

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Maine

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.

Maine

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

Demographics

- Population (2006 American Community Survey): 1,321,574¹
- Race/Ethnicity (2006 American Community Survey): 95.8% white; 1.0% black/African American; 0.5% American Indian/Alaska Native; 0.9% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.3% other race; 1.4% two or more races; 1.0% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)²

Politics

- Governor: John Elias Baldacci³
- Attorney General: Steven Rowe⁴
- Secretary of State: Matthew Dunlap⁵
- U.S. Senate: Olympia Snowe (R); Susan Collins (R)⁶
- U.S. Representatives: Thomas H. Allen (D); Michael Michaud (D)⁷
- Capital: Augusta⁸

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁹
Designated in 1999, the New England HIDTA is responsible for areas within Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine's Cumberland County.
- Driver Education and Evaluation Program (DEEP)¹⁰
DEEP serves as the state's countermeasure for individuals who have had one or more alcohol- and/or drug-related motor vehicle offense. DEEP's programs are designed to provide a therapeutic intervention into the cause of the behavior that resulted in the impaired driving offense in order to prevent future offenses.
- Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)¹¹
Maine's PMP was established in July 2004 in an effort to better address the rapid acceleration of prescription drug abuse. The PMP is a computerized database into which all prescription data for Schedule II – IV drugs is entered and analyzed for possible excess use.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2007, there were 19 homicide arrests in Maine.¹²

Number of Arrests for Index Offenses, Maine, 2007

Offense	Juvenile	All Ages
Murder	0	19
Forcible rape	8	71
Robbery	20	172
Aggravated assault	58	461

Burglary	393	1,306
Larceny-theft	1,522	6,064
Motor vehicle theft	86	287
Arson	30	70

- There were 1,138 total adult arrests for drug sale/manufacturing in Maine during 2006.¹³

Number of Adult Drug Arrests, Maine, 2006

Drug Type	Sale/Manufacturing	Possession
Opium, cocaine and derivatives	373	663
Marijuana	393	2,372
Synthetic narcotics	142	324
Other dangerous non-narcotics	230	664
Total	1,138	4,023

- There were 107 total juvenile drug arrests for drug sale/manufacturing in Maine during 2006.¹⁴

Number of Juvenile Drug Arrests, Maine, 2006

Drug Type	Sale/Manufacturing	Possession
Opium, cocaine and derivatives	12	21
Marijuana	63	417
Synthetic narcotics	8	25
Other dangerous non-narcotics	24	64
Total	107	527

- During 2007, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 68 drug arrests in Maine.¹⁵

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Maine, 2003-2007

Year	# of Arrests
2003	107
2004	99
2005	89
2006	65
2007	68

Drugs

- Cocaine¹⁶
Cocaine is available throughout Maine in fractional-ounce to kilogram quantities. The popularity of crack cocaine continues to increase in southern and central Maine communities.

- Heroin¹⁷
While the use of heroin is more prevalent in Maine’s southern communities, it is also encountered in coastal and Canadian-border communities and has spread into rural and remote areas.
- Marijuana¹⁸
Marijuana, historically the illicit drug of choice in the state, is plentiful and readily available. Year-round indoor grows are common, but high-grade marijuana cultivated in Canada is smuggled over the border. Maine has a number of statutes related to marijuana possession, cultivation, trafficking, therapeutic research programs, paraphernalia, illegal importation and asset forfeiture. These laws are often cited as the reason that Maine residents must travel to obtain their illicit drugs from out-of-state traffickers wary of the state’s tough drug laws.
- Methamphetamine¹⁹
Methamphetamine remains a minor drug of concern in Maine, although abuse and availability have increased in Aroostook County, as evidenced by reports of “Yaba” seizures at the northernmost border points with Canada.
- Club Drugs²⁰
Law-enforcement officials in southern Maine continue to encounter MDMA use, which continues to be associated with rave parties and the student population. Canadian-produced “Enhanced Ecstasy” has been encountered at the northern border.
- Diverted Pharmaceuticals²¹
Current investigations indicate that diversion of OxyContin® continues to be a problem in Maine. Methadone has also been identified as being among the most commonly abused and diverted pharmaceuticals in Maine.
- According to 2005-2006 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 113,000 (10%) of Maine citizens (ages 12 or older) reported past month use of an illicit drug.²²

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

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	113	9.99%
Past year marijuana use	151	13.31
Past month marijuana use	102	8.97
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	35	3.05
Past year cocaine use	25	2.18
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	53	4.66

* The number of users is in thousands

- Approximately 365,000 (32.25%) Maine citizens reported that using marijuana occasionally (once a month) was a “great risk”.²³
- Additional 2005-2006 NSDUH results indicate that 35,000 (3.12%) Maine citizens reported illicit drug dependence or abuse within the past year. Approximately 24,000 (2.09%) reported past year illicit drug dependence.²⁴

Juveniles

- Approximately 9% of 6th graders in Maine surveyed in 2006 reported using inhalants at least once in their lives.²⁵

Percent of 6th - 8th Graders Reporting Drug Use, Select Drugs, Maine, 2006

Drug Type and Use	6 th	7 th	8 th
Lifetime marijuana use	1.9%	5.0%	12.3%
Past month marijuana use	1.0	2.5	6.6
Lifetime cocaine use	1.0	1.5	2.7
Past month cocaine use	0.5	0.8	1.1
Lifetime heroin use	0.6	1.0	1.6
Past month heroin use	0.4	0.6	0.8
Lifetime ecstasy use	0.5	0.9	2.0
Past month ecstasy use	0.3	0.5	1.0
Lifetime hallucinogen use	0.6	0.9	2.1
Past month hallucinogen use	0.4	0.6	1.2
Lifetime inhalant use	9.1	11.3	14.0
Past month inhalant use	4.9	5.5	7.1
Lifetime stimulant use	0.7	1.1	2.0
Lifetime use of prescription drugs	3.5	4.6	7.2
Past month use of prescription drugs	1.8	2.0	3.8
Lifetime use of other illegal drugs	1.8	3.6	7.4

- Approximately 50% of 12th graders in Maine surveyed in 2006 reported using marijuana at least once in their lives.²⁶

Percent of 9th - 12th Graders Reporting Drug Use, Select Drugs, Maine, 2006

Drug Type and Use	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Lifetime marijuana use	24.0%	34.8%	45.1%	49.7%
Past month marijuana use	13.7	20.4	25.5	27.2
Lifetime cocaine use	4.0	5.0	7.7	8.7
Past month cocaine use	2.0	1.9	2.8	3.3
Lifetime heroin use	2.0	2.0	2.7	2.7
Past month heroin use	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.2
Lifetime ecstasy use	3.8	4.2	5.1	5.8
Past month ecstasy use	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.7
Lifetime hallucinogen use	4.0	5.5	7.7	7.9
Past month hallucinogen use	2.0	2.4	3.2	3.0
Lifetime inhalant use	15.0	13.4	11.9	9.1
Past month inhalant use	5.8	4.7	3.2	2.3
Lifetime stimulant use	3.5	4.2	5.5	5.3
Lifetime use of prescription drugs	11.9	15.7	19.5	19.7
Past month use of prescription drugs	6.2	8.1	9.5	9.4
Lifetime use of other illegal drugs	12.2	15.6	17.4	16.5

- Approximately 14% of students in Maine surveyed in 2006 reported being drunk or high in school within the past year.²⁷

Percent of 6th - 12th Graders Reporting Prohibited Drug-Related Behavior, Maine, 2006

Behavior	Percent Reporting Behavior
Drunk or high at school in past month	13.6%
Sold illegal drugs	6.8

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 13% of Maine 12-17 year olds reported past month use of an illicit drug.²⁸

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

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	14	13.48%
Past year marijuana use	19	17.61
Past month marijuana use	12	10.99
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	6	5.32
Past year cocaine use	2	1.70
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	8	7.28

* The number of users is in thousands

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2007, there were 3,012 full-time law enforcement employees in Maine (2,261 officers and 751 civilians).²⁹
- Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA)³⁰
MDEA is a statewide multi-jurisdictional task force with officers from local, County, state and Federal law enforcement agencies. MDEA maintains 6 regional task force offices located in Augusta, Bangor, Houlton, Lewiston, Lyman and Portland.

Trafficking and Seizures

- Maine's 228 miles of coastline and 3,478 miles of shoreline offer many opportunities for drug smugglers.³¹
- Interstate 95 provides an important north-south transportation route for traffickers traveling to sources of drug supply in several northeastern Massachusetts cities.³²
- During 2007, the DEA and state and local authorities in Maine did not report any methamphetamine lab incidents.³³

Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, Maine, 2003-2007

Year	# of Lab Incidents
2003	0
2004	3
2005	5
2006	4
2007	0

- There were 78.4 kilograms of marijuana seized by Federal agencies in Maine during 2007.³⁴

Amount of Federal Drug Seizures, Maine, 2007

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cocaine	5.2 kilograms
Heroin	0.0 kilograms
Methamphetamine	133 dosage units
Marijuana	78.4 kilograms
Hashish	0.6 kilograms
MDMA	45 dosage units

- During 2007, more than 10,000 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated in Maine under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.³⁵

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated/Seized, Maine, 2007

Outdoor Operations		Indoor Operations		Total Plants Eradicated
Eradicated Plots	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
1,038	7,806	64	2,552	10,358

Courts

- Drug Courts³⁶
As of August 11, 2008, there were 17 drug courts in existence or being planned in Maine. Sixteen drug courts had been operating for at least two years and 1 additional drug court was being planned.
- During FY 2007, 30.9% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in Maine committed drug offenses. Approximately 70% of these Federal drug cases involved either powder or crack cocaine.³⁷

Federally-Sentenced Drug Offenders, by Drug Type, Maine, FY 2007

Drug Type	Number	Percent
Powder cocaine	19	32.2%
Crack cocaine	22	37.3
Heroin	1	1.7
Marijuana	14	23.7
Methamphetamine	1	1.7
Other	2	3.4

Corrections

- On December 31, 2006, there were 2,120 prisoners under the jurisdiction of state or Federal correctional authorities in Maine.³⁸

- Differential Substance Abuse Treatment (DSAT)³⁹
DSAT is a substance abuse treatment program developed for adults involved in the criminal justice system. In the DSAT program, men and women attend separate treatment groups that target their level of addiction severity.
- Juvenile Corrections Substance Abuse Treatment Network⁴⁰
The Juvenile Corrections Substance Abuse Treatment Network is a coordinated statewide system that provides a centralized screening and referral process to identify juvenile offenders with substance abuse issues.
- Substance abuse treatment services are available in the following Maine juvenile corrections centers: Long Creek Youth Development Center (South Portland) and Mountain View Youth Development Center (Charleston).⁴¹
- On December 31, 2006, there were 7,919 adults on probation and 31 adults on parole in Maine.⁴²

Treatment

- During 2007, there were 15,582 drug/alcohol treatment admissions in Maine.⁴³ There were 14,430 treatment admissions during 2006.⁴⁴ During 2005, there were 13,885 treatment admissions in Maine.⁴⁵

Admissions to Treatment, Maine, 2005-2007

Drug Type	2005		2006		2007	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	4,961	35.7%	4,755	33.0%	4,985	32.0%
Alc. w/ second. drug	2,720	19.6	2,775	19.2	2,901	18.6
Cocaine – smoked	366	2.6	486	3.4	540	3.5
Cocaine – other route	397	2.9	425	2.9	478	3.1
Marijuana	1,471	10.6	1,340	9.3	1,419	9.1
Heroin	1,296	9.3	1,324	9.2	1,214	7.8
Other opiates	2,423	17.5	3,058	21.2	3,757	24.1
PCP	n/a	n/a	1	0.0	n/a	n/a
Hallucinogens	10	0.1	4	0.0	9	0.1
Amphetamines	79	0.6	104	0.7	77	0.5
Other stimulants	10	0.1	6	0.0	13	0.1
Tranquilizers	76	0.5	81	0.6	118	0.8
Sedatives	17	0.1	15	0.1	21	0.1
Inhalants	8	0.1	4	0.0	3	0.0
Other/none specified	51	0.4	52	0.4	47	0.3
Total	13,885	100.0	14,430	100.0	15,582	100.0

- According to 2005-2006 NSDUH data, approximately 34,000 (3.01%) Maine citizens reported needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use within the past year.⁴⁶

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- ³³ Ibid.
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