



UTAH DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

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

Utah At-a-Glance:

- Approximately 6 percent of Utah residents reported past-month use of illicit drugs; the national average was 8 percent.
- The rate of drug-induced deaths in Utah is higher than the national average.
- Stimulants (including methamphetamine) are the most commonly cited drugs among primary drug treatment admissions in Utah.
- Utah has a *Per Se* standard for drugged driving.

Drug Use Trends in Utah

Drug Use in Utah: 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, 6.24 percent of Utah residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.02 percent. Additionally, 3.12 percent of Utah 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, 546 persons died in Utah in 2007. This is more than the number of persons in Utah who died from motor vehicle accidents (320) and firearms (253) in the same year. Utah drug-induced deaths (20.6 per 100,000 population) exceeded the national rate (12.7 per 100,000).

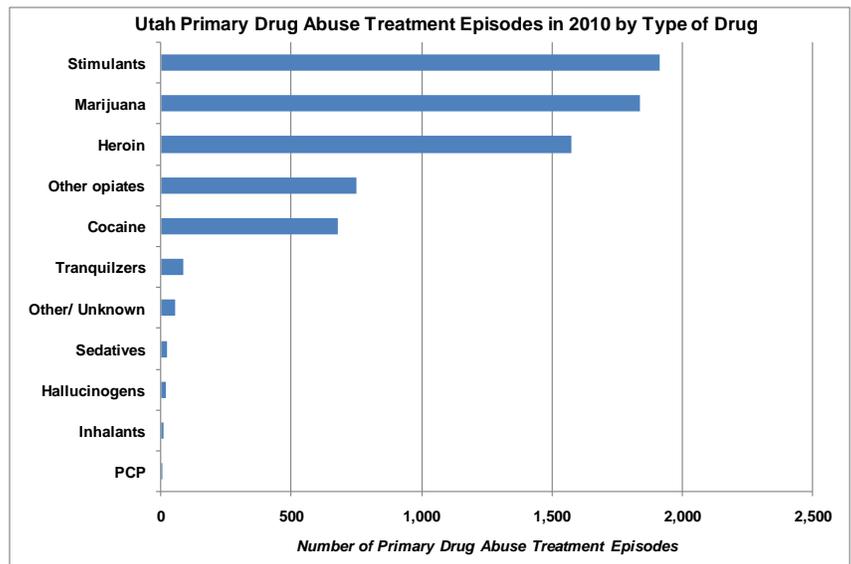
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - National Vital Statistics Reports Volume 58, Number 19 for 2007: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

Utah Primary Treatment Admissions:

The graph at right depicts substance abuse primary treatment admissions in Utah in 2010. The data show that stimulants (including methamphetamine), followed by marijuana and heroin, are the most commonly cited drugs among primary drug treatment admissions in Utah.

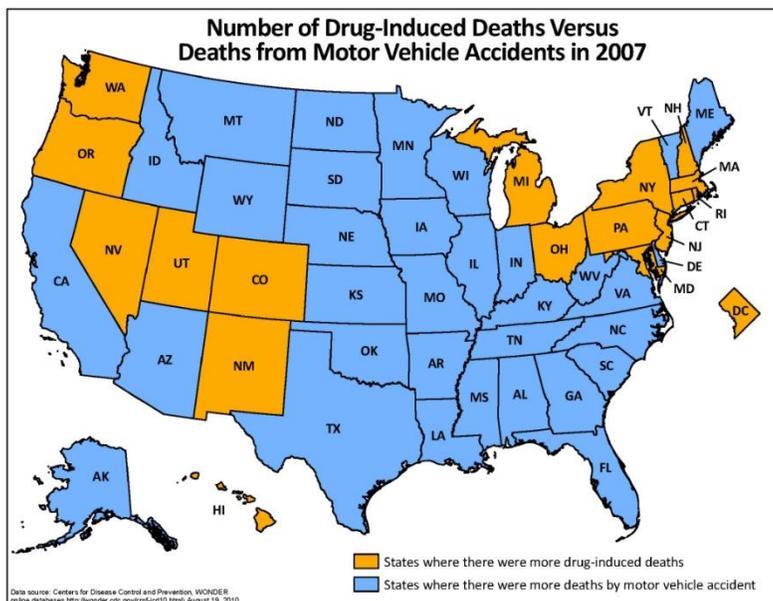
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm>



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.

The **Utah Controlled Substance Database Program** became operational in 1996-97 under the statute Title 58, Chapter 37 § 7.5. & § 7.7, which was enacted in 1995. The Program, which falls under the Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, Utah Department of Commerce, monitors controlled substances in Schedules II, III, IV, and V. Data are collected weekly. Nearly 5 million prescription records were collected from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009.

Source: Alliance of States with Prescription Monitoring Programs: <http://www.pmpalliance.org/content/utah-state-profile>

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

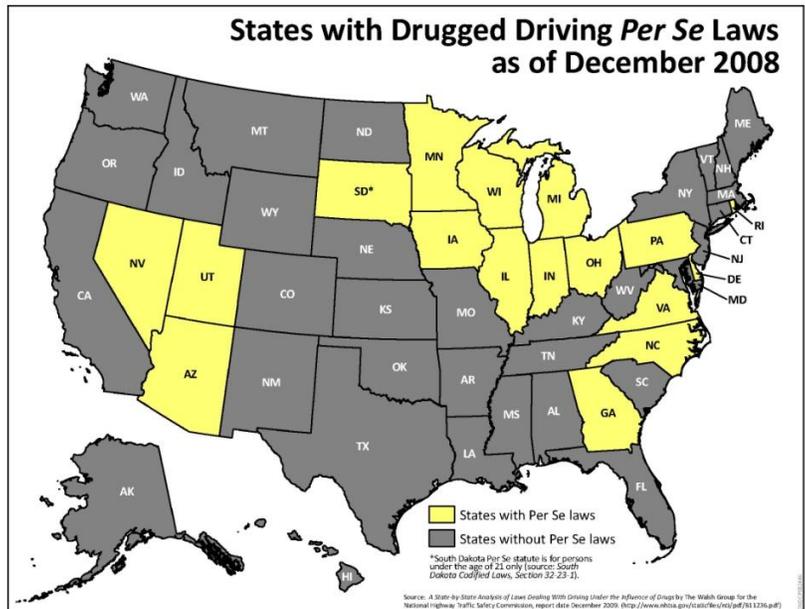
In 2007, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illicit drugs. According to recent Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) data, one in three motor vehicle fatalities (33 percent) with known drug test results tested 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 during the past two decades. *Per Se* standards have been adopted in seventeen states.

Utah has a *Per Se* standard. According to Title 41-6a-517, a person driving with any measurable controlled substance in the body can be arrested without warrant. A person may not operate or be in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within Utah if the person has any measurable controlled substance or metabolite of a controlled substance in the person's body

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 those in Native American and Alaska Native communities) to young people about drug abuse 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.

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 Utah coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- Northern Utah Substance Abuse Prevention Team
- Safety Solutions Coalition (Cedar City)
- Salt Lake City Mayor's Coalition
- South Salt Lake Coalition for Drug Free Youth
- The Substance Misuse and Abuse Reduction Team (SMART)

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

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program

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.

Rocky Mountain HIDTA

Counties: Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, Utah, Washington, and Weber.

The Rocky Mountain HIDTA operates out of Denver, Colorado, and encompasses 34 counties in four states: Utah, Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming. The HIDTA provides funding, an information sharing system, training and coordination for an increased emphasis on criminal interdiction by the Utah State Patrol, and investigative follow-up by allied agencies in an “all crimes” approach.

The HIDTA region’s extensive interstate highways link major drug sources in Mexico and Canada to major US domestic drug markets. Prescription drug abuse is a significant problem in Utah, mostly in Salt Lake City, which has one of the highest prescription drug abuse rates in the nation. Outdoor cannabis cultivation is widespread, most notably on public lands in Utah and Colorado where Mexican drug trafficking organizations are expanding their outdoor cannabis cultivation operations. The demand for Mexican black tar heroin has risen since 2008, primarily among teens and young adults who are transitioning from prescription drugs to black tar heroin because of lower costs and greater accessibility.

- The HIDTA is currently developing a much-needed commercial vehicle criminal interdiction training course for the Utah State Patrol.
- The HIDTA is also working with the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA) to create a Rocky Mountain Chapter to enhance intelligence analyst skills, knowledge and exchange of information.

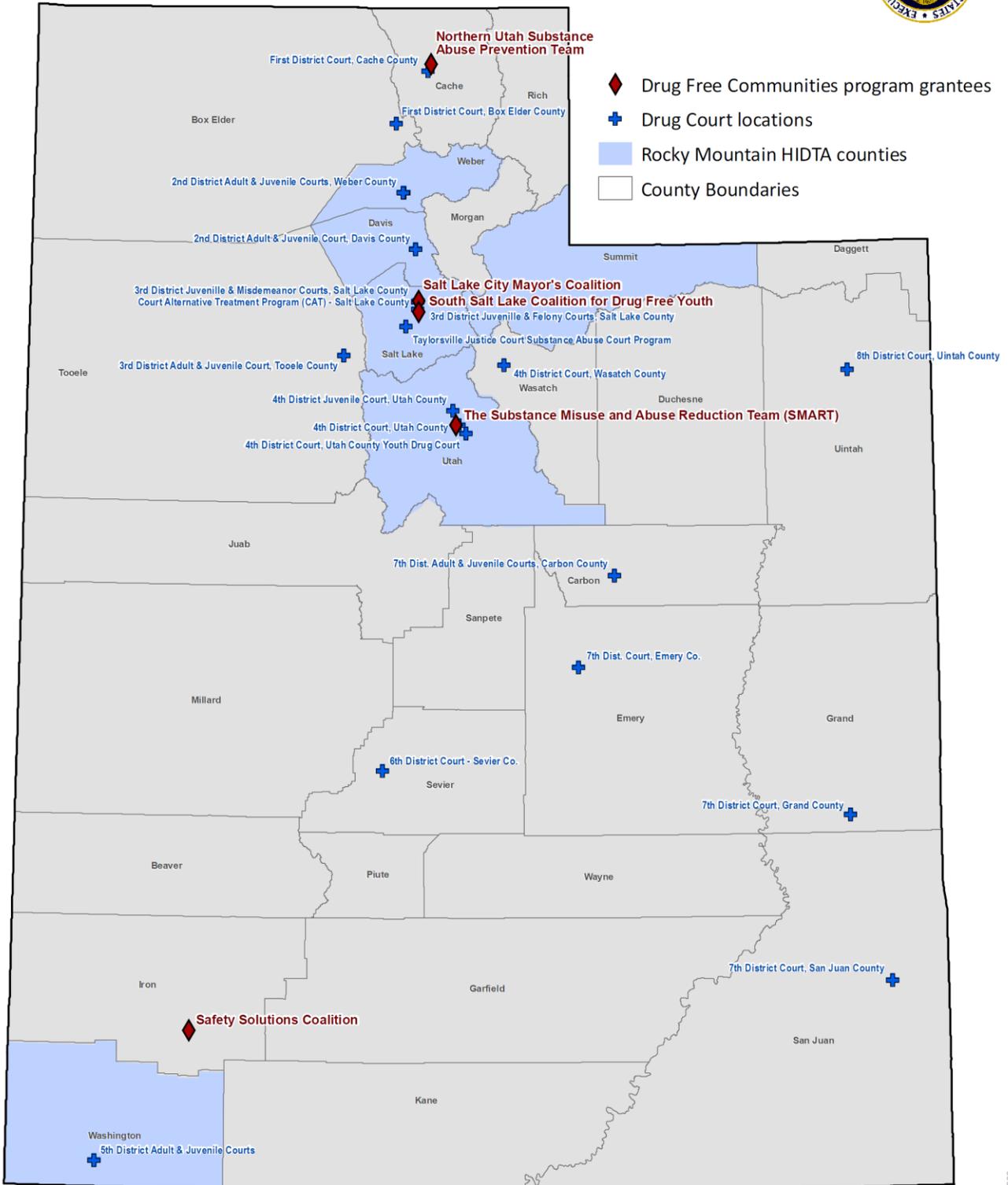
Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of Utah

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		853,387
Alcohol Abuse Reduction Grants		719,444
Grants For School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs		133,943
Department of Health and Human Services		
Administration for Children and Families		1,858,024
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		1,858,024
Immediate Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services		300,000
Family and Community Violence Prevention Program		300,000
Indian Health Service		232,275
Urban Indian Health Services		232,275
National Institutes of Health		7,852,755
Discovery and Applied Research for Technological Innovations to Improve Human Health		3,537,520
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs		4,315,235
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		23,062,184
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse		17,194,033
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)		530,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services_Projects of Regional and National Significance		3,662,151
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services-Access to Recovery		1,676,000
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development		2,317,200
Shelter Plus Care		2,317,200
Assistant Secretary for Housing--Federal Housing Commissioner		34,416
Shelter Plus Care		34,416
Department of Justice		
Office of Justice Programs		8,155,406
Congressionally Recommended Awards		1,795,000
Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program		200,000
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program		511,695
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program		3,749,878
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		356,400
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants		613,200
National Institute of Justice Research Evaluation and Development Project Grants		389,200
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners		215,033
Youth Gang Prevention		325,000
Executive Office of the President		
Office of National Drug Control Policy		1,794,449
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program		1,794,449
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		599,555
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants		599,555
Grand Total		47,059,651

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 Utah with Drug Court Locations



Source: National Drug Court Institute and ONDCP, September 2011

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