

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Illinois

Profile of Drug Indicators

January 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.

Illinois

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

Demographics

- Population (2006 American Community Survey): 12,831,970¹
- Race/Ethnicity (2006 American Community Survey): 70.7% white; 14.8% black/African American; 0.2% American Indian/Alaskan Native; 4.2% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 8.5% other race; 1.6% two or more races; 14.7% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)²

Politics

- Governor: Rod R. Blagojevich³
- Lt. Governor: Pat Quinn⁴
- Attorney General: Lisa Madigan⁵
- Secretary of State: Jesse White⁶
- U.S. Senate: Richard Durbin (D); Barack Obama (D)⁷
- U.S. House of Representatives: Bobby Rush (D); Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D); Daniel Lipinski (D); Luis Guitierrez (D); Rahm Emanuel (D); Peter J. Roskam (R); Danny Davis (D); Melissa Bean (D); Janice Schakowsky (D); Mark Steven Kirk (R); Jerry Weller (R); Jerry Costello (D); Judy Biggert (R); Timothy Johnson (R); Donald Manzullo (R); Phil Hare (D); Ray LaHood (R); John Shimkus (R)⁸
- Capital: Springfield

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁹
Designated in 1995, the Chicago HIDTA is responsible for Cook, Kendall, Grundy and Will counties.
- MethNet¹⁰
Developed by the Illinois Attorney General's Office, MethNet's purpose is to share information about the methamphetamine crisis in Illinois, and to coordinate the state's collective efforts to address the crisis.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2006, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) made 996 drug arrests in Illinois.¹¹

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Illinois, 2002-2006

Year	Arrests
2002	977
2003	680
2004	893
2005	906
2006	996

- During 2006, there were 112,368 state and local drug arrests in Illinois.¹²

Number of Drug Arrests, Illinois, 2006

Offense	# of Arrests
Cannabis Control Act	51,653
Controlled Substances Act	44,676
Hypo. Syringe Needles Act	647
Drug Paraphernalia Act	15,392
Total drug arrests	112,368

- During 2006, there were 780 murders known to police in Illinois.¹³

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Illinois, 2006

Offense	# of Offenses
Murder	780
Criminal sexual assault	5,646
Robbery	23,816
Agg. assault/battery	40,984
Burglary	77,259
Theft	278,485
Motor vehicle theft	38,018
Arson	2,384

- There were 529 arrests for murder in Illinois during 2006.¹⁴

Number of Arrests for Index Offenses, Illinois, 2006

Offense	# of Arrests
Murder	529
Criminal sexual assault	1,501
Robbery	5,250
Agg. assault/battery	18,313
Burglary	10,711
Theft	51,229
Motor vehicle theft	7,365
Arson	453

Drugs

- Marijuana¹⁵
Marijuana is the most widely available and used illicit drug in Illinois.
- Methamphetamine¹⁶
Methamphetamine is the principal drug of concern in the rural areas of central and southern Illinois; although there is increasing evidence that methamphetamine is being distributed in the Chicago area.

➤ Diverted Pharmaceuticals¹⁷

The diversion of legitimate pharmaceuticals is a significant problem in Illinois. The most commonly diverted pharmaceutical drugs continue to be those containing hydrocodone, alprazolam and phentermine. There has been a notable increase in the number of reported incidents of diverted pseudoephedrine. OxyContin remains a highly abused substance in the state, although with increased media attention on OxyContin there has been a shift to an increased abuse of methadone.

- According to 2004-2005 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 780,000 (7%) Illinois citizens (ages 12 or older) reported past month use of an illicit drug.¹⁸

Citizens (Ages 12 or Older) Reporting Drug Use, Illinois, 2004-2005 Data

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	780	7.49%
Past year marijuana use	1,040	9.99
Past month marijuana use	582	5.59
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	325	3.12
Past year cocaine use	241	2.32
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	412	3.96

* The number of users is in thousands

- Approximately 4 million (38.61%) Illinois citizens reported that using marijuana occasionally (once a month) was a “great risk”.¹⁹
- Additional 2004-2005 NSDUH results indicate that 294,000 (2.82%) Illinois citizens reported illicit drug dependence or abuse within the past year. Approximately 199,000 (1.91%) reported past year illicit drug dependence.²⁰

Juveniles

- According to 2004-2005 NSDUH data, approximately 104,000 (9%) Illinois 12-17 year olds reported past month use of an illicit drug.²¹

Youth (12-17 Year Olds) Reporting Drug Use, Illinois, 2004-2005 Data

Drug Type and Use	Number*	Percent
Past month illicit drug use	104	9.41%
Past year marijuana use	147	13.36
Past month marijuana use	70	6.35
Past month use of illicit drug other than marijuana	50	4.51
Past year cocaine use	14	1.32
Past year non-medical pain reliever use	65	5.93

* The number of users is in thousands

- Among Illinois students surveyed during 2006, 14.5% of 8th graders, 29.1% of 10th graders and 35.8% of 12th graders reported using marijuana with the past year.²²

Youth Reporting Past Year Substance Abuse, by Grade, Illinois, 2006

Drug Type	8 th Grade	10 th Grade	12 th Grade
Inhalants	12.3%	6.5%	5.6%
Marijuana	14.5	29.1	35.8
Any illicit drug ex. mar.	4.9	8.3	11.6
Crack/Cocaine	1.9	2.6	4.7
Hallucinogens	0.7	2.3	3.5
Ecstasy	1.3	2.4	3.6
Methamphetamine	0.7	0.5	1.1
Heroin	0.8	0.7	1.2
Uppers	2.1	3.6	5.4
Downers	1.2	3.7	5.2
Pain pills	14.3	14.6	16.3
Steroids	0.6	0.5	0.9
Other prescription drugs	12.7	13.7	13.7

- Additional survey data from 2006 indicate that 14% of male and 16% of female students in Illinois reported abusing pain pills.²³

Youth Reporting Past Year Substance Abuse, by Gender, Illinois, 2006

Drug Type	Male	Female
Inhalants	7.8%	8.9%
Marijuana	27.2	24.6
Any illicit drug ex. mar.	9.0	7.2
Crack/Cocaine	3.4	2.6
Hallucinogens	2.7	1.5
Ecstasy	3.2	1.7
Methamphetamine	0.8	0.7
Heroin	1.0	0.8
Uppers	4.3	3.0
Downers	3.7	2.9
Pain pills	14.0	16.0
Steroids	1.1	0.2
Other prescription drugs	12.8	13.9

- During 2006, 16.8% of 8th graders, 32.8% of 10th graders and 43.6% of 12th graders in Illinois reported using marijuana at least once during their lifetime.²⁴
- During 2006, 26.4% of 8th graders, 18.9% of 10th graders and 16.8% of 12th graders in the state believed that trying marijuana once or twice was a “great risk.” Additionally, 67.6% of 8th graders, 55.8% of 10th graders and 46.2% of 12th graders believed that smoking marijuana regularly was a “great risk.”²⁵

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2006, there were 53,164 full-time law enforcement employees in Illinois (38,179 officers and 14,985 civilians).²⁶

Trafficking and Seizures

- Most law enforcement agencies in Illinois cite the violent crime associated with gang-related drug trafficking as the most serious criminal threat to the state. Violent crime associated with street gangs, while declining in some major urban areas, is increasing in suburban and rural areas as these gangs expand their drug markets.²⁷
- Drug trafficking organizations based in Mexico transport metric-ton quantities of cocaine from the southwest border into Illinois, primarily to Chicago, on a regular basis.²⁸
- Large quantities of methamphetamine produced by drug trafficking organizations based in Mexico are transported into Illinois. Additionally, small-scale methamphetamine laboratories have proliferated greatly in many areas of the state. Outlaw motorcycle gangs and Hispanic street gangs control the retail distribution of methamphetamine.²⁹
- More than 2,000 kilograms of marijuana were seized by Federal agencies in Illinois during 2006.³⁰

Amount of Federal Drug Seizures, Illinois, 2006

Drug Type	Amount Seized
Cocaine	1,977.0 kilograms/17 dosage units
Heroin	35.9 kilograms
Methamphetamine	2.9 kilograms/3,181 dosage units
Marijuana	2,394.5 kilograms
Hashish	3.4 kilograms
MDMA	107,166 dosage units

- During 2006, there were 778 methamphetamine laboratory incidents in Illinois reported by the DEA and state and local authorities.³¹

Methamphetamine Laboratory Incidents, Illinois, 2002-2006

Year	Laboratory Incidents
2002	551
2003	760
2004	1,098
2005	931
2006	778

- During 2006, more than 7,000 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated and seized in Illinois as part of the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.³²

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Illinois, 2006

Outdoor Operations		Indoor Operations		Total
Eradicated Plots	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated
216	5,218	55	2,451	7,669

Courts

➤ Drug Courts³³

As of April 2007, there were 20 drug courts in Illinois that had been operating for at least two years, 2 that had recently been implemented and 8 that were being planned.

- During FY 2006, 41% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in Illinois had committed a drug offense. Approximately one-third of the drug cases involved powder cocaine.³⁴

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Cases, Illinois, FY 2006

Drug Type Involved	Offenses	% of Total
Powder cocaine	246	33.3%
Crack cocaine	233	31.5
Heroin	47	6.4
Marijuana	55	7.4
Methamphetamine	133	18.0
Other	25	3.4

Corrections

- At yearend 2006, there were 45,106 prisoners under the jurisdiction of state or Federal correctional authorities in Illinois.³⁵
- At yearend 2006, there were 141,000 adults on probation in Illinois. On January 1, 2006 there were 34,576 adults on parole in Illinois.³⁶
- On June 30, 2005, approximately 10% of juvenile and 25% of adult inmates in Illinois were detained/incarcerated for drug offenses.³⁷

Offense Type of Offenders in Institutions, Illinois, June 30, 2005

Offense	Adult		Juvenile	
	#	%	#	%
Person	19,087	43%	525	37%
Property	9,422	21	565	39
Drug	11,119	25	147	10
Sex	4,604	10	174	12
Other	437	1	23	2

Consequences of Use

- According to the El Paso Intelligence Center, there were 127 children in Illinois affected by methamphetamine laboratories during 2005.³⁸

Treatment

- During 2006, there were 67,392 drug/alcohol treatment admissions in Illinois.³⁹ During 2005, there were 78,590 such treatment admissions in the state.⁴⁰ During 2004, there were 81,722 treatment admissions in Illinois.⁴¹

Admissions to Treatment, Illinois, 2004-2006

Drug Type	2004		2005		2006	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	14,613	17.9%	14,179	18.0%	12,022	17.8%
Alc. w/ second. drug	11,732	14.4	11,610	14.8	10,022	14.9
Cocaine – smoked	13,668	16.7	12,931	16.5	11,264	16.7
Cocaine – other route	2,822	3.5	2,839	3.6	2,466	3.7
Marijuana	20,738	25.4	19,668	25.0	16,137	23.9
Heroin	13,218	16.2	12,524	15.9	11,595	17.2
Other opiates	892	1.1	899	1.1	1,034	1.5
PCP	53	0.1	44	0.1	44	0.1
Hallucinogens	62	0.1	44	0.1	60	0.1
Amphetamines	2,608	3.2	2,568	3.3	1,992	3.0
Other stimulants	149	0.2	119	0.2	74	0.1
Tranquilizers	147	0.2	148	0.2	159	0.2
Sedatives	46	0.1	48	0.1	39	0.1
Inhalants	60	0.1	48	0.1	33	0.0
Other/none specified	914	1.1	921	1.2	451	0.7
Total	81,722	100.0	78,590	100.0	67,392	100.0

- According to 2004-2005 NSDUH data, approximately 265,000 (2.54%) Illinois citizens reported needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use within the past year.⁴²

Sources

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Profile: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

² Ibid.

³ Illinois Governor's Web site: <http://www.illinois.gov/gov/>

⁴ Illinois Lt. Governor's Web site: <http://www.standingupforillinois.org/>

⁵ Illinois Attorney General's Web site: <http://www.ag.state.il.us/>

⁶ Illinois Secretary of State Web site: <http://www.sos.state.il.us/>

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

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

⁹ Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site, Chicago High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area section: <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/chicago.html>

¹⁰ Illinois Attorney General Web site, MethNet section: <http://www.ag.state.il.us/methnet/index.html>

¹¹ Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Factsheet: <http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/illinois.html>

¹² Illinois State Police, *Crime in Illinois, 2006*: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/crime/cii2006.cfm>

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Factsheet: <http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/illinois.html>

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2004-2005 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*, February 2007: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k5/State/toc.htm>

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

-
- ²² Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Community Health and Prevention, *Youth Study on Substance Use: Comparing the 2002, 2004 and 2006 Results from the Illinois Youth Survey*, March 2007: <http://www.illinoisyouthsurvey.org/results/index.html>
- ²³ Ibid.
- ²⁴ Ibid.
- ²⁵ Ibid.
- ²⁶ Illinois State Police, *Crime in Illinois, 2006*: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/crime/cii2006.cfm>
- ²⁷ Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Factsheet: <http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/illinois.html>
- ²⁸ Ibid.
- ²⁹ Ibid.
- ³⁰ Ibid.
- ³¹ Ibid.
- ³² Bureau of Justice Statistics, Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics Online: <http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/>
- ³³ Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, April 16, 2007: http://spa.american.edu/justice/publications/us_drugcourts.pdf
- ³⁴ U.S. Sentencing Commission, FY 2006 Federal Sentencing Statistics, Illinois: <http://www.ussc.gov/JUDPACK/2006/il06.pdf>
- ³⁵ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners in 2006*, December 2007: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p06.pdf>
- ³⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2006*, December 2007: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ppus06.pdf>
- ³⁷ Illinois Department of Corrections, 2005 Department Data, June 30, 2005: http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/reports/departments_data/Department%20Data%202005.pdf
- ³⁸ El Paso Intelligence Center, National Clandestine Laboratory Seizure System, Persons Affected Summary, Calendar Year 2005
- ³⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, State Treatment Data, Illinois, 2006: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/IL06.htm>
- ⁴⁰ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, State Treatment Data, Illinois, 2005: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/IL05.htm>
- ⁴¹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, State Treatment Data, Illinois, 2004: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/IL04.htm>
- ⁴² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2004-2005 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health*, February 2007: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k5/State/toc.htm>

This Drug Indicator Profile was prepared by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by ONDCP and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this Profile or other drug issues, please contact:

ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse
PO Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000

Web Site: <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov>

Email Form: <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/utilities/contact.html>

