



FLORIDA DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

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

Florida At-a-Glance:

- Approximately 8 percent of Florida residents reported past-month use of illicit drugs; the national average was 8 percent.
- The rate of drug-induced deaths in Florida is higher than the national average.
- The number of meth lab seizure incidents in Florida increased 148%, from 128 incidents in 2007 to 318 incidents in 2009, according to data from the El Paso Intelligence Center's National Seizure System (EPIC-NSS).

Drug Use Trends in Florida

Drug Use in Florida: 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, 7.8 percent of Florida residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.02 percent. Additionally, 3.5 percent of Florida 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, 2,936 persons died in Florida in 2007. This is compared to the number of persons in Florida who died from motor vehicle accidents (3,329) and firearms (2,272) in the same year. Florida drug-induced deaths (16.1 per 100,000 population) exceeded the national rate (12.7 per 100,000 population).

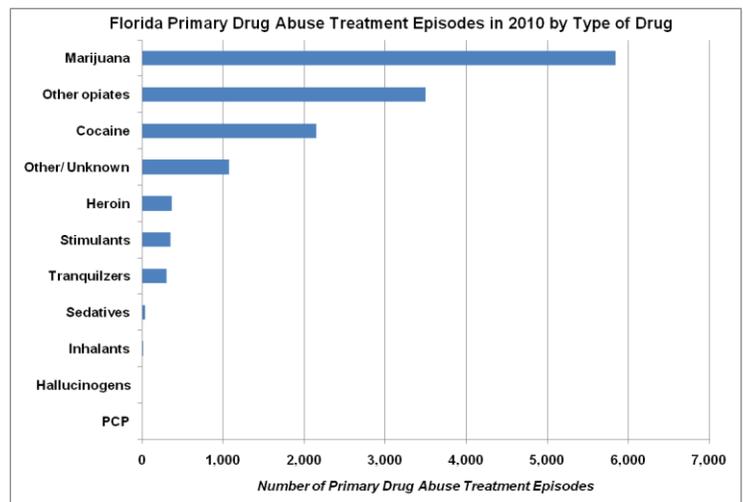
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - National Vital Statistics Reports Volume 58, Number 19 for 2007: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

Florida primary treatment admissions:

The graph at right depicts substance abuse primary treatment admissions in Florida in 2010. The data show marijuana is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in Florida, followed by other opiates (including prescription drugs).

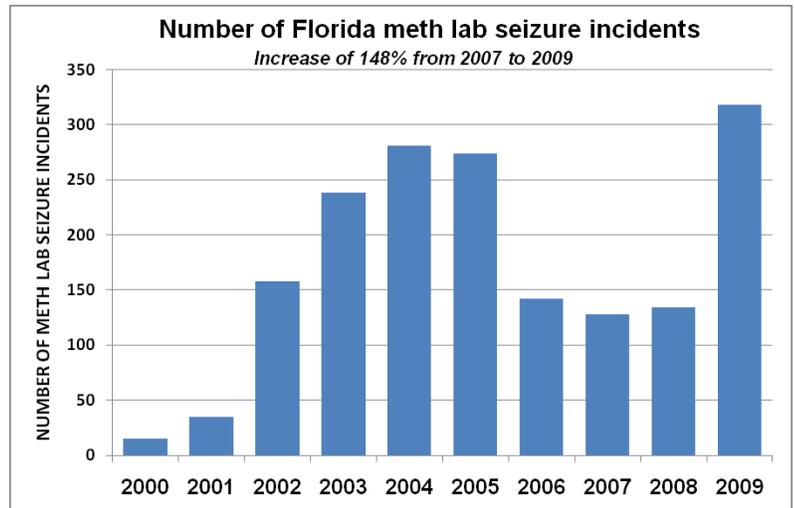
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration : <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm>



Methamphetamine Lab Seizure Data

Methamphetamine Seizures: Nationwide, methamphetamine lab seizures declined drastically following the 2005 Federal Combating Methamphetamine Epidemic Act (CMEA) and similar state laws to control the sale of pseudoephedrine (PSE). Recently, the number of meth labs seized has risen due to “smurfing,” which is the bulk purchase of PSE for non-therapeutic reasons, and due to smaller, more mobile labs. Nationwide, meth lab seizures rose 76% from 2007 to 2009. Meth lab seizures in Florida have exceeded this overall trend, rising 148% from 2007 to 2009.

Source: EPIC, NSS, extracted 11/28/2010.



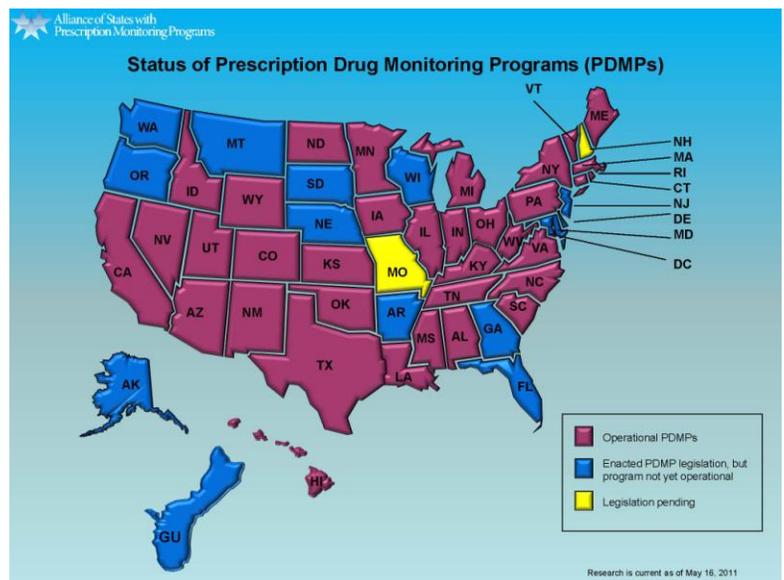
Example of State-Level Action: Return pseudoephedrine to prescription-drug status

Facing a steep increase in meth lab incidents, the state of Oregon returned medicines containing PSE to prescription-drug status in 2006. Several years later, the results are promising, with meth lab incidents declining from a high of 467 in 2004 (prior to enactment of the bill) to 12 in 2009 and Oregon officials reporting a virtual “eradication” of smurfing and meth labs. Experiencing a similar rise in meth lab production and trafficking, Mississippi enacted similar legislation, which took effect on July 1, 2010. Mississippi reports that after six months, there has been a nearly 70 percent reduction in meth-related cases statewide.

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.

Florida's authorized, but not yet operational, PDMP is the **Electronic-Florida Online Reporting of Controlled Substances Evaluation (E-FORCSE)** program. It was created by the 2009 legislature to encourage safer prescribing of controlled substances and to reduce drug abuse and diversion within the state. E-FORCSE will work with a selected contractor to develop a database that will collect and store prescribing and dispensing data for controlled substances in Schedules II, III, and IV. The purpose of the PDMP is to provide information to help guide healthcare practitioners in prescribing and dispensing these highly abused prescription drugs.

Source: Florida Department of Health, Electronic-Florida Online Reporting of Controlled Substances Evaluation program: <http://www.e-force.com/home.html>

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

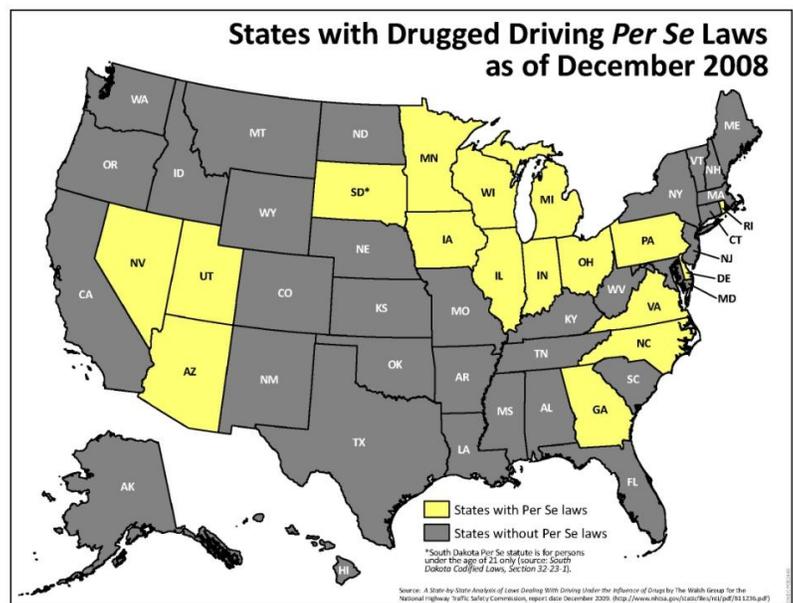
In 2007, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illicit drugs. According to recent Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) data, one in three motor vehicle fatalities (33 percent) with known drug test results tested 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 17 states.

Florida does not currently have a *Per Se* standard, but Florida State law (*Florida Statutes Annotated Section 316.193*) stipulates that

“A person is guilty of the offense of driving under the



influence and is subject to punishment as provided in subsection (2) if the person is driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle within this state and... (a) The person is under the influence of ... any chemical substance... or any controlled substance..., when affected to the extent that the person's normal faculties are impaired." Blood and urine testing occurs after arrest or upon medical treatment for crash. Testing is required in cases where death or serious injury has occurred.

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, December 2009.

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 Florida coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention-Pasco County
- Charlotte Alliance for a Safe and Drug Free Community
- Drug Free Charlotte County
- Drug Free Hendry County
- Drug Free Highland
- Hernando City Community
- Informed Families South Miami Drug-Free Coalition
- LiveFree! Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Pinellas County
- Madison Co. Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition
- Manatee County Substance Abuse Coalition
- Nassau Alcohol, Crime, And Drug Abatement Coalition
- One Voice For Volusia
- Orange County Coalition for a Drug Free Community
- PACT Prevention Coalition (St. Augustine)
- Palm Beach County Substance Abuse Coalition
- Partners for a Substance Free Citrus, Inc.
- Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition
- Safe Climate Coalition of Lake County, Inc.
- Seminole Prevention Coalition, Inc.
- Stand Up Polk
- The Alliance for Substance Abuse and Pregnancy Prevention
- The Hamilton County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Partnership
- The Village South
- Urban Partnership Drug-Free Communities Coalition

Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy
http://www.ondcp.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

Central Florida HIDTA: Brevard, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Osceola, Orange, Seminole, and Volusia counties.

North Florida HIDTA: Alachua, Baker, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Flagler, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns counties.

South Florida HIDTA: Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach counties.

- Diverted pharmaceuticals are supplied in significant quantities to other regions of the United States by doctors, pharmacists, and pain management clinics based in Florida using fraudulent methods. South Florida HIDTA Task Force operations are successfully targeting these organizations, and long-term undercover operations are beginning to yield significant results with arrests of high level multiple clinic owners and a large number of corrupt physicians.
- Investigations targeting the diversion of prescription drugs and illicit pain clinics, and parcel interdiction operations are current Central Florida HIDTA focal points.
- Potent indoor marijuana cultivation is a major drug threat in Florida. The three Florida HIDTAs provide coordination for multi-agency, state-wide task force operations that have been highly successful in contributing to the eradication of hundreds of grow sites with thousands of indoor hydroponic marijuana plants, firearms seizures, and numerous arrests, indictments, and prosecutions of major traffickers.

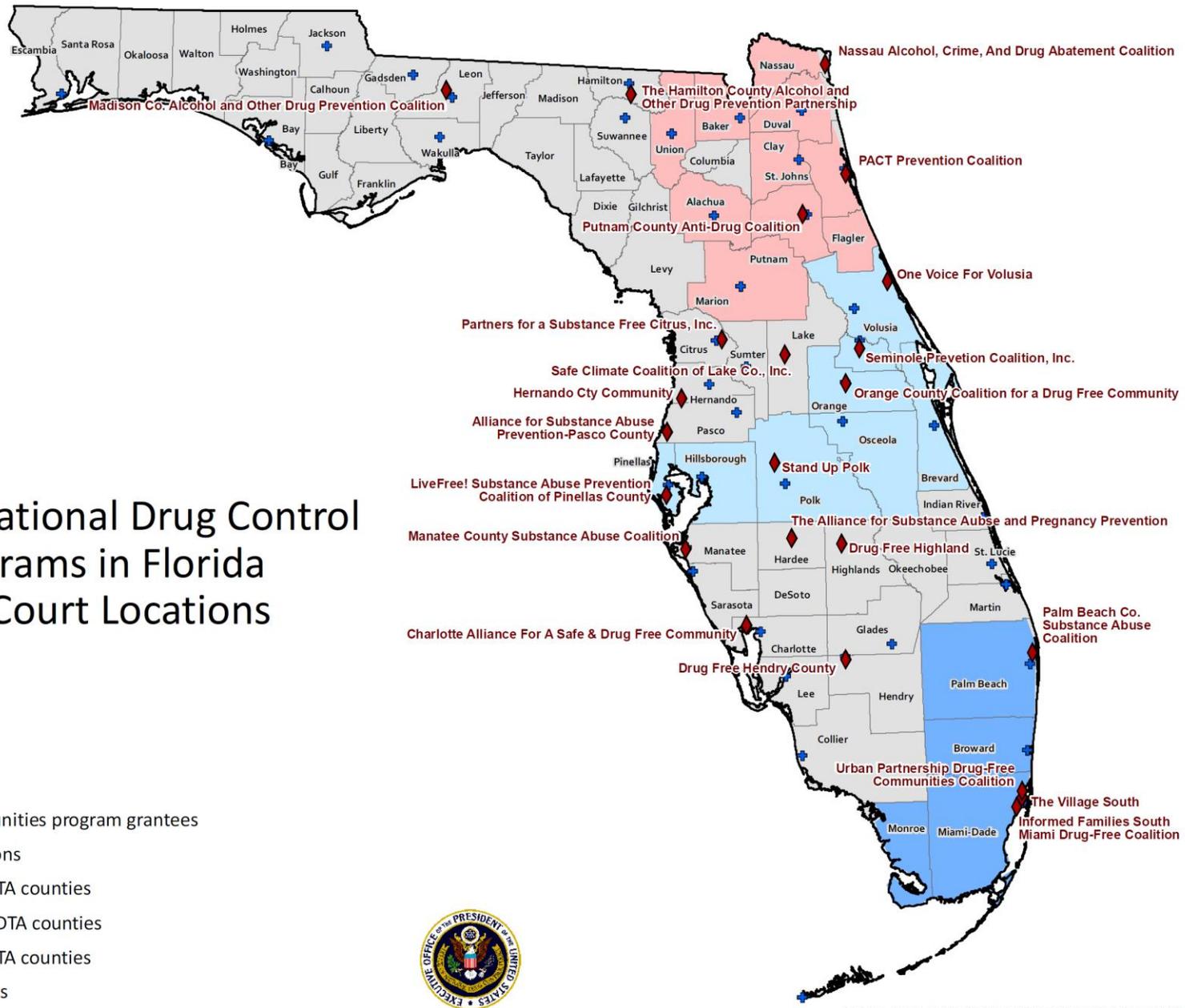
Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of Florida

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		10,586,304
Alcohol Abuse Reduction Grants		1,664,168
Building State And Local Leadership Capacity for Preventing Youth Substance Use and Violence		242,168
Competition To Prevent High-Risk Drinking & Violent Behavior Among College Students		134,212
Drug And Alcohol Prevention Models On College Campuses		185,278
Grants For Coalitions To Prevent And Reduce Alcohol Abuse At Institutions Of Higher Education		750,000
Grants For School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs		362,075
Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grants		7,248,403
Department of Health and Human Services		
Administration for Children and Families		18,781,683
Enhance the Safety of Children Affected by Parental Methamphetamine or Other Substance Abuse		500,000
Mentoring Children of Prisoners		2,816,250
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		15,465,433
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention		4,119,117
Healthy Start Initiative		200,000
HIV Prevention Activities_Non-Governmental Organization Based		3,919,117
Health Resources and Services Administration		5,803,659
Healthy Start Initiative		5,803,659
National Institutes of Health		21,931,021
Discovery and Applied Research for Technological Innovations to Improve Human Health		4,034,675
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs		17,896,346
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		144,606,131
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse		100,688,583
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)		4,081,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services_Projects of Regional and National Significance		36,487,283
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services-Access to Recovery		3,349,265
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development		8,650,296
Shelter Plus Care		8,650,296
Assistant Secretary for Housing--Federal Housing Commissioner		1,407,001
Shelter Plus Care		1,407,001
Department of Justice		
Office of Justice Programs		90,933,653
Community Capacity Development Office		1,255,265
Congressionally Recommended Awards		7,000,000
Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program		200,000
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program		1,018,659
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program		43,137,776
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		356,400
Gang Resistance Education and Training		2,600,000
Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program		800,000
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants		2,031,700
Juvenile Mentoring Program		5,496,491
National Institute of Justice Research Evaluation and Development Project Grants		14,274,151
Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program		520,684
Regional Information Sharing Systems		6,698,530
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners		1,735,790
Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative		3,483,306
Youth Gang Prevention		324,901
Department of Labor		
Employment and Training Administration		500,000
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders		500,000
Executive Office of the President		
Office of National Drug Control Policy		27,864,320
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program		27,864,320
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		2,945,844
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants		2,945,844
Grand Total		338,129,029

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 Florida with Drug Court Locations



- ◆ Drug Free Communities program grantees
- ⊕ Drug Court locations
- North Florida HIDTA counties
- Central Florida HIDTA counties
- South Florida HIDTA counties
- County Boundaries



Source: National Drug Court Institute and ONDCP, October 2011