

# Office of National Drug Control Policy

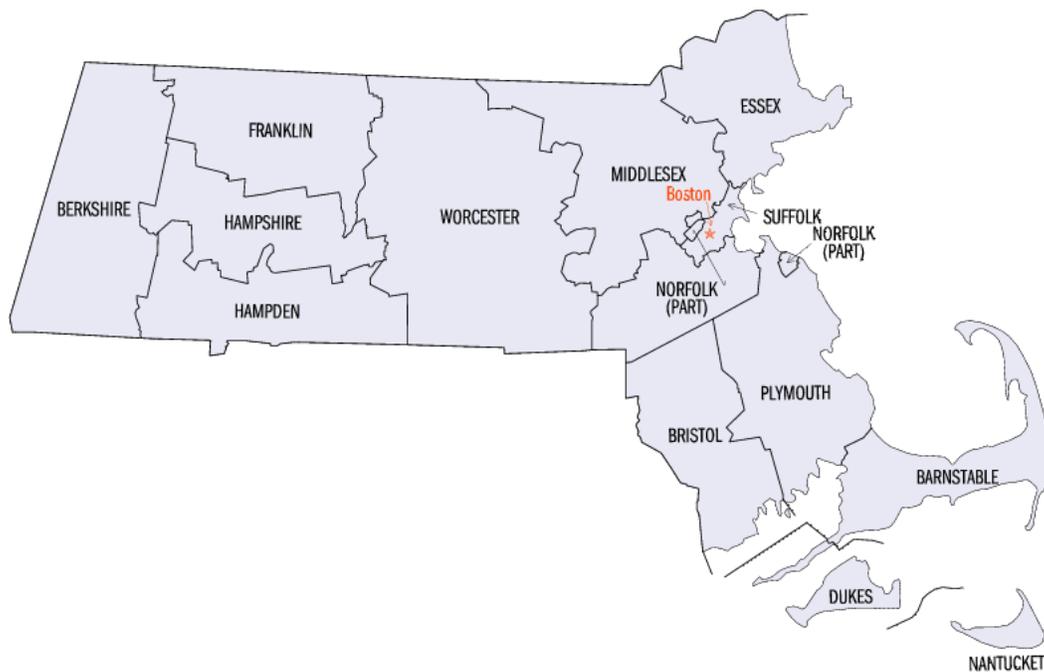
## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### State of Massachusetts

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#### Profile of Drug Indicators

September 2008



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare states or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

## Massachusetts

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

### **Demographics**

- Population (2006 American Community Survey): 6,437,193<sup>1</sup>
- Race/Ethnicity (2006 American Community Survey): 82.8% white; 6.1% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 4.8% Asian; 0.1% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 4.3% other; 1.7% two or more races; 7.9% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)<sup>2</sup>

### **Politics**

- Governor: Deval Patrick<sup>3</sup>
- Lieutenant Governor: Tim Murray<sup>4</sup>
- Attorney General: Martha Coakley<sup>5</sup>
- Secretary of the Commonwealth: William Francis Galvin<sup>6</sup>
- U.S. Senate: Edward Kennedy (D); John Kerry (D)<sup>7</sup>
- U.S. House of Representatives (Districts 1-10, respectively): John W. Olver (D); Richard E. Neal (D); James P. McGovern (D); Barney Frank (D); Niki Tsongas (D); John F. Tierney (D); Edward J. Markey (D); Michael E. Capuano (D); Stephen F. Lynch (D); William D. Delahunt (D)<sup>8</sup>
- Capital: Boston<sup>9</sup>

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)<sup>10</sup>  
Designated in 1999, the New England HIDTA is responsible for areas of Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont and New Hampshire. The Massachusetts areas involved in New England HIDTA efforts are as follows: Essex, Hampden, Middlesex, Plymouth, Suffolk and Worcester Counties.
- Massachusetts Inhalant Abuse Task Force<sup>11</sup>  
Created in 1995, the Massachusetts Inhalant Abuse Task Force provides parents, teachers, healthcare workers, and other youth-serving professionals with inhalant abuse prevention information. In May 1996, the Task Force launched “A Breath Away,” a statewide campaign designed to increase public awareness of inhalant abuse through the dissemination of educational materials and information about effective prevention strategies.

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

- During 2007 Massachusetts law enforcement agencies reported 20,626 arrests for drug abuse violations to the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).<sup>12</sup>

Number of Arrests, Selected Offenses, Massachusetts, 2007

Offense	Juveniles	Total
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	5	68
Forcible rape	29	305

Robbery	497	1,859
Aggravated assault	1,366	9,615
Burglary	790	3,707
Larceny-theft	2,137	12,302
Motor vehicle theft	204	995
Arson	82	138
Drug abuse violations	2,327	20,626
Driving under the influence	141	11,746
Liquor laws	1,000	5,209

- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 540 drug arrests in Massachusetts during 2007.<sup>13</sup>

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Massachusetts, 2003-2007

Year	Arrests
2003	431
2004	409
2005	451
2006	402
2007	540

**Drugs**

- Cocaine<sup>14</sup>  
Cocaine continues to one of the primary drugs of abuse in Massachusetts and is readily available from gram to kilogram quantities throughout the state. Cocaine price and purity levels remain stable.
- Heroin<sup>15</sup>  
Heroin continues to one of the primary drugs of abuse in Massachusetts and is readily available from gram to kilogram quantities throughout the state. While heroin prices have remained low at both the wholesale and retail level, purity levels have begun to fluctuate with both extremely high and low purity levels encountered at the street level.
- Marijuana<sup>16</sup>  
Marijuana remains readily available in all areas of Massachusetts. The majority of commercial-grade marijuana originates in Mexico or the American Southwest, although marijuana of both Colombian and Jamaican origin has also been encountered. Hydroponic marijuana, which is cultivated predominately in Canada, also continues to be available.
- Methamphetamine<sup>17</sup>  
Methamphetamine is rarely abused throughout the state. However, abuse is prevalent among young adults between the ages of 18 to 25 and members of the homosexual community. Individuals in their late 30's to early 40's also occasionally abuse the drug.

- **Club Drugs<sup>18</sup>**  
In the state of Massachusetts, MDMA is widely available in significant quantities. MDMA is found at rave parties, legitimate nightclubs and on college campuses. There is limited abuse of other club drugs such as Ketamine and GHB.
- **Diverted Pharmaceuticals<sup>19</sup>**  
Current investigations indicate that diversion of oxycodone products continues to be a problem in Massachusetts. Methadone and Vicodin® have also been identified as being among the most commonly abused and diverted pharmaceuticals in Massachusetts.
- According to 2005-2006 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 537,000 (10%) of Massachusetts citizens (ages 12 or older) reported past month use of an illicit drug.<sup>20</sup>

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

<b>Drug Type and Use</b>	<b>Number*</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Past month illicit drug use	537	9.96%
Past year marijuana use	696	12.91
Past month marijuana use	429	7.96
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	249	4.62
Past year cocaine use	183	3.40
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	300	5.56

\* The number of users is in thousands

- Approximately 1.6 million (29.01%) Massachusetts citizens reported that using marijuana occasionally (once a month) was a “great risk”.<sup>21</sup>
- Additional 2005-2006 NSDUH results indicate that 157,000 (2.92%) Massachusetts citizens reported illicit drug dependence or abuse within the past year. Approximately 118,000 (2.19%) reported past year illicit drug dependence.<sup>22</sup>

**Juveniles**

- Approximately 25% of Massachusetts high school students surveyed in 2007 reported using marijuana at least once during the past month.<sup>23</sup>

**Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Gender, Massachusetts, 2007**

<b>Drug Type and Use</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Lifetime marijuana use	38.8%	43.5%	41.2%
Current marijuana use	21.2	27.8	24.6
Lifetime cocaine use	6.9	10.3	8.7
Lifetime heroin use	2.2	3.8	3.1
Lifetime methamphetamine use	3.1	4.6	4.0
Lifetime illegal steroid use	2.4	4.8	3.7
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	1.6	3.3	2.5
Tried marijuana before age 13	6.8	11.5	9.2

- Approximately 11% of Massachusetts high school seniors surveyed in 2007 reported using cocaine at least once during their lifetimes.<sup>24</sup>

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Grade, Massachusetts, 2007

Drug Type and Use	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Lifetime marijuana use	27.4%	38.5%	47.4%	53.8%
Current marijuana use	15.6	23.2	28.9	31.8
Lifetime cocaine use	4.8	8.2	10.4	11.3
Lifetime heroin use	2.3	3.0	2.8	3.3
Lifetime methamphetamine use	2.7	3.8	4.3	4.3
Lifetime illegal steroid use	3.0	4.4	3.7	3.1
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	1.8	3.0	2.1	2.6
Tried marijuana before age 13	9.5	9.6	9.5	7.5

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

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

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	59	11.51%
Past year marijuana use	83	16.27
Past month marijuana use	46	8.96
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	25	4.87
Past year cocaine use	9	1.67
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	33	6.40

\* The number of users is in thousands

**Enforcement**

- As of October 31, 2007, there were 20,325 full-time law enforcement employees in Massachusetts (16,827 officers and 3,498 civilians).<sup>26</sup>

**Trafficking and Seizures**

- Colombian and Dominican drug traffickers dominate the distribution of cocaine and heroin throughout Massachusetts.<sup>27</sup>
- MDMA is primarily transported into New England via the New York-Vermont border with increased involvement by Asian drug trafficking organizations.<sup>28</sup>
- During 2007 Federal agencies seized 48,340 dosage units of MDMA in Massachusetts.<sup>29</sup>

Amount of Drugs Seized by Federal Agencies, Massachusetts, 2007

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cocaine	118.8 kilograms
Heroin	7.1 kilograms
Methamphetamine	5.2 kilograms/301 dosage units

Marijuana	279.2 kilograms
MDMA	48,340 dosage units

- During 2007, there were 2,483 cultivated marijuana plants eradicated and seized in Massachusetts under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.<sup>30</sup>

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Massachusetts, 2007

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
46	2,097	2	386	2,483

- During 2007, the DEA and state and local authorities in Massachusetts did not report any methamphetamine lab incidents.<sup>31</sup>

Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, Massachusetts, 2003-2007

Year	Number of Lab Incidents
2003	1
2004	1
2005	3
2006	2
2007	0

**Courts**

- Drug Courts<sup>32</sup>  
As of August 11, 2008, there were 21 drug courts in Massachusetts that had been operating for at least two years and 1 additional drug court that were being planned.
- During FY 2007, 39.5% of the Federally sentenced defendants in Massachusetts committed drug offenses. Approximately 31% of these drug offenses involved crack cocaine.<sup>33</sup>

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Offenses, Massachusetts, FY 2007

Drug Type	Offenses	% of Total
Powder cocaine	61	26.6%
Crack cocaine	71	31.0
Heroin	38	16.6
Marijuana	21	9.2
Methamphetamine	11	4.8
Other drug	27	11.8

**Corrections**

- On June 30, 2008, the Massachusetts Department of Corrections (DOC) population was 11,708.<sup>34</sup>

- There were 13,886 individuals in Massachusetts County Correctional Facilities on June 30, 2008.<sup>35</sup>
- On January 1, 2008, drug offenders made up 26% of the total Massachusetts DOC population.<sup>36</sup> Drug offenders made up 25% of the total Massachusetts DOC population on January 1, 2007<sup>37</sup> and 23% of the total Massachusetts DOC population on January 1, 2006.<sup>38</sup>

DOC Inmates, by Offense Committed, Massachusetts, January 1, 2006-2008

Offense	January 1, 2006		January 1, 2007		January 1, 2008	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Person	4,533	48%	4,610	47%	4,704	46%
Sex	1,432	15	1,365	14	1,328	13
Property	760	8	744	8	791	8
Drug	2,174	23	2,441	25	2,610	26
Other	506	5	618	6	699	7
Total	9,405	100	9,778	100	10,132	100

- Correctional Recovery Academy (CRA)<sup>39</sup>  
The Massachusetts DOC contracts with Spectrum Health Systems, Inc., of Worcester, to provide residential programs targeting substance abuse, anger management, criminal thinking and relapse prevention. There are 8 CRA units throughout the DOC. A major component of the CRA is substance abuse monitoring. All participating inmates are drug tested upon entry into the six-month residential component and on a monthly basis thereafter.
- As of December 31, 2006, there were 169,522 adults on probation and 3,223 adults on parole in Massachusetts.<sup>40</sup>
- Approximately 15% of the DOC drug offenses on January 1, 2008 involved trafficking 28-100 grams of a Class B substance.<sup>41</sup>

Number and Type of Drug Offenses, Massachusetts, January 1, 2008

Type of Drug Offense	#	%
Possession of hypodermic syringe/instrument	1	0%
Conspiracy to violate Controlled Substances Act	16	1
Possession of controlled substance – no drug class specified	35	1
Possession of controlled substance – Class A	10	0
Class A – Distribution/possession w/intent to distribute	373	14
Class A – Distribution/possession w/intent to distribute, subsequent	89	3
Class B – Distribution/possession w/intent to distribute	318	12
Class B – Distribution/possession w/intent to distribute, subsequent	93	4
Specific Class B – distribution or possession w/intent to distribute	239	9
Spec. Class B – distrib. or poss. w/intent to distribute, subsequent	109	4
Specific Class B – trafficking 14-28 grams	401	15
Specific Class B – trafficking 28-100 grams	393	15
Specific Class B – trafficking 100-200 grams	171	7
Specific Class B – trafficking 200+ grams	117	4

Class A – trafficking 14-28 grams	50	2
Class A – trafficking 28-100 grams	38	1
Class A – trafficking 100-200 grams	9	0
Class A – trafficking 200+ grams	11	0
Class D – trafficking 50-100 lbs.	1	0
Class D – trafficking 100-2,000 lbs.	1	0
Class C – distribution/possession w/intent to distribute	2	0
Drug violation – school/park	126	5
Induce minors in sale and distribution of drugs	2	0
Class B – distribution/possession w/intent to distribute to a minor	2	0
Class D – distribution/possession w/intent to distribute	1	0
Theft/Larceny of drugs	1	0
Possession of controlled substance – Class D	1	0
Total drug offenses	2,610	100

### Consequences of Use

- During 2007, authorities reported that there were no children affected by methamphetamine laboratories in Massachusetts.<sup>42</sup>

### Treatment

- Massachusetts Enacts Full Parity for Addiction Treatment<sup>43</sup>  
Massachusetts recently enacted legislation requiring state health insurance agencies to provide unlimited coverage for medically necessary treatment of substance use disorders and other mental health conditions.
- During 2007, there were 64,180 drug/alcohol treatment admissions in Massachusetts.<sup>44</sup> There were 62,211 such treatment admissions in the state during 2006.<sup>45</sup> During 2005, there were 57,760 treatment admissions in Massachusetts.<sup>46</sup> Heroin admissions represented more than 40% of treatment admissions during each of these 3 years.

### Admissions to Treatment, Massachusetts, 2005-2007

Drug Type	2005		2006		2007	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	11,398	19.7%	11,723	18.8%	12,029	18.7%
Alc. w/ second. drug	9,329	16.2	10,248	16.5	10,300	16.0
Cocaine – smoked	2,669	4.6	2,811	4.5	2,981	4.6
Cocaine – other route	1,554	2.7	1,736	2.8	1,876	2.9
Marijuana	3,372	5.8	3,724	6.0	3,536	5.5
Heroin	24,811	43.0	26,414	42.5	27,744	43.2
Other opiates	3,697	6.4	4,442	7.1	4,602	7.2
PCP	19	0.0	10	0.0	15	0.0
Hallucinogens	31	0.1	46	0.1	26	0.0
Amphetamines	151	0.3	148	0.2	157	0.2
Other stimulants	16	0.0	8	0.0	9	0.0
Tranquilizers	472	0.8	618	1.0	622	1.0

Sedatives	31	0.1	24	0.0	18	0.0
Inhalants	2	0.0	8	0.0	2	0.0
Other/none specified	208	0.4	251	0.4	263	0.4
Total	57,760	100.0	62,211	100.0	64,180	100.0

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 142,000 (2.63%) Massachusetts citizens reported needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use within the past year.<sup>47</sup>

## Sources

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Web site, American Community Survey: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Massachusetts Governor and Lt. Governor Web site:

<http://www.mass.gov/portal/index.jsp?pageID=gov2homepage&L=1&L0=Home&sid=Agov2>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Massachusetts Attorney General Web site: <http://www.ago.state.ma.us/>

<sup>6</sup> Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth Web site: <http://www.state.ma.us/sec/>

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Senate Web site: <http://www.senate.gov/>

<sup>8</sup> U.S. House of Representatives Web site: <http://clerk.house.gov/>

<sup>9</sup> Commonwealth of Massachusetts Web site:

<http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=mg2homepage&L=1&L0=Home&sid=massgov2>

<sup>10</sup> Office of National Drug Control Policy, New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site:

<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/newengland.html>

<sup>11</sup> Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Massachusetts Inhalant Abuse Task Force Web site:

[http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eohhs2terminal&L=6&L0=Home&L1=Consumer&L2=Prevention+and+W ellness&L3=Alcohol%2C+Tobacco%2C+and+Other+Drugs&L4=Alcohol+and+Other+Drugs&L5=Inhala nt+Abuse&sid=Eeohhs2&b=terminalcontent&f=dph\\_substance\\_abuse\\_c\\_prevention\\_inhalant\\_task\\_force&csid=Eeohhs2](http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eohhs2terminal&L=6&L0=Home&L1=Consumer&L2=Prevention+and+W ellness&L3=Alcohol%2C+Tobacco%2C+and+Other+Drugs&L4=Alcohol+and+Other+Drugs&L5=Inhala nt+Abuse&sid=Eeohhs2&b=terminalcontent&f=dph_substance_abuse_c_prevention_inhalant_task_force&csid=Eeohhs2)

<sup>12</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2007*, September 2008:

<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2007/index.html>

<sup>13</sup> Drug Enforcement Administration, 2008 Massachusetts State Factsheet:

<http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/massachusetts.html>

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2005-2006 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*, February 2008: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/statesList.cfm>

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, Youth Online:

Comprehensive Results: <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/yrbss/>

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2005-2006 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*, February 2008: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/statesList.cfm>

<sup>26</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2007*, September 2008:

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

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- <sup>33</sup> U.S. Sentencing Commission, FY 2007 Federal Sentencing Statistics, Massachusetts: <http://www.ussc.gov/JUDPACK/2007/ma07.pdf>
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- <sup>35</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>36</sup> Massachusetts Department of Correction, *January 1, 2008 Inmate Statistics*: [http://www.mass.gov/Eeops/docs/doc/research\\_reports/112008.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eeops/docs/doc/research_reports/112008.pdf)
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- <sup>39</sup> Massachusetts Department of Correction, Departmental Programs: [http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsterminal&L=4&L0=Home&L1=Law+Enforcement+%26+Criminal+Justice&L2=Prisons&L3=Offender+Programs&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=doc\\_inmate\\_programs\\_departmental\\_programs&csid=Eeops](http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsterminal&L=4&L0=Home&L1=Law+Enforcement+%26+Criminal+Justice&L2=Prisons&L3=Offender+Programs&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=doc_inmate_programs_departmental_programs&csid=Eeops)
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