



NORTH DAKOTA DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

This report reflects significant trends, data, and major issues relating to drugs in the State of North Dakota.

North Dakota-At-A-Glance

- An estimated 6 percent of North Dakota residents were past-month users of illicit drugs; the national average was 8 percent.
- Drug-induced deaths in North Dakota are less than half the national rate.
- Marijuana is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in North Dakota.

Drug Use Trends in North Dakota

Drug Use in North Dakota: The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides national and state-level data on the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs (including non-medical use of prescription drugs) and mental health in the United States. In the most recent Survey, 5.91 percent of North Dakota residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.02 percent. Additionally, 2.28 percent of North Dakota residents reported using an illicit drug other than marijuana in the past month (the national average was 3.58 percent).

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2007–2008 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k8/state/Cover.pdf>

Drug-Induced Deaths: As a direct consequence of drug use, 37 persons died in North Dakota in 2007. This is compared to the number of persons in North Dakota who died from motor vehicle accidents (115) and firearms (57) in the same year. North Dakota drug-induced deaths (5.8 per 100,000 population) were lower than the national rate (12.7 per 100,000).

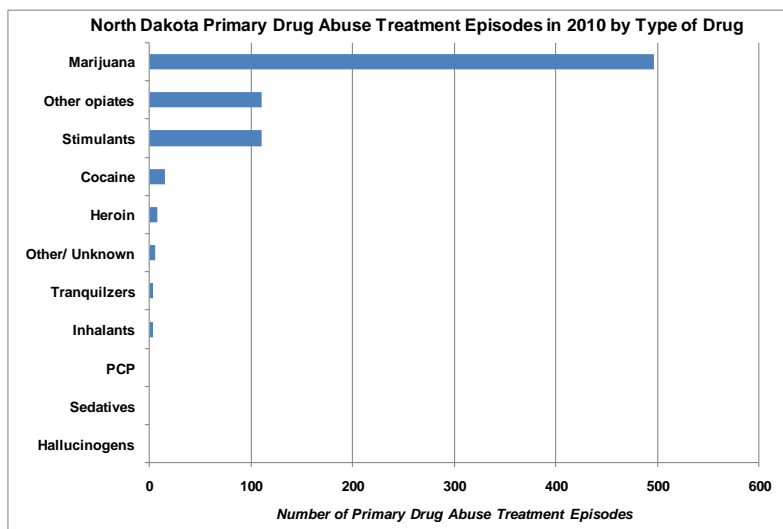
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - National Vital Statistics Reports Volume 58, Number 19 for 2007: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58_19.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf)

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

North Dakota primary treatment

admissions: The graph at right depicts substance abuse primary treatment admissions in North Dakota in 2010. The data show marijuana is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in the state.

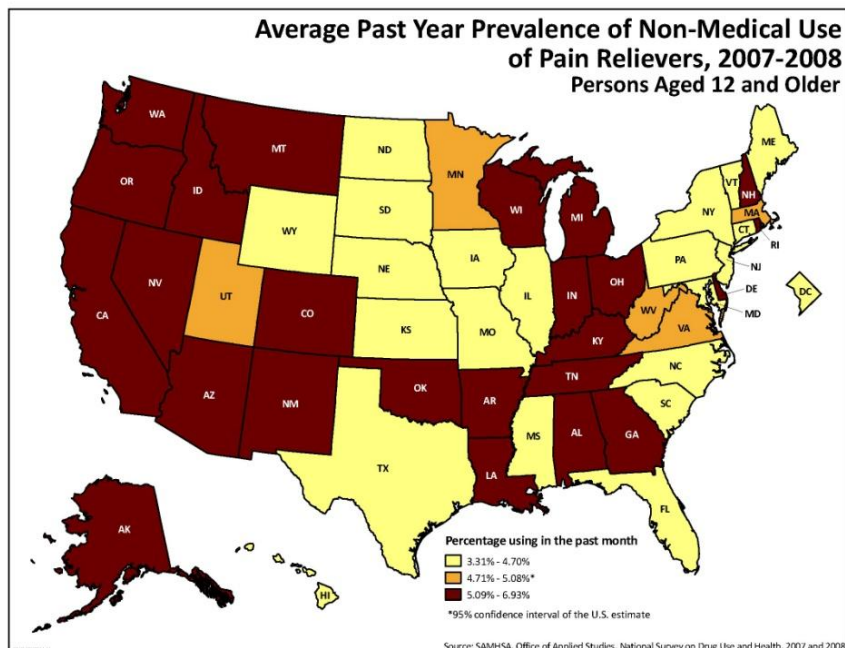
Source: Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions by Primary Substance of Abuse 2009 <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/TN09.htm>



Prescription Drug Abuse

ONDCP's Efforts to Combat Prescription Drug Abuse

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest-growing drug problem in the Nation. The Administration's Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan, entitled, "**Epidemic: Responding to America's Prescription Drug Abuse Crisis**," provides a national framework for reducing prescription drug diversion and abuse by supporting the expansion of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs; recommending secure, more convenient, and environmentally responsible disposal methods to remove expired, unused, or unneeded medications from the home; supporting education for patients and healthcare providers; and reducing the prevalence of pill mills and doctor shopping through enforcement efforts.



State-Level Action: Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)

PDMPs track controlled substances prescribed by authorized practitioners and dispensed by pharmacies. PDMPs serve a number of functions, including assisting in patient care, providing early warning signs of drug epidemics, and detecting drug diversion and insurance fraud. Thirty-five states have operational PDMP programs established by state legislation and funded by a combination of state and Federal funds. An additional 13 states have a prescription drug monitoring program authorized, but not yet operational. Adequate resourcing, increasing the number of states with operational PDMPs, and development of state-to-state information-sharing systems would significantly help reduce prescription drug diversion and abuse.

North Dakota's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program was established in 2005 and became operational in 2008. The program, overseen by the state Board of Pharmacy, collects data on all Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substances (including Tramadol and Carisoprodol) dispensed in North Dakota for patients residing in the state. Data are collected daily from pharmacies and dispensing practitioners.

Source: North Dakota Board of Pharmacy: <http://www.nodakpharmacy.com/PDMP-description.asp>

State-Level Action: Drug Take-Back Programs

A comprehensive plan to address prescription drug abuse must include proper disposal of unused, unneeded, or expired medications. Providing individuals with a secure and convenient way to dispose of controlled substances will help prevent diversion and abuse of these substances and demonstrate sound environmental stewardship. Federal rulemaking is underway and will further enhance the viability and scope of state and community take-back programs. In the meantime, states are encouraged to work with the DEA to conduct additional take-back events and educate the public about safe and effective drug return and disposal.

Drugged Driving

ONDCP Action on Drugged Driving

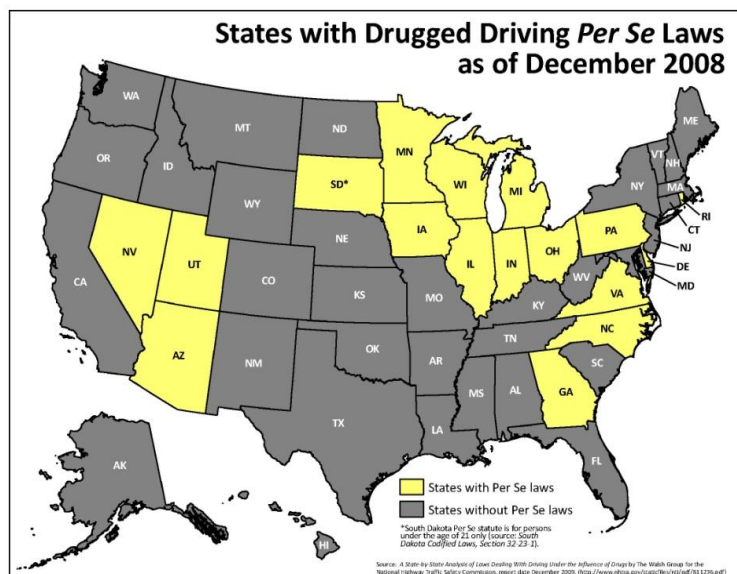
In 2007, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illicit drugs. According to recent Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) data, one in three motor vehicle fatalities (33 percent) with known drug test results tested positive for drugs in 2009. Recognizing this growing problem, ONDCP is working to raise awareness of the dangers of drugged driving, provide increased training to law enforcement in identifying drugged drivers, and encourage states to consider *Per Se* laws to facilitate effective enforcement and prosecution of those who drive with drugs in their systems.

State-Level Action: Enacting *Per Se* Standards for Impairment

Although all 50 states have laws against drugged driving, law enforcement often lacks adequate tools to enforce and prosecute drugged driving. ONDCP encourages states to consider *Per Se* standards for impairment that make it illegal to drive a vehicle after taking illegal drugs. This is the same standard used successfully for 12 million commercial drivers in the United States over the past two decades. *Per Se* standards have been adopted in 16 states.

North Dakota does not currently have a *Per Se* standard. However, under Section 39-08-01 of North Dakota law, a person may not drive or be in

actual physical control of a vehicle on a public roadway if the person “is under the influence of any drug or substance or combination of substances to a degree which renders that person incapable of safely driving.” Legal entitlement to use the drug is not a defense “unless the drug was used only as directed or cautioned by an attending physician or other practitioner who legally prescribed or dispensed the drug to the Defendant.”



ONDCP Support for Community-Based Prevention

The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Program

Recognizing that local problems require local solutions, Drug Free Communities (DFC) organizations mobilize communities to prevent youth drug use by creating local data-driven strategies to reduce drug use in the community. ONDCP works to foster the growth of new coalitions and support existing coalitions through the DFC grants. In FY 2011, the following North Dakota coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- Community Action Partnership

Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy
http://www.ondc.gov/dfc/grantee_map.html

National Anti-Drug Media Campaign

ONDCP's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign provides consistent and credible messages (including in Native American and Alaska Native communities) to young people about drug use and its consequences. *Above the Influence*, a major component of the Campaign, informs and inspires youth to reject illicit drugs and drinking via a mix of national and local advertising vehicles. The Campaign, in close partnership with local community-based, youth-serving organizations, also conducts teen-targeted *Above the Influence* activities to assist local groups with youth drug prevention work in their respective communities..

ONDCP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) County Info

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program enhances and coordinates drug control efforts among local, state, and Federal law enforcement agencies. In designated HIDTA counties, the program provides agencies with coordination, equipment, technology, and additional resources to combat drug trafficking and its harmful consequences in critical regions of the United States.

HIDTA Counties in North Dakota

North Dakota (Midwest HIDTA): Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, Morton, Ramsey, Richland, Walsh, and Ward counties.

Projects and task forces:

- *DHE-North Dakota Interdiction:* operational support for highway interdiction activities on pre-identified trafficking routes.
- *Metro Area Narcotics Task Force:* targets manufacturing, importation, and distribution organizations operating in Bismarck and other parts of North Dakota.
- *Grand Forks County Task Force:* targets drug trafficking and violent crime.
- *Fargo DEA Task Force:* serves as a focal point of enforcement efforts in southeast North Dakota.
- *Special Assistant United States Attorney:* enhances the resources of North Dakota United States Attorney's Office to aggressively prosecute narcotics trafficking cases at the Federal level, and to cross-designate state prosecutors when appropriate.

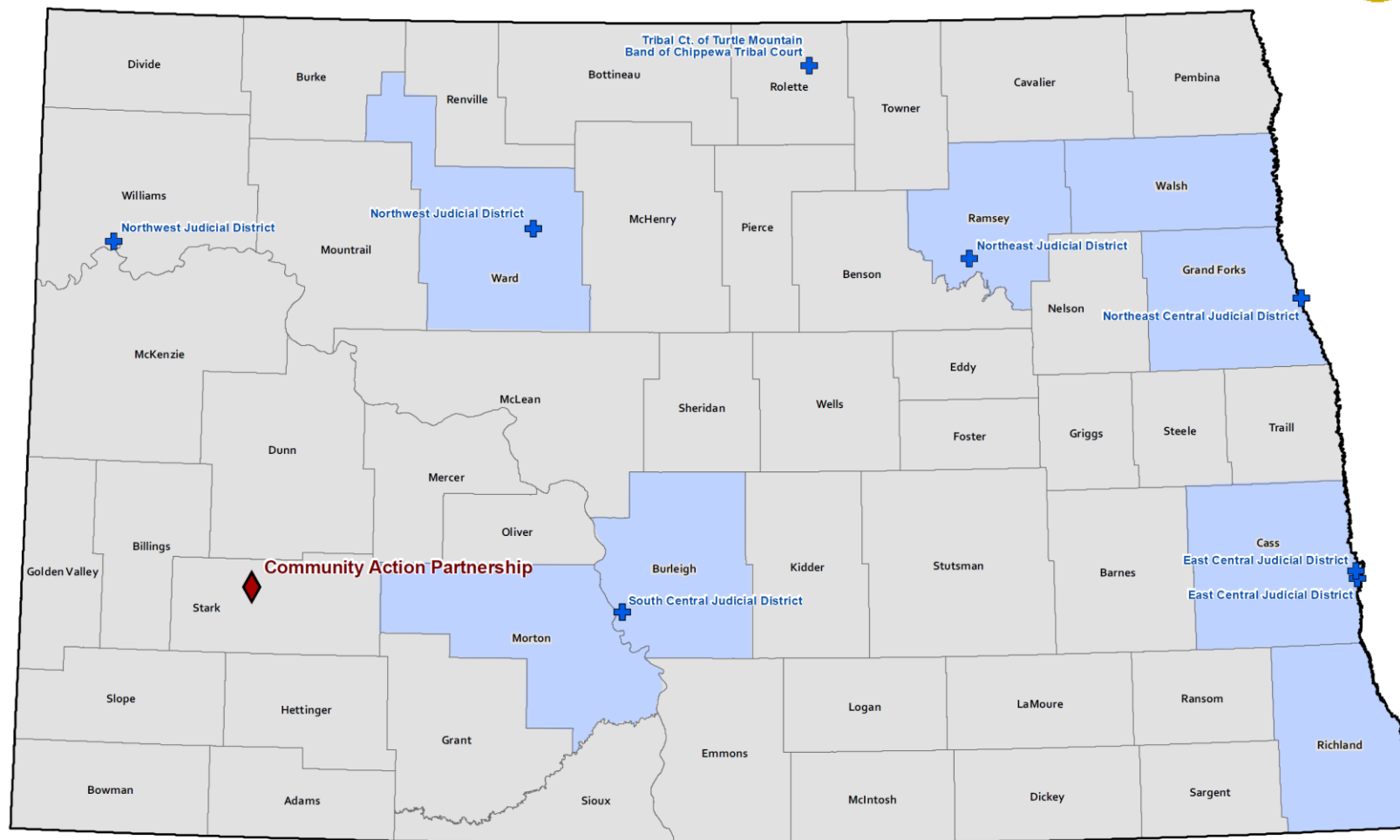
Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of North Dakota

The Federal Government awards competitive grants to help states in their efforts to reduce drug use and its harmful consequences. In FY 2010, direct support was provided to state and local governments, schools, and law enforcement organizations in your state for this purpose. Some Federal grant programs are dedicated to reducing drug use and its harmful consequences while others can be used for reducing drug use or for other purposes. In FY 2010, your State received support under the grant programs shown below.

Federal Grant Awards		2010
Department of Education		
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities_National Programs		371,791
Grants For Coalitions To Prevent And Reduce Alcohol Abuse At Institutions Of Higher Education		371,791
Department of Health and Human Services		
Administration for Children and Families		808,012
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		808,012
National Institutes of Health		419,717
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs		419,717
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		9,126,569
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse		5,500,894
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)		300,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services_Projects of Regional and National Significance		3,325,675
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development		374,448
Shelter Plus Care		374,448
Department of Justice		
Office of Justice Programs		5,416,020
Congressionally Recommended Awards		700,000
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program		200,000
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program		1,067,262
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		356,400
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants		295,500
Juvenile Mentoring Program		473,218
National Institute of Justice Research Evaluation and Development Project Grants		1,159,843
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners		136,153
Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative		251,712
Tribal Youth Program		775,932
Executive Office of the President		
Office of National Drug Control Policy		601,592
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program		601,592
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		125,000
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants		125,000
Grand Total		17,243,149

Note: Report as of 11/30/2010. FY 2009 includes additional grant awards under the Recovery Act. The Federal, State and Local Shares of Medicaid and the Federal Medicare Programs are not included above. File updated 06/07/2011.

Office of National Drug Control Policy Programs in North Dakota with Drug Court Locations



- ◆ Drug Free Communities program grantees
- + Drug Court locations
- Midwest HIDTA counties
- County Boundaries

Source: National Drug Court Institute and ONDCP, September 2011

ONDCP002874

