



DELAWARE DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

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

Delaware At-a-Glance:

- In 2007-2008, Delaware was one of the top ten states for rates in several drug-use categories: past-month illicit drug use among young adults age 18-25; past-month marijuana use among young adults age 18-25; past-month use of illicit drugs other than marijuana among young adults age 18-25; and past-year cocaine use among persons age 12 or older.
Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) 2007-2008.
- The drug-induced death rate in Delaware is below the national average.
- “Decide Your Time” is an innovative state-run criminal justice program that employs swift, certain, but modest sanctions to people on probation. Similar projects, such as Project HOPE in Hawaii, have shown that such programs are an effective method for ensuring probationers’ compliance with the terms of their probation.

Drug Use Trends in Delaware

Drug Use in Delaware: 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, 9.14 percent of Delaware residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.02 percent. Additionally, 4.2 percent of Delaware 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 Survey on Drug Use and Health: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k8state/Cover.pdf>

Drug-Induced Deaths: As a direct consequence of drug use, 102 persons died in Delaware in 2007. This is compared to the number of persons in Delaware who died from motor vehicle accidents (118) and firearms (79) in the same year. Delaware drug-induced deaths (11.8 per 100,000 population) were lower than the national rate (12.7 per 100,000).

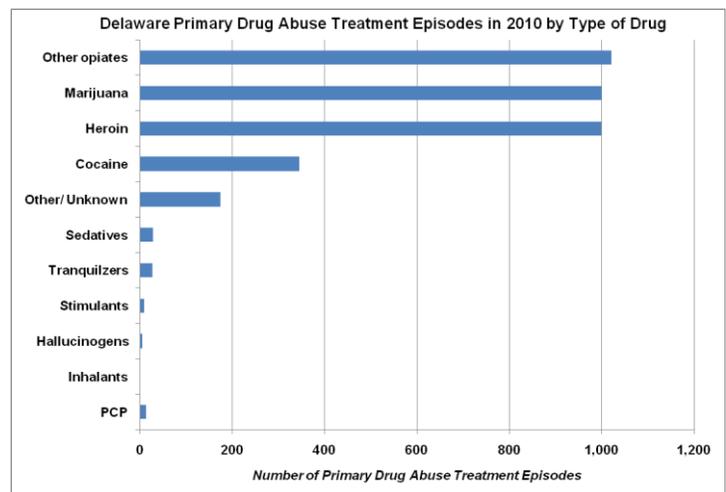
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - National Vital Statistics Reports Volume 58, Number 19 for 2007: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58_19.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf)

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

Delaware Primary Substance Abuse Treatment

Admissions: The graph at right depicts substance abuse primary treatment admissions in Delaware in 2010. The data show that “other opiates,” primarily prescription drugs, are the most commonly cited drugs among primary drug treatment admissions in the state, followed closely by marijuana and heroin.

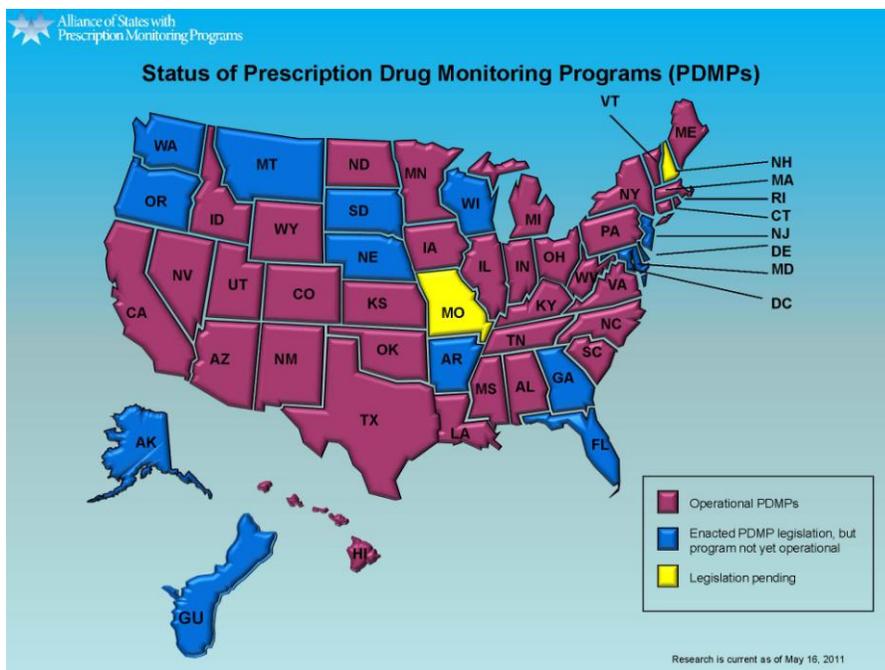
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm>



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.

In July 2010, Delaware Governor Jack Markell signed legislation authorizing the Delaware Office of Controlled Substances to establish a database of prescription information from state pharmacies to limit "doctor shopping" and prescription drug abuse. When operational, the **Delaware Prescription Drug Monitoring Program** will monitor Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substances. Patient information will be available to prescribers, pharmacists, law enforcement, licensing boards, and patients.

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.

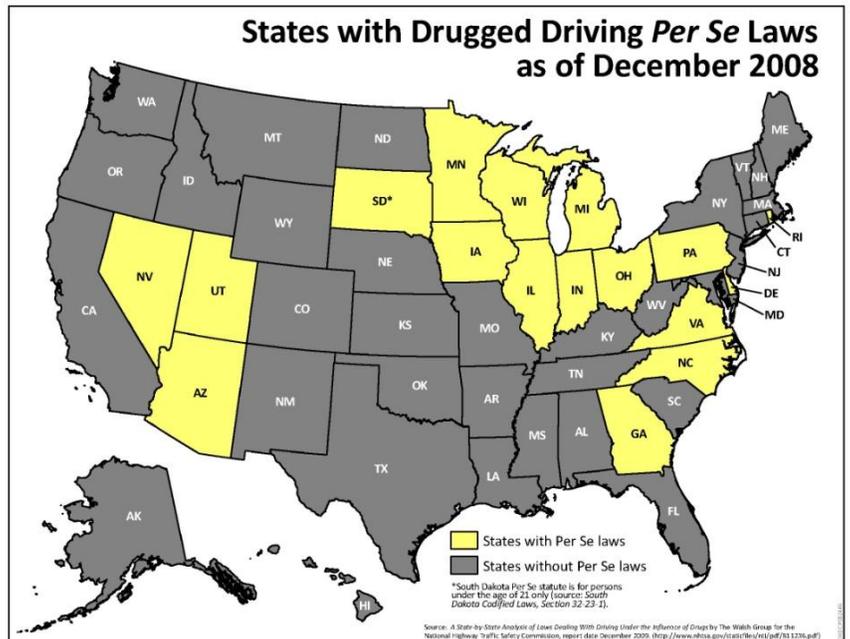
State-Level Action: Enacting *Per Se* Standards for Impairment

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 develop and implement *Per Se* standards 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 17 states.

Delaware has a *Per Se* standard for drugged driving. Delaware state law prohibits driving a vehicle when (a) the person is under the influence of any drug;

or (a) (2) when the person's blood contains, within 4 hours of driving, any amount of an illicit or recreational drug that is the result of the unlawful use or consumption of such illicit or recreational drug. "While under the influence" shall mean that the person is, because of alcohol or drugs or a combination of both, less able than the person would ordinarily have been, either mentally or physically, to exercise clear judgment, sufficient physical control, or due care in the driving of a vehicle. Refusal to submit to a drug test is admissible in civil and criminal cases.

Source: *A State-by-State Analysis of Laws Dealing With Driving Under the Influence of Drugs*, by the Walsh Group for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



ONDCP Support for Community-Based Prevention

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.

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

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		345,909
Alcohol Abuse Reduction Grants		220,909
Building State And Local Leadership Capacity for Preventing Youth Substance Use and Violence		125,000
Department of Health and Human Services		
Administration for Children and Families		941,923
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		941,923
National Institutes of Health		3,771,913
Discovery and Applied Research for Technological Innovations to Improve Human Health		275,400
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs		3,496,513
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		12,346,151
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse		6,744,716
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)		300,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services_Projects of Regional and National Significance		5,301,435
Department of Justice		
Office of Justice Programs		6,655,942
Community Capacity Development Office		157,000
Congressionally Recommended Awards		2,000,000
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program		200,000
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program		2,509,872
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		356,400
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants		323,900
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners		177,310
Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative		931,460
Executive Office of the President		
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		100,000
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants		100,000
Grand Total		24,161,838

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.