illegal drugs were available to them on school property.

Between 1993 and 2001, males and females reported that illegal drugs were made available to them on school property increased. Males were more likely than females to report that drugs were offered, sold, or given to them on school property. In 2001, males (35%) and females (23%) reported availability of drugs.

Source: BJS jointly with the U.S. Department of Education, *Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2003*, NCJ 201257, October 2003.

In 1999, 37% of students ages 12 through 18 reported that marijuana, cocaine, crack, or upper/downers were available at school. In previous School Crime Supplement (SCS) data indicated that 63.2% of students ages 12 through 18 in 1989, and 65.3 in 1995 reported drugs were available at school.

In 1999 the availability of drugs was reported more often by --

- public schools students (38.4%) than by private school students (22.4%)
- students in upper grades (57.0%) than by students in lower grades (9.6%)
- students reporting that street gangs (62.9%) were present than by students who did (31.6%)

Similar rates of drug availability were reported by --

- white students (39.5%) and black students (33.6%)
- students residing in suburban areas (39.5%), urban areas (33.7%), and rural areas (34.3%)

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Are America's Schools Safe? Students Speak Out: 1999 School Crime Supplement*, (NCECS2002-331), November 2002.

General population

According to data from the *2003 National Household Survey on Drug Use and Health* (NSDUH) --

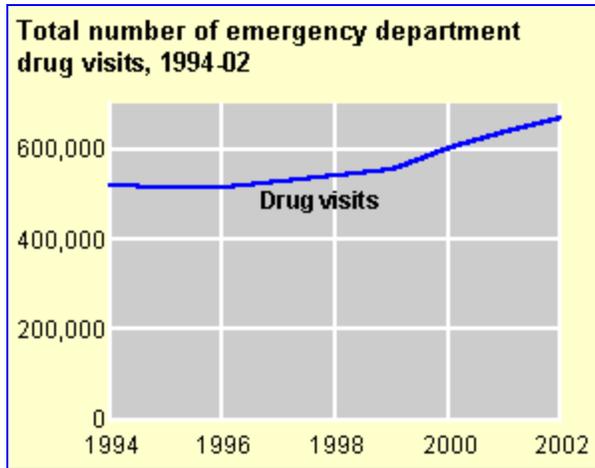
- 110 million Americans age 12 or older (46% of the population) reported illicit drug use at least once in their lifetime
- 15% reported use of a drug within the past year
- 8% reported use of a drug within the past month.

Data from the 2003 survey showed that marijuana and cocaine use is the most prevalent among persons age 18 to 25.

Drug use	Age of respondent, 2003		
	12-17	18-25	26 or older
Marijuana			
Last month	7.9%	17.0%	4.0%
Last year	15.0	28.5	6.9
Cocaine			
Last month	0.6%	2.2%	0.8%
Last year	1.8	6.6	1.9

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, *2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings*, September 2004.

In 2002 the SAMHSA *Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)* reported 670,307 drug-related visits in hospital emergency departments nationwide, an increase from the 518,880 reported in 1994. DAWN provides information about some of the health-related consequences of drug abuse in the United States, including representative estimates of drug abuse-related emergency department visits and drug mentions for the coterminous United States and for 21 metropolitan areas



[D]

Click on the chart to view the data.

From 1999 to 2002 cocaine was the most common drug reported in emergency department visits.

Total number of drug mentions in drug abuse-related emergency department visits, by type of drug, 1999-2002

	Cocaine	Heroin	Marijuana
1999	168,751	82,192	87,068
2000	174,881	94,804	96,426
2001	193,034	93,064	110,512
2002	199,198	93,519	119,472

Source: U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, ***Emergency Department Trends from the Drug Abuse Warning Network, Final Estimates 1995-2002, July 2003.***

According to data from the *2002 Mortality Data from DAWN* --

- The most common drugs reported singly were cocaine, heroin/morphine, narcotic analgesics, and marijuana.
- In 19 of the 31 metropolitan areas, heroin/morphine, cocaine and alcohol (in combination with other drugs) were the 3 most frequently mentioned drugs in reported cases.
- On average, in the participating areas, 25% of all deaths involved a single drug. All other deaths involved 2 or more substances, ranging from 46% in Boulder to 90% in Long Island and New Orleans.

In 2002, 127 jurisdictions in 38 metropolitan areas submitted data to DAWN. DAWN cannot provide national estimates of drug abuse-related deaths. Descriptions of drug abuse deaths in the participating metropolitan areas are available in the *Mortality Data from the DAWN, 2002* report.

Source: Office of Applied Studies, ***Mortality Data from the Drug Abuse Warning Network, 2002, January 2004.***

Workforce

A study, which focuses on findings from the 1994 and 1997 **National Household Survey of Drug Abuse** reported that --

- 70% of illicit drug users, age 18-49, were employed full-time.
- 6.3 million of full-time workers were illicit drug users.
- 1.6 million of these full-time workers were both illicit drug and heavy alcohol users in the past.

The overall rate of current illicit drug use among full-time employees has fallen from 17.5% in 1985 to a low point 7.4% in 1992. This percentage has remained steady through 1997 (7.7%).

The report found a dramatic shift in current illicit drug users from various establishments. Illicit drug use in --

- Small establishments (1-24 employees) declined from 11% in 1994 to 9% in 1997.
- Mid-size establishments (25-499) increased from slightly more than 5% in 1994 to almost 8% in 1997.
- Large establishments (500 or more) reported the lowest rate of illicit drug use.

There was no change among these workers from 1994 (5.4%) to 1997 (5.8%).

Source: SAMHSA, **Worker Drug Use and Workplace Policies and Programs: Results from 1994 and 1997 NHSDA**, press release, September 1999.

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Public opinion about drugs

As reported in the *2002 BJS Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*, the percentage of Gallup Poll respondents describing drug abuse as the single most important problem facing our country peaked in 1989:

Date of poll	Drug abuse most serious problem
May 1989	27%
July 1990	18
March 1991	11
March 1992	8
January 1993	6
January 1994	9
January 1995	6
May 1996	10
January 1997	17
April 1998	12
May 1999	5
March 2000	5
January 2001	7
March 2002	3
February 2003	2

Among Gallup Poll respondents, the use of drugs was most often mentioned as one of the biggest problems for schools in their communities. Giving that response in 2002 were --

- 11% of public school parents
- 14% of those with no children in school
- 13% of all surveyed.

When asked about spending for various social problems, 56% of the respondents to a 2002 National Opinion Research Center (NORC) Poll said this country is spending too little to deal with drug addiction.

In 2001 the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press reported that respondents were asked the most effective actions the government could take to control the use of drugs --

- 52% said "stop the illegal importation of drugs from other countries"
- 49% said "arrest people who sell illegal drugs in the this country"
- 36% said "provide drug treatment programs for drug users"
- 35% said "educate Americans about the dangers of using illegal drugs"
- 30% said "arrest drug users in the country"

NORC has asked adults (age 18 or older) about legalization of marijuana since 1973. In 2002, 34% believed that marijuana should be made legal, which compared to the peak of 30% in 1978. College freshmen have been surveyed by NORC since 1968. In 2002, 40% of those surveyed agreed strongly or somewhat that marijuana should be legalized, down from a peak of 53% in 1977 and up from a low of 17% in 1989. Of 2002 high school seniors --

- 31% felt using marijuana should be legal, compared to the peak of 33% feeling that way in 1978 and a low of 16% in 1986
- 57% reported worrying often or sometimes about drug abuse, down from 66% in 1978 and 83% in 1990.

Source: *The Gallup Report*, National Opinion Research Center, and the **BJS Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, 2002**.

Neighborhood crime

In May 1999 the Office of Community Policing Services and the Bureau of Justice Statistics published a joint report on criminal victimization and citizen perception of 12 cities across the United States: Chicago, IL; Kansas City, MO; Knoxville, TN; Los Angeles, CA; Madison, WI; New York, NY; San Diego, CA; Savannah, GA; Spokane, WA; Springfield, MA; Tucson, AZ; and Washington, DC. Residents of these 12 cities were asked various questions about community attitudes, citizen actions to prevent neighborhood crime and attitudes toward the police and community policing.

- Residents who said they were aware of serious crimes in their neighborhood were asked to identify the types of serious crimes that had occurred in their neighborhood over the past 12 months. Of all residents who identified serious crimes, people openly selling drugs (16%) and people openly using drugs (14%) were among the types of crimes that had occurred in their neighborhood.
- Residents were also asked about various activities which may have been present in their neighborhood. They frequently said that illegal public drinking and/or drug use (29%) and public drug sales (24%) were among the activities that existed in their neighborhood.
- Residents who identified a neighborhood condition or activity were asked if any of these condition or activities made them feel less safe in their neighborhood and, if so, which one impacted their feeling of safety the most. Between 17% and 36% of all the residents in each city said the conditions or activities made them feel less safe. Across the cities, public drinking/drug use (15%) and drug sales (17%) were among the conditions that affected residents' sense of safety.

Source: BJS/COPS, ***Criminal Victimization and Perceptions of Community Safety in 12 Cities, 1998***, NCJ 173940, May 1999.

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Page last revised on *September 28, 2004*

[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#)**Victim's perception of the use of
alcohol and drugs by the violent
offender, 2002**

	Percent of victims of violent crime
Alcohol only	17.0
Alcohol and drugs	4.6
Alcohol or drugs	1.5
Drugs only	5.6
No drugs or alcohol	27.7
Don't know	43.3

Source: Table constructed by staff from
the U.S. Census Bureau for the National
Crime Victimization Survey, March 2003.

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Drug and Crime Facts

Drug law violations - Enforcement

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Total estimated drug law violation arrests in the United States, 1980-2002

1980	580,900
1981	559,900
1982	676,000
1983	661,400
1984	708,400
1985	811,400
1986	824,100
1987	937,400
1988	1,155,200
1989	1,361,700
1990	1,089,500
1991	1,010,000
1992	1,066,400
1993	1,126,300
1994	1,351,400
1995	1,476,100
1996	1,506,200
1997	1,583,600
1998	1,559,100
1999	1,532,200
2000	1,579,600
2001	1,586,900
2002	1,538,800

Source: FBI, Crime in the United States, annual, Uniform Crime Reports

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**Estimated number of arrests,
by type of drug law violation, 1982-2002**

	Sale/manufacture	Possession
1982	137,900	538,100
1983	146,200	515,200
1984	155,800	552,600
1985	192,300	619,100
1986	206,800	617,300
1987	241,800	695,600
1988	316,500	838,700
1989	441,200	920,500
1990	344,300	745,200
1991	337,300	672,700
1992	338,000	728,400
1993	334,500	791,800
1994	360,800	990,600
1995	367,500	1,108,600
1996	375,000	1,131,200
1997	324,600	1,259,000
1998	330,500	1,228,600
1999	298,800	1,233,400
2000	300,100	1,279,500
2001	307,900	1,279,000
2002	303,100	1,235,700

Note: Data may not add to published totals due to rounding in calculations.

Source:FBI, Crime in the United States, annual, Uniform Crime Reports

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[BJS home page](#)***Key Facts at a Glance*****Estimated arrests for drug abuse violations by age group, 1970-2002**[Key Facts at a Glance](#)[To the Key facts at a glance chart](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#)
[To Drug and Crime Facts chart](#)[Drugs & Crime Facts](#)**Estimated arrests for drug abuse violations by age group, 1970-2002**

Year	Adult	Juvenile
1970	322,300	93,300
1971	383,900	108,100
1972	407,300	120,100
1973	463,600	165,300
1974	474,900	167,200
1975	456,000	145,400
1976	464,100	145,400
1977	493,300	149,400
1978	480,000	148,700
1979	435,600	123,000
1980	471,200	109,700
1981	468,100	91,800
1982	584,900	91,200
1983	583,500	77,900
1984	623,700	84,700
1985	718,600	92,800
1986	742,700	81,400
1987	849,500	87,900
1988	1,050,600	104,600
1989	1,247,800	113,900
1990	1,008,300	81,200
1991	931,900	78,100
1992	980,700	85,700
1993	1,017,800	108,500
1994	1,192,800	158,600
1995	1,285,700	190,400
1996	1,295,100	211,100
1997	1,370,400	213,200
1998	1,360,600	198,500
1999	1,365,100	192,000
2000	1,375,600	203,900
2001	1,384,400	202,500
2002	1,352,600	186,200

Source: Crime in the United States,
annual, Uniform Crime Reports

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Year	Number of arrests, by drug type, 1982-2002			
	Heroin/ cocaine	Marijuana	Synthetic drugs	Other
1982	112,900	455,600	24,800	82,900
1983	149,500	406,900	22,300	82,700
1984	181,800	419,400	19,000	88,300
1985	239,400	451,100	19,500	101,400
1986	336,200	361,800	21,400	105,500
1987	427,500	378,700	25,300	105,900
1988	599,500	391,600	31,200	131,700
1989	732,600	399,000	28,600	200,200
1990	591,600	326,900	22,900	148,200
1991	558,500	287,900	22,200	142,400
1992	565,200	342,300	20,300	139,700
1993	566,500	380,700	20,300	158,800
1994	636,500	481,100	23,000	210,800
1995	627,300	589,000	32,500	228,800
1996	599,500	641,600	30,100	235,000
1997	565,300	695,200	41,200	283,500
1998	570,600	682,900	45,200	260,400
1999	528,600	704,800	47,500	251,300
2000	529,200	734,500	52,100	262,200
2001	520,500	723,600	65,100	277,700
2002	463,200	697,100	67,700	307,800

Note: Data may not add to published totals due to rounding in calculations.

Source: FBI, Crime in the United States, annually, Uniform Crime Reports

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Key Facts at a Glance

Trends in the types of cases concluded in U.S. district court

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Defendants in cases concluded in U.S. district court

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	Violent	Property	Drug	Public order*
1980	2,871	13,544	7,119	15,638
1981	3,022	13,851	8,077	15,887
1982	3,111	15,340	8,987	15,301
1983	2,737	16,384	9,774	16,963
1984	2,814	15,969	11,361	18,380
1985	2,871	16,250	12,984	19,009
1986	2,818	17,286	14,746	19,202
1987	2,850	17,175	16,443	18,153
1988	2,697	16,261	16,710	18,524
1989	2,805	16,188	19,750	18,916
1990	2,857	16,128	20,035	19,684
1991	3,124	15,749	21,203	20,115
1992	3,601	16,876	22,728	19,910
1993	3,581	17,440	24,127	19,484
1994	3,367	16,545	21,854	19,907
1995	3,041	15,777	19,569	18,964
1996	3,091	16,149	21,718	20,440
1997	3,482	17,521	23,528	20,361
1998	3,470	17,165	25,500	23,530
1999	3,093	17,321	28,352	26,866
2000	2,964	16,664	28,381	28,861
2001	2,977	16,347	29,290	28,450
2002	2,927	16,871	30,775	29,783

Source: [Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics](#), annual.

Note: Includes all cases handled by U.S. district court judges and Class A misdemeanors handled by U.S. magistrates. Beginning with 1994, the data reported are based on the Federal fiscal year beginning October 1; prior years' data are based on the calendar year.

*Public Order offenses include weapons offenses.

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Key Facts at a Glance

Number of persons in custody of State correctional authorities by most serious offense, 1980-2001

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Number of persons in custody of State correctional authorities by most serious offense, 1980-2001

	Violent	Property	Drug	Public order
1980	173,300	89,300	19,000	12,400
1981	193,300	100,500	21,700	14,600
1982	215,300	114,400	25,300	17,800
1983	214,600	127,100	26,600	24,400
1984	227,300	133,100	31,700	21,900
1985	246,200	140,100	38,900	23,000
1986	258,600	150,200	45,400	28,800
1987	271,300	155,500	57,900	31,300
1988	282,700	161,600	79,100	35,000
1989	293,900	172,700	120,100	39,500
1990	313,600	173,700	148,600	45,500
1991	339,500	180,700	155,200	49,500
1992	369,100	181,600	168,100	56,300
1993	393,500	189,600	177,000	64,000
1994	425,700	207,000	193,500	74,400
1995	459,600	226,600	212,800	86,500
1996	484,800	231,700	216,900	96,000
1997	507,800	236,400	222,100	106,200
1998	545,200	242,900	236,800	113,900
1999	570,000	245,000	251,200	120,600
2000	589,100	238,500	251,100	124,600
2001	596,100	233,000	246,100	129,900

Source: Correctional Populations in the United States, 1997, and Prisoners in 2002

Violent offenses include murder, negligent and non-negligent manslaughter, rape, sexual assault, robbery, assault, extortion, intimidation, criminal endangerment, and other violent offenses.

Property offenses include burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, fraud, possession and selling of stolen property, destruction of property, trespassing, vandalism, criminal tampering, and other property offenses.

Drug offenses include possession, manufacturing, trafficking, and other drug offenses.

Public-order offenses include weapons, drunk driving, escape/flight to avoid prosecution, court offenses, obstruction, commercialized vice, morals and decency charges, liquor law violations, and other public-order offenses.

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Cocaine use among high school seniors peaked in 1985

Percent of high school seniors who used cocaine within the last:

Year	12 months	30 days*
1984	11.6	5.8
1985	13.1	6.7
1986	12.7	6.2
1987	10.3	4.3
1988	7.9	3.4
1989	6.5	2.8
1990	5.3	1.9
1991	3.5	1.4
1992	3.1	1.3
1993	3.3	1.3
1994	3.6	1.5
1995	4.0	1.8
1996	4.9	2.0
1997	5.5	2.3
1998	5.7	2.4
1999	6.2	2.6
2000	5.0	2.1
2001	4.8	2.1
2002	5.0	2.3
2003	4.8	2.1

Source: University of Michigan, The Monitoring the Future National Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of Key Findings 2003, 2004.

*Including the last 30 days.

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**Percent of high school seniors who think
people risk harming themselves with drug
use, 1987-2003**

Year	Marijuana	Cocaine	LSD	Heroin
1987	73.5	88.5	83.8	88.7
1988	77.0	89.2	84.2	88.8
1989	77.5	90.2	84.3	89.5
1990	77.8	91.1	84.5	90.2
1991	78.6	90.4	84.3	89.6
1992	76.5	90.2	81.8	89.2
1993	72.5	90.1	79.4	88.3
1994	65.0	89.3	79.1	88.0
1995	60.8	87.9	78.1	87.2
1996	59.9	88.3	77.8	89.5
1997	58.1	87.1	76.6	88.9
1998	58.5	86.3	76.5	89.1
1999	57.4	85.8	76.1	89.9
2000	58.3	86.2	75.9	89.2
2001	57.4	84.1	74.1	88.3
2002	53.0	84.5	73.9	88.5
2003	54.9	83.0	72.3	89.3

Source: The Monitoring the Future National
Results on Adolescent Drug Use: Overview of
Key Findings 2003, 2004

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[BJS home page](#)[Drug and Crime Facts](#)
[Drug use](#)[Contents](#)[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#)**Total number of emergency department drug visits, 1994-02**

Year	Number
1994	518,880
1995	513,519
1996	513,933
1997	526,818
1998	542,432
1999	554,767
2000	601,563
2001	638,484
2002	670,307

Source: U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, ***Emergency Department Trends from the Drug Abuse Warning Network, Final Estimates 1995-2002, July 2003.***

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