

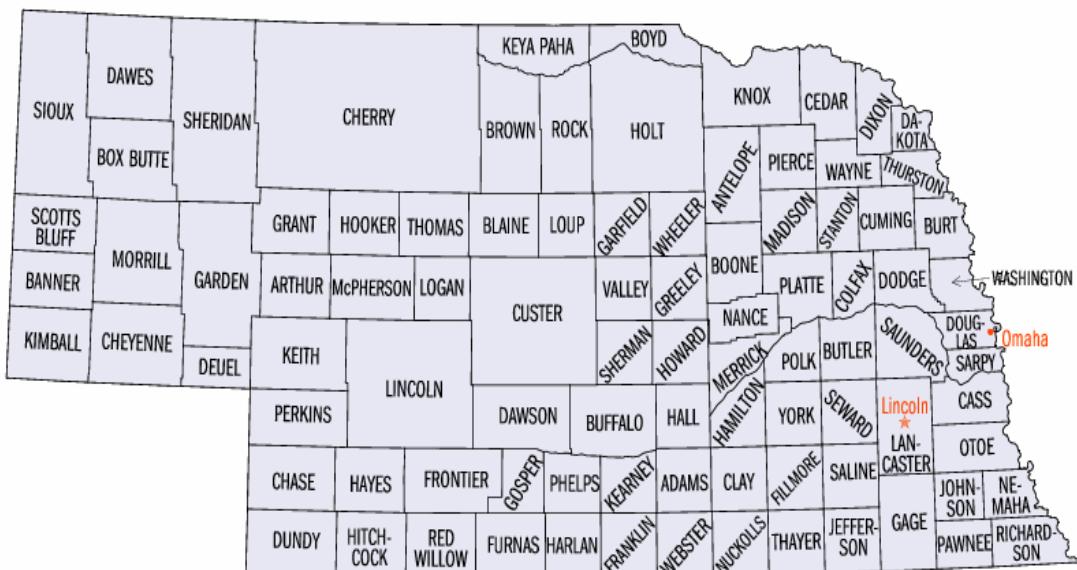
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Omaha, Nebraska

Profile of Drug Indicators

September 2004



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.

Omaha, Nebraska

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

Demographics

- Population: 404,267 (July 2003 Census estimate)¹; 390,007 (2000 Census)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 75.4% white; 13.2% black/African American; 0.6% American Indian/Alaska Native; 1.7% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.1% other race; 1.5% two or more races; 7.5% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³
- Omaha is located in Douglas County.⁴

Politics

- Mayor: Mike Fahey⁵
- City Council Members (District 1-7, respectively): Marc Kraft, Frank Brown, James Vokal, Jr. (Council President), Garry Gernandt, Dan Welch, Franklin Thompson, Chuck Sigerson, Jr. (Council Vice President)⁶
- Chief of Police: Thomas Warren⁷
- Douglas County Sheriff: Timothy Dunning⁸

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁹
Designated in 1996, the Midwest HIDTA is responsible for areas of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska, including Douglas County.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Omaha (the dollar amount is the total amount received by the coalition since the original award year):¹⁰
 - Original award year 2003: no grantees
 - Original award year 2002: no grantees
 - Original award year 2001: no grantees
 - Original award year 2000: no grantees
 - Original award year 1999: \$408,068 to Westside Community Schools
- Community Capacity Development Office¹¹
Two areas of Omaha (North Side and South Side) have been designated Weed and Seed sites.
- FY 2003 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Discretionary Grant funds received in Omaha:¹²
 - Center for Mental Health Services: \$0
 - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention: \$0
 - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment: \$500,000
- There were no Omaha recipients of the FY 2004 Office of Justice Program Drug Court Discretionary Grant.¹³

- There were no Omaha recipients of the FY 2003 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant.¹⁴
- FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received in Omaha:¹⁵
 - Communities (discretionary): 1 award valued at \$225,000
 - Counter-Terrorism (discretionary): 0 awards
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: 1 award valued at \$72,012
 - formula: 0 awards
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: 6 awards valued at \$5,690,548
 - formula: 3 awards valued at \$1,083,809
 - Substance Abuse: 0 awards
 - Victims:
 - discretionary: 2 awards valued at \$1,148,856
 - formula: 0 awards
- There were no Omaha recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grants.¹⁶

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- From January through May 2004, there were 6 homicides known to the Omaha Police Department.¹⁷ During full year 2003, there were 35 homicides known to the Omaha Police Department. This was up from 26 homicides reported in Omaha during full year 2002.¹⁸

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Omaha, 2002-May 2004

Offense	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	Jan.-May 2004
Homicide	26	35	6
Forcible rape	173	179	67
Robbery	998	896	346
Aggravated assault	1,632	1,517	640
Burglary	3,220	3,449	1,355
Larceny-theft	18,490	16,869	6,193
Motor vehicle theft	4,242	4,194	1,403
Total index offenses	28,781	27,139	10,010

- During the first quarter of 2004 (January through March), there were 9 arrests in Omaha for murder/manslaughter.¹⁹ During full year 2003, there were 36 murder/manslaughter arrests in Omaha. This is an increase from the 23 arrests for murder/manslaughter during 2002.²⁰

Number of Arrests, Index Offenses, Omaha, 2002-March 2004

Offense	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	1st Q 2004
Murder/manslaughter	23	36	9
Death by negligence	6	6	2
Forcible rape	54	36	9
Robbery	205	195	63
Aggravated assault	231	226	40
Burglary	249	298	65
Larceny-theft	4,230	3,190	929
Motor vehicle theft	176	154	18
Total index arrests	5,174	4,141	1,135

- There were 695 arrests for drug law violations in Omaha during the first quarter of 2004.²¹ During full year 2003, there were 3,457 drug violation arrests.²²

Number of Substance-Related Arrests, Omaha, 2002-March 2004

Offense	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	1st Q 2004
Drug law violations	4,456	3,457	695
Driving under influence	3,695	4,480	1,183
Liquor violations	2,910	3,040	440

- During the first quarter of 2004, there were 239 felony drug arrests in Omaha.²³ During full year 2003, there were 1,238 felony drug arrests.²⁴

Number of Felony Drug Arrests, by Drug Type, Omaha, 2002-March 2004

Drug Type	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	1st Q 2004
Cocaine	130	117	32
Crack	311	281	57
Ecstasy	9	2	1
Marijuana	101	111	30
Methamphetamine	738	663	96
Heroin	2	5	1
LSD	0	0	0
Other	43	59	22
Total felony drug arrests	1,334	1,238	239

- Data collected from Omaha adult arrestees in 2003 indicate that 71% of adult male and 56.8% of adult female arrestees tested positive for at least one of the following drugs at arrest: cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine, opiates, or PCP.²⁵

Percent of Adult Arrestees Testing Positive for Drugs, Omaha, 2003

Drug Type	Males	Females
Cocaine	20.5%	35.1%
Heroin	5.0	0.0
Marijuana	50.8	29.7
Methamphetamine	21.4	13.5
Any of the above drugs	71.0	56.8
Multiple drugs	24.9	18.9

- More than half (50.7%) of adult male arrestees interviewed in 2003 reported using marijuana in the past year. Among the male arrestees who reported past year use of marijuana, the average number of days the substance was used in the past month was 12.9 days.²⁶

Past Drug Use, Adult Male Arrestees, Omaha, 2003

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Heroin
Past 7 days	7.8%	1.7%	40.4%	13.2%	0.0%
Past 30 days	9.4%	3.4%	44.4%	16.2%	0.1%
Past year	12.9%	8.3%	50.7%	20.5%	0.3%
Avg. # of days used in month	8.1	5.1	12.9	9.6	7.8

- Approximately 45% of Omaha adult female arrestees interviewed in 2003 reported using marijuana in the past year. They used the substance an average of 8.5 days within the past month.²⁷

Past Drug Use, Adult Female Arrestees, Omaha, 2003

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Heroin
Past 7 days	24.4%	0.0%	28.6%	19.5%	0.0%
Past 30 days	26.8%	0.0%	25.7%	22.0%	0.0%
Past year	28.6%	9.5%	45.2%	21.4%	2.4%
Avg. # of days used in month	5.8	1.4	8.5	9.1	0.3

Drugs

- Cocaine

Levels of cocaine abuse are reported to be high in Omaha. Both powdered and crack cocaine are readily available in the area. According to the DEA Omaha District Office, powdered cocaine sold for \$18,000-\$24,000/kilogram, and crack cocaine sold for \$1,200/ounce and \$100/gram in the first quarter of FY 2003.²⁸

- Heroin

Heroin is available in small amounts in Omaha.²⁹ Mexican black tar heroin is available in limited quantities in Omaha.³⁰

- Methamphetamine
The availability of crystal methamphetamine (“ice”) has been increasing in the Omaha metropolitan area.³¹ During 2003, methamphetamine sold for \$1,200/ounce in Omaha. In 2002, the Omaha Police Department reported that locally produced methamphetamine had a higher retail purity level (75-90%) than methamphetamine produced in Mexico, California, and southwestern states.³²
- Club Drugs
Omaha officials report moderate levels of availability and abuse of MDMA. The DEA Omaha District Office reports that LSD sells for \$2-\$4/dose.³³

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002, there were 952 full-time law enforcement employees in Omaha (766 officers and 186 civilians).³⁴

Trafficking and Seizures

- During the first quarter of 2004, the Omaha Police Department seized 6,630 grams of cocaine.³⁵ During full year 2003, the Police Department seized 26,421 grams of cocaine.³⁶

Amount of Drugs Seized, Omaha, 2002-March 2004

Drug Type	Full Year 2002	Full Year 2003	1st Q 2004
Cocaine	55,038 grams	26,421 grams	6,630 grams
Crack	1,555 grams	1,752 grams	496 grams
Ecstasy	772 grams	46 grams	2 grams
Marijuana	640,730 grams	743,569 grams	94,145 grams
Methamphetamine	53,214 grams	41,417 grams	3,615 grams
Heroin	5,908 grams	15 grams	2 grams
LSD	0 dosage units	10 dosage units	0 dosage units
Other	n/a	6,326 dosage units	2,930 dosage units

- The Omaha Metro Task Force, composed of 9 agencies, seized over 76 kilograms of methamphetamine in 2000 and more than 38 kilograms in 2001.³⁷
- The Omaha Metro Task Force seized 21 methamphetamine laboratories in 2000 and 36 laboratories in 2001.³⁸

Courts

- Drug Courts³⁹
As of May 2004, there were 2 drug courts that had been operating for more than 2 years and 1 drug court that was recently implemented in Omaha. No additional drug courts were being planned in Omaha at the time.

Consequences of Use

- During 2002, 84 women in Douglas County reported use of marijuana/LSD/hashish during their pregnancy.⁴⁰

Number of Women Reporting Illicit Drug Use in Pregnancy, Douglas County, 1998-2002

Drug Type	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Cocaine	36	21	36	40	28
Marijuana/LSD/hashish	56	58	74	92	84
Salicylates	2	3	1	0	0
Opiates	1	1	0	0	0
Amphetamines	10	13	9	11	19
Barbiturates	0	0	0	2	2
Tranquilizers	0	0	0	0	0
Others	3	3	45	20	30
Unknown	5	4	3	2	3
None	6,934	6,982	7,555	7,465	7,710

- Four babies were born with positive drug screens in Douglas County during 2002. This is up from 2 during 2001, but down from 9 during 2000.⁴¹
- There were 11 accidental drug overdose deaths in Douglas County during 2002. There were also 10 drug overdose deaths that were not determined to be accidental and 2 drug overdose deaths that were ruled suicides.⁴²

Number of Drug Overdose Deaths, Douglas County, 1999-2002

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Accidental	12	8	14	11
Non-accidental	2	6	13	10
Suicide	2	3	1	2

- During 2002, medical examiners (ME) in Douglas County reported 66 deaths related to drug abuse. Marijuana was mentioned in 19 of the deaths.⁴³

Number of Drug Mentions Reported by ME, Douglas County, 1998-2002

Drug Type	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Alcohol-in-combination	15	16	18	21	17
Cocaine	14	4	11	9	10
Heroin/morphine	3	2	2	7	1
Marijuana	12	16	18	16	19
Amphetamines	5	3	7	7	9
Methamphetamine	5	3	7	8	14
Club drugs	--	--	--	--	--
Hallucinogens	--	--	--	--	2
Inhalants	--	--	--	--	--
Narcotic analgesics	21	13	33	30	22
Other analgesics	8	8	12	8	12
Benzodiazepines	14	8	11	2	12
Antidepressants	12	18	17	29	27
All other substances	30	19	39	60	88
Total drug deaths	44	42	62	60	66

Treatment

- During 2003, 20.2% of adult male arrestees and 2.4% of adult female arrestees reported receiving outpatient substance abuse treatment at some point during their lives.⁴⁴

Adult Arrestees Reporting Substance Abuse Treatment, Omaha, 2003

Arrestees	Outpatient		Inpatient	
	Ever	Past Year	Ever	Past Year
Male	20.2%	1.9%	26.0%	4.8%
Female	2.4	0.0	23.8	7.1

Sources

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⁴ Omaha Web site: <http://www.ci.omaha.ne.us/>

⁵ Omaha Mayor Web site: <http://www.ci.omaha.ne.us/departments/mayor/default.htm>

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⁷ Omaha Police Department Web site: <http://www.opd.ci.omaha.ne.us/>

⁸ Douglas County Sheriff's Office Web site: <http://www.co.douglas.ne.us/dept/sheriff/sheriff.htm>

⁹ Office of National Drug Control Policy, Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site:
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¹⁰ Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grantees: <http://ojdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/grantee/index.asp>

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