



High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)

Office of National Drug Control Policy 2008

Overview

Domestic law enforcement efforts to disrupt illicit drug markets are critical elements of a balanced strategic approach to drug control. By targeting the economic vulnerabilities of the illegal drug trade, market disruption seeks to create inefficiencies in drug production and distribution, resulting in decreased drug abuse in the United States.

The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 and The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Reauthorization Act of 2006 authorized the Director of ONDCP to designate areas within the United States which exhibit serious drug trafficking problems and harmfully impact other areas of the country as High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA).

The HIDTA Program provides additional federal resources to those areas to help eliminate or reduce drug trafficking and its harmful consequences. Law enforcement organizations within HIDTAs assess drug trafficking problems and design specific initiatives to reduce or eliminate the production, manufacture, transportation, distribution and chronic use of illegal drugs and money laundering. In total, there are 28 HIDTA's and five Southwest Border Regions.

HIDTA Key Priorities

- Assess regional drug threats
- Facilitate anti-drug coordination between federal, state and local authorities
- Develop and fund initiatives that improve the effectiveness and efficiency of drug control efforts
- Reduce and eliminate drug trafficking

Providing Resources to Eliminate Drug Trafficking

- In 2008, the HIDTA program provided over \$230 million to support law enforcement.
- HIDTA counties comprise approximately 14 percent of U.S. counties.
- HIDTA areas are present in 45 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia.

