

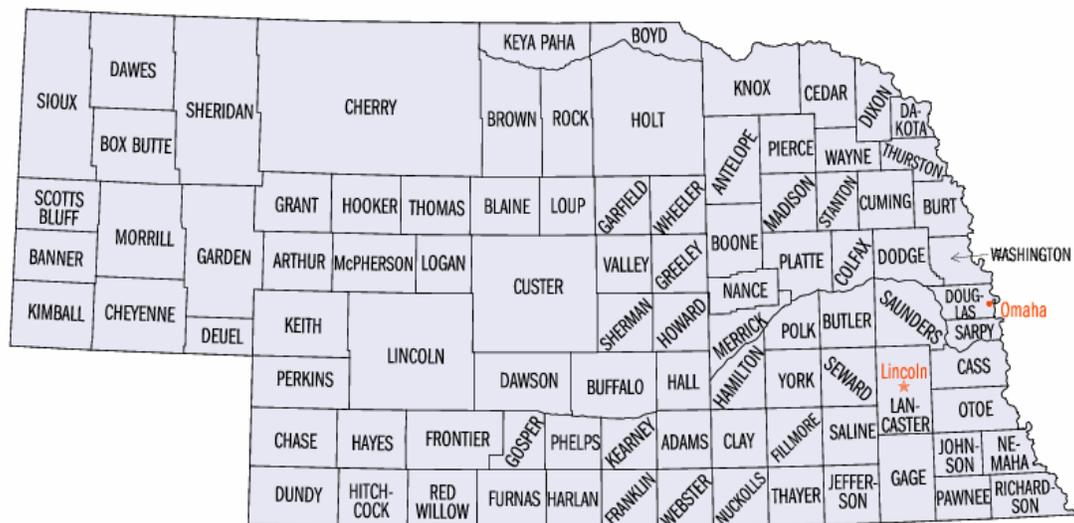
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of Nebraska

Profile of Drug Indicators

April 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.

Nebraska

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

Demographics

- Population: 1,739,291 (July 2003 estimate);¹ 1,677,978 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 86.93% white; 3.66% black/African American; 0.27% American Indian/Alaska Native; 1.46% Asian; 0.0% Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander; 0.13% other race; 1.49% two or more races; 6.05% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³

Politics

- Governor: Mike Johanns⁴
- Lt. Governor: Dave Heineman⁵
- Attorney General: Jon Bruning⁶
- Secretary of State: John Gale⁷
- U.S. Senate: Chuck Hagel (R), Ben Nelson (D)⁸
- U.S. House of Representatives: Doug Bereuter (R), Lee Terry (R), Tom Osborne (R)⁹
- Capital: Lincoln¹⁰

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)¹¹
Designated in 1996, the Midwest HIDTA consists of counties in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. In Nebraska, the Midwest HIDTA is responsible for the following counties: Dakota, Dawson, Douglas, Hall, Lancaster, Sarpy, Madison, Dodge, Gage, Jefferson, Platte, and Scott's Bluff.

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Nebraska:¹²
 - FY 2003: No grantees
 - FY 2002: \$100,000 to the Substance Abuse Action Team Prevention Coalition, Lincoln
 - FY 2001: \$83,965 to the Nebraska Community Foundation/People United for Families, Nebraska City
 - FY 2000: No grantees
 - FY 1999: \$96,016 to Westside Community Schools, Omaha
- Office for Weed and Seed¹³
North Side and South Side Omaha are the only sites in Nebraska that have been officially recognized as a Federal Weed and Seed sites.
- FY 2003/2004 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Formula and Discretionary Grant summary for Nebraska:¹⁴
 - Formula Funding: \$10,777,089
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$7,961,106

- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant - \$2,105,983
 - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - \$300,000
 - Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant - \$410,000
- Discretionary Funding: \$6,398,608
 - Mental Health - \$2,349,875
 - Substance Prevention - \$2,948,733
 - Substance Abuse Treatment - \$1,100,000
- Total Mental Health Funds: \$5,165,858
- Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$12,009,839
- Total Funds for Nebraska: \$17,175,697
- FY 2004 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to Nebraska: \$3,620,958¹⁵
- There were no grants received for the FY 2003 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant Program in Nebraska.¹⁶
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant amount received in Nebraska:¹⁷
 - \$499,550 to the Central Nebraska Drug Court, Grand Island (for drug court implementation)
- FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to Nebraska:
 - FY 1996: \$153,178¹⁸
 - FY 1997: \$177,120¹⁹
 - FY 1998: \$380,713²⁰
 - FY 1999: \$368,245²¹
 - FY 2000: \$368,588²²
 - FY 2001: \$365,465²³
 - FY 2002: \$414,311²⁴
 - FY 2003: \$383,204²⁵
- FY 2002-2003 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant recipients in Nebraska:
 - FY 2002: \$222,222 awarded to the City of Bellevue²⁶
 - FY 2003: \$300,000 awarded to the Nebraska State Patrol²⁷
- There were no Nebraska recipients of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.²⁸
- FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received in Nebraska:²⁹
 - Community Based (discretionary): 3 awards valued at \$493,573
 - Counter Terrorism (discretionary): 3 awards valued at \$5,006,951
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: 7 awards valued at \$2,270,955
 - formula: 6 awards valued at \$3,429,352
 - Law Enforcement:
 - discretionary: 79 awards valued at \$10,275,869
 - formula: 13 awards valued at \$3,575,146
 - Substance Abuse:
 - discretionary: 4 awards valued at \$1,825,574

- formula: 2 awards valued at \$4,163,784
- Victims:
 - discretionary: 1 awards valued at \$75,000
 - formula: 2 awards valued at \$2,741,000

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 2000, there were 9,995 drug abuse violation arrests in Nebraska.³⁰ This number increased during 2001 to 10,363.³¹ During 2002, there were 11,758 arrests for drug abuse violations in Nebraska.³²

Number of Arrests, Select Offenses, Nebraska, 2000-2002

Offense	2000	2001	2002
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	48	45	42
Forcible rape	152	145	149
Robbery	311	268	332
Aggravated assault	937	807	810
Burglary	1,135	874	953
Larceny/theft	9,620	8,578	9,075
Motor vehicle theft	460	464	490
Arson	145	120	119
Drug abuse violations	9,995	10,363	11,758
Driving under the influence	11,550	10,636	12,855
Liquor laws	11,246	11,319	13,132

- Thefts of anhydrous ammonia increased 500 percent in Nebraska during 2001.³³
- During 2001, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported making 172 arrests for drug violations in Nebraska.³⁴

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, Nebraska, 1997-2001

Year	Arrests
1997	288
1998	145
1999	188
2000	278
2001	172

Drugs

- Cocaine³⁵
Powder cocaine is readily available throughout Nebraska, while crack cocaine is primarily available in specific metropolitan areas in the state. During FY 2003, powder cocaine sold for \$50-\$110 per gram and \$225-\$1,800 per ounce. Purity levels range from 20-97% at the retail level to 90-95% at the wholesale level.
- Heroin³⁶
Abuse and availability of heroin are decreasing in Nebraska. Mexican black tar and brown powdered heroin are available in some areas of the state.

- **Marijuana**
 Marijuana is the most widely available drug in Nebraska. Most of the marijuana available in Nebraska is produced in Mexico, although some is cultivated locally. During 2003, Mexican produced marijuana sold for \$600-\$1,800 per pound.³⁷ In 2000, Nebraska Legislative Bill 273 was passed allowing for the legal production of industrial hemp having no more than 3/10th of one percent THC.³⁸
- **Methamphetamine**
 Methamphetamine is the major drug of concern for law enforcement in Nebraska and is available in almost every city and town in the state. Most of the methamphetamine available in Nebraska is from the southwest border states. However, methamphetamine produced locally is also readily available in many areas.³⁹ During 2003, methamphetamine sold for \$3,500-\$8,000 per pound.⁴⁰
- **Club Drugs**
 The popularity of club drugs including MDMA, GHB, LSD, and psilocybin, are increasing in Nebraska.⁴¹ MDMA usually sells for \$25-30 per pill and LSD usually sells for \$2-\$4 per dose in Nebraska.⁴²
- **Diverted Pharmaceuticals⁴³**
 The abuse of diverted pharmaceuticals, including codeine, diazepam, hydrocodone, methadone, morphine, and oxycodone, are an increasing threat to Nebraska.
- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 42% of Nebraska citizens ages 12 and older felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.⁴⁴

Percent of Citizens Reporting Drug Use, by Age, Nebraska, 2000-2001

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	8.98%	12.43%	2.53%	4.63%
Past month use of marijuana	6.68	10.59	1.96	3.69
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	3.91	4.86	1.25	2.05
Past year cocaine use	1.40	3.81	0.78	1.27
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	39.11	27.47	44.72	41.70

- According to 2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1.16% of Nebraska citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴⁵

Percent of Citizens Reporting Dependence, Nebraska, 2001

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	2.25	3.31	0.60	1.16
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	4.18	5.04	0.83	1.79
Alcohol dependence	2.64	5.76	1.92	2.53
Alcohol dependence or abuse	7.06	18.65	5.35	7.39
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	9.34	21.38	5.70	8.28

Juveniles

- During 2000, there were 1,368 juveniles arrests for drug abuse violations in Nebraska.⁴⁶ This number decreased during 2001 to 1,322.⁴⁷ During 2002, there were 1,242 juvenile arrests for drug abuse violations in Nebraska.⁴⁸

Number of Arrests, Select Offenses, Nebraska, 2000-2002

Offense	2000	2001	2002
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	3	0	4
Forcible rape	22	11	11
Robbery	81	70	85
Aggravated assault	118	106	98
Burglary	419	274	332
Larceny/theft	3,979	3,218	3,561
Motor vehicle theft	208	204	231
Arson	119	80	82
Drug abuse violations	1,368	1,322	1,242
Driving under the influence	398	350	364
Liquor laws	2,510	2,166	2,670

- Approximately 21.1% of 9th graders, 15.3% of 10th graders, 19.1% of 11th graders, and 12.2% of 12th graders surveyed in Nebraska in 2001 reported that they have been offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property within the past year.⁴⁹
- Approximately 35% of Nebraska high school students surveyed in 2001 reported that they have used marijuana at least once during their lifetimes.⁵⁰

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Gender, Nebraska, 2001

	Female	Male	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	33.9%	35.6%	34.7%
Current marijuana use	18.2	18.9	18.5
Lifetime cocaine use	4.8	5.6	5.3
Current cocaine use	1.4	2.7	2.1
Lifetime inhalant use	11.2	10.2	10.7
Current inhalant use	2.2	2.5	2.3
Lifetime heroin use	1.0	1.8	1.4
Lifetime methamphetamine use	5.6	5.7	5.7
Lifetime illegal steroid use	2.1	3.2	2.6
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	0.9	1.4	1.1
Tried marijuana before age 13	4.6	6.9	5.8

- Approximately 41% of Nebraska high school seniors reported using marijuana at least once during their lifetimes.⁵¹

Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, by Grade, Nebraska, 2001

Drug Type and Use	9th	10th	11th	12th
Lifetime marijuana use	26.0%	29.3%	42.5%	40.9%
Current marijuana use	14.5	16.5	24.2	18.7
Lifetime cocaine use	3.7	3.8	6.9	6.3
Current cocaine use	1.6	2.2	2.3	2.0
Lifetime inhalant use	12.6	9.9	12.0	8.0
Current inhalant use	3.9	2.6	1.7	1.1
Lifetime heroin use	1.4	1.4	1.9	0.9
Lifetime methamphetamine use	3.8	3.1	8.4	7.2
Lifetime illegal steroid use	4.1	1.7	2.5	2.2
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	1.4	1.2	1.5	0.4
Tried marijuana before age 13	6.9	5.5	6.1	4.6

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002, there were 4,649 full-time law enforcement employees in Nebraska (3,386 officers and 1,263 civilian employees).⁵²
- Metro Drug Task Force⁵³
The purpose of this task force is to stop illegal drugs and contraband from entering and leaving Nebraska. This task force has made numerous arrests and seizures throughout Nebraska.

Trafficking and Seizures

- Nebraska serves as a transshipment state for Mexican methamphetamine. Interstate 80 provides traffickers with easy west to east access across the state.⁵⁴
- Hispanic trafficking organizations are flooding most Nebraska Hispanic communities with methamphetamine from the southern border region of the United States.⁵⁵
- The trafficking of cocaine is predominantly controlled by Hispanic trafficking organizations and is transported via car, parcel package, and body carriers from Mexico via El Paso, Texas.⁵⁶
- At the wholesale level, Mexican drug organizations control the trafficking of marijuana produced outside of the state. At the retail level, marijuana distribution is controlled by independent dealers, outlaw motorcycle gangs, street gangs, Native American, and Mexican groups.⁵⁷
- Mexican criminal groups distribute marijuana at the wholesale and retail levels in Nebraska. Street gangs also distribute marijuana at the retail level.⁵⁸
- Mexican criminal groups, local independent dealers, and street gangs distribute heroin at the retail level.⁵⁹
- Drug trafficking organizations in Nebraska have been receiving multi-hundred to thousand dosage units of MDMA from Florida and Arizona.⁶⁰
- During full year 2003, the DEA and state and local authorities in Nebraska reported 179 methamphetamine lab incidents to the El Paso Intelligence Center.⁶¹

Number of Methamphetamine Incidents/Seizures, Nebraska, 2003

Type of Seizure	Number
Chemical/glass/equipment	58
Dumpsite	70
Laboratory	51
Total	179

- During 2002, Federal agencies seized more than 12 kilograms of methamphetamine in Nebraska.⁶²

Amount of Drugs Seized by Federal Agencies, Nebraska, 2002

Drug Type	Amount Seized (in kilograms)
Cocaine	2.3
Heroin	0
Methamphetamine	12.4
Marijuana	0.1

- The DEA and State and local authorities seized 213 methamphetamine labs in Nebraska during 2001. In 1996, one methamphetamine lab was reported seized in Nebraska.⁶³

Methamphetamine Labs Seized, Nebraska, 1996-2001

Year	Labs Seized
1996	1
1997	1
1998	10
1999	16
2000	40
2001	213

- In 2002, a total of 4,302 cultivated marijuana plants were eradicated in Nebraska under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁶⁴

Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Nebraska, 2002

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
6	3,225	22	1,077	4,302

Courts

- Drug Courts⁶⁵
As of November 2003, there were 10 drug courts in existence or being planned in Nebraska. Four drug courts have been in existence for more than two years, 4 drug courts were recently implemented, and 2 drug courts were being planned.

- During FY 2001, approximately 60% of the Federally-sentenced defendants in Nebraska had committed drug offenses. The majority of the drug offenses (66.3%) involved methamphetamine.⁶⁶

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Offenses, Nebraska, FY 2001

Drug Type Involved	Offenses	% of Total
Methamphetamine	185	66.3%
Crack cocaine	46	16.5
Marijuana	29	10.4
Powder cocaine	18	6.5
Heroin	1	0.4
Other	0	0

Corrections

- On April 21, 2004, there were 3,974 inmates within Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (DCS) facilities. One year earlier, there were 4,042 inmates.⁶⁷
- During FY 2003, drug offenses were reported as the most serious offense by 27.5% of those admitted to prison.⁶⁸
- During the first quarter of 2004, approximately 1.3% of the Nebraska inmates who were randomly tested for drugs tested positive.⁶⁹ During this same time period, 11.54% of persons on parole in Nebraska testing positive for drug use.⁷⁰

Percent Testing Positive to Random Drug Testing, Nebraska, 2000-1st Quarter 2004

Year	Parole	Prison
2001 average	12.43%	5.07%
2002 average	10.43	2.06
2003 average	10.71	1.6
1 st Quarter average	11.54	1.32

- There were 747 adults on parole in Nebraska on April 21, 2004.⁷¹
- Of the offenders on parole in Nebraska during FY 2003, approximately 35% (187 individuals) of them were drug offenders.⁷²
- Drugs were reported as the reason for parole revocation in 104 of the Nebraska revocation cases in FY 2003.⁷³

Reason for Parole Revocation, Nebraska, FY 2003

Reason	Number	Percent
Drugs	104	46.8%
Alcohol	27	12.2
Both	13	5.9
Neither	78	35.1

- Substance abuse treatment programs available through DCS:⁷⁴
 - Residential Treatment Services: These programs focus on a 12-Step based substance abuse education, recovery, and relapse prevention treatment program in conjunction with an additional emphasis on criminal attitudes and behaviors.
 - Substance Abuse Treatment Outpatient Programs (SATOP): These programs address the needs of inmates during the course of their sentences who, due to the nature of their sentences, or due to the nature of their problems, are not eligible for treatment services in the residential treatment programs.
 - Community Re-Integration: This program helps inmates returning to society by providing common treatment language and the tools that will help them succeed.

Consequences of Use

- From October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003, there were 6 Nebraska methamphetamine laboratory sites reported to the El Paso Intelligence Center in which a child was present.⁷⁵

Characteristics of Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, Nebraska, FY 2003

	Number
Sites with a child affected	18
Sites with a child exposed to toxic chemicals	5
Sites with a child injured	0
Sites with a child killed	0
Sites with a child present	6
Sites with a child residing at the site	4
Number of children placed in protective custody	10

- During 2002, pregnant women used illicit drugs in 288 cases in Nebraska, representing 1.1% of the total births in the state.⁷⁶

Illicit Drugs Used During Pregnancy, Nebraska, 2002

Drug Used	# of Users	% of Total Births
Drug type unknown	20	0.1
Cocaine	42	0.2
Marijuana/LSD/hashish	151	0.6
Salicylates	0	-
Opiates/related narcotics	0	-
Amphetamines/crank/caffeine	35	0.1
Barbiturates	3	0.0
Tranquilizers	0	-
Other	82	0.3
Total illicit users	288*	1.1

* This figure does not equal the number of drugs used due to the indication of multiple drugs listed on some birth certificates.

Treatment

- During 2000, there were 8,547 admissions to substance abuse treatment in Nebraska.⁷⁷ This number increased to 9,063 during 2001.⁷⁸ During 2002, there were 9,364 substance abuse treatment admissions in Nebraska.⁷⁹

Number of Admissions to Treatment, Nebraska, 2000-2002

Drug Type	2000		2001		2002	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol only	3,551	41.5	3,408	37.6	3,263	34.8
Alc. w/ second. drug	1,754	20.5	1,647	18.2	1,572	16.8
Cocaine – smoked	642	7.5	612	6.8	573	6.1
Cocaine – other route	152	1.8	145	1.6	140	1.5
Marijuana	684	8.0	862	9.5	774	8.3
Heroin	12	0.1	11	0.1	13	0.1
Other opiates	47	0.5	71	0.8	6.7	0.7
Hallucinogens	5	0.1	10	0.1	6	0.1
Amphetamines	902	10.6	1,294	14.3	1,485	15.9
Other stimulants	7	0.1	8	0.1	4	0.0
Tranquilizers	6	0.1	9	0.1	13	0.1
Sedatives	13	0.2	19	0.2	13	0.1
Inhalants	1	0.0	1	0.0	3	0.0
Other/none specified	771	9.0	966	10.7	1,438	15.4
Total	8,547	100.0	9,063	100.0	9,364	100.0

- Substance Abuse Treatment Task Force⁸⁰
In 1999, the Nebraska Legislature passed legislation requiring the Governor to create the Substance Abuse Treatment Task Force to examine the adult and juvenile offenders' need for and access to substance abuse treatment. The initial task force report from January 2000 found that:
 - 25-40% of adult arrestees and 65-85% of incarcerated adult offenders needed substance abuse treatment, compared to 7% of the general Nebraska adult population
 - 30-40% of juvenile arrestees and 65-80% of juvenile offenders in youth rehabilitation and treatment programs at Geneva and Kearney facilities needed substance abuse treatment, compared to 5% of the general juvenile population.
 Since the January 2000 report, substantial progress has been made on approximately 66% of the recommendations made by the task force in their report.

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