

New Orleans Louisiana

Crisis in the City
Facts on Alcohol and Drugs
A need for hope.

Deaths (reported by Medical Examiner)

Number of ME Drug Mentions Reported, New Orleans, 1996-2000

Drug Type	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Alcohol-in-combination	30	19	25	41	44
Cocaine	38	36	36	50	60
Heroin/morphine	15	16	28	37	45
Marijuana	9	13	21	21	23
Club drugs	1	--	1	4	2
Hallucinogens	--	--	--	1	--
Narcotic analgesics	7	13	21	52	25
Other analgesics	6	8	7	3	6
Benzodiazepines	2	--	14	6	13
Antidepressants	2	4	2	12	7
All other substances	4	15	12	37	25
Total drug deaths	60	56	76	94	103
Total drug mentions	114	124	167	264	250

Source of Data

Additional information and resources are located at HopeNetworks.org, a volunteer built, and supported organization collaborating with people and organizations to reduce the staggering impact of addiction on the lives and communities we live, work, and raise families in. The rampant cycle of addiction in generations untreated, has produced a state with the highest rates of poverty, incarceration, and illiteracy, we must break the cycle and pass on hope to those suffering in this epidemic. Together, in our unity, we are doing what alone remains impossible. Unity provides resources that are at present, educating, supporting, and encouraging hope to the hopeless.

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.

Drug and Alcohol Facts- New Orleans Youth

Students Reporting Lifetime Drug Use, Orleans Parish, 1998 and 2001

	<u>Grade 6</u>		<u>Grade 8</u>		<u>Grade 10</u>		<u>Grade 12</u>	
	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001
Students surveyed	3,687	209	3,058	412	2,573	77	1,906	41
Alcohol	19.4%	21.8%	43.9%	42.9%	61.4%	81.6%	72.2%	92.7%
Cigarettes	12.8	18.8	36.8	32.9	46.8	33.8	48.9	68.3
Marijuana	2.0	3.6	12.2	15.7	27.4	5.2	35.6	31.7
Inhalants	6.0	7.1	10.7	11.3	10.2	3.9	7.3	17.1
Hallucinogens	0.4	3.6	1.3	5.8	2.9	1.3	4.5	14.6
Cocaine	0.8	2.1	1.2	5.9	1.8	0.0	3.1	5.0
Stimulants	0.7	2.2	1.2	5.7	1.9	1.3	3.3	10.3

*92.7% reported alcohol use, when Alcohol is an illegal drug for those under the age of 21.

Emergency Departments-Admits

Number of ED Drug Mentions, Selected Drugs, New Orleans, 1998-2001

Drug Type	1998	1999	2000	2001
Alcohol-in-combination	1,919	1,916	1,948	1,181
Cocaine	2,395	2,139	1,998	1,422
Heroin	510	649	982	530
Marijuana	1,196	1,044	1,068	814
Amphetamines	55	41	103	118
Methamphetamine	25	23	27	--
MDMA (Ecstasy)	42	51	44	34
Ketamine	5	9	4	2
LSD	77	76	35	18
PCP	9	16	16	8
Miscellaneous hallucinogens	4	--	5	4
GHB	35	78	69	72
Inhalants	8	--	0	0
Total ED drug abuse episodes	5,088	4,459	4,664	3,729
Total ED drug mentions	9,649	8,907	9,172	7,037

- During 2000, New Orleans medical examiners (ME) reported 103 drug abuse deaths. Cocaine was mentioned in 60 of the deaths.⁴⁷

Youth-Past month use.

Students Reporting Past Month Drug Use, Orleans Parish, 1998 and 2001

	<u>Grade 6</u>		<u>Grade 8</u>		<u>Grade 10</u>		<u>Grade 12</u>	
	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001
Alcohol	6.7%	13.3%	20.4%	22.5%	31.1%	53.2%	43.2%	87.8%
Cigarettes	2.7	4.7	9.9	12.0	15.6	22.1	17.3	31.7
Marijuana	0.9	2.1	5.5	8.5	11.5	0.0	13.8	4.9
Inhalants	3.0	5.0	4.8	7.7	3.5	0.0	2.4	9.8
Hallucinogens	0.2	4.3	0.7	5.2	1.5	0.0	1.4	0.0
Cocaine	0.4	1.4	0.5	4.3	0.6	0.0	1.0	2.4
Stimulants	0.3	1.5	0.7	3.8	1.3	0.0	1.4	0.0

Statewide Treatment-Primary Drugs

Primary Substance of Abuse Among Treatment Clients, Louisiana, 2001

Substance	Clients	Percent
Alcohol only	3,181	15.1%
Alcohol with secondary drug	4,556	21.7
Heroin	428	2.0
Other opiates	994	4.7
Smoked cocaine	4,607	21.9
Cocaine – other route	844	4.0
Marijuana	4,832	23.0
Amphetamines	201	1.0
Other stimulants	10	0.0
Tranquilizers	167	0.8
Sedatives	142	0.7
Hallucinogens	55	0.3
PCP	9	0.0
Inhalants	11	0.1
Other/none specified	961	4.6
Total	20,998	100.0

Arrests directly related to addiction.

- Over fifty percent of adult male arrestees reported using marijuana in the past year. Among the male arrestees who reported past year use of marijuana, the average number of days the substance was used in the past month was 11.5 days.¹⁵

Past Drug Use, Adult Male Arrestees, New Orleans, 2001

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Opiates
Past 7 days	16.5%	9.4%	43.4%	0.1%	12.7%
Past 30 days	17.5%	10.9%	47.1%	0.5%	13.3%
Past year	18.9%	12.3%	52.0%	0.7%	14.2%
Avg. # of days used in month	10.9	8.2	11.5	1.8	12.0

- Nearly 43% of adult female arrestees reported using marijuana in the past year.¹⁶

Past Drug Use, Adult Female Arrestees, New Orleans, 2001

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth-amphet.	Opiates
Past 7 days	26.1%	4.7%	10.5%	0.0%	6.1%
Past 30 days	28.0%	5.7%	34.8%	1.0%	7.0%
Past year	30.5%	8.3%	42.6%	1.0%	8.3%
Avg. # of days used in month	9.5	9.8	9.4	1.1	14.1

Arrests—More than half tested positive for Drugs

- Data collected from New Orleans adult arrestees in 2001 indicate that 67.8% of adult male and 56.4% of adult female arrestees tested positive for an illegal drug at arrest.¹⁴

Percent of Adult Arrestees Testing Positive for Drugs, New Orleans, 2001

Drug Type	Males	Females
Cocaine	37.3%	38.1%
Opiates	15.6	7.6
Marijuana	44.9	25.1
Methamphetamine	0.0	0.0
PCP	0.0	0.3
Any of the above drugs	67.8	56.4
Multiple drugs	24.3	13.7

Crime and Addiction

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- From January to September 2002, there were 181 murders known to the New Orleans Police Department.¹³

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, New Orleans, 1999-2002

Offense	Full Year 1999	Full Year 2000	Full Year 2001	January-Sept. 2002
Murder	159	203	212	181
Rape	280	225	209	130
Armed robbery	1,981	1,810	2,053	1,143
Simple robbery	752	611	636	384
Assault	2,760	2,304	2,677	1,701
Burglary	5,626	5,230	5,046	3,606
Theft	17,086	15,575	15,965	11,288
Auto theft	7,118	7,866	8,615	5,779
Total index offenses	35,762	33,824	36,276	24,212

Locking up Addicts-is not treating the disease, setting the stage for recidivism.

Corrections

- On July 1, 2002, approximately 11% (11.4%) of the adults on probation in Louisiana were from Orleans Parish. 8.8% of those on parole and 14.0% of those on good-time parole supervision were also from Orleans Parish.⁴⁸
- 19.3% of the adults in Louisiana correctional facilities on July 1, 2002 were from Orleans Parish. 28.1% of youthful offenders in the state correctional system were from Orleans Parish. The youthful offender population is made up of inmates who were 14, 15, or 16 at the time of admission and who were convicted in criminal court and sentenced to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.⁴⁹

Homicides related to illegal drugs growing problem

- According to New Orleans homicide detectives, the number of murders believed to be motivated by illegal drugs, most notably crack cocaine and heroin, increased from 19 percent in 1998 to 37 percent in 2001.¹⁷
- During the first half of 2001, there were 1,001 arrests for drug paraphernalia in Orleans Parish.¹⁸

Example of Community Health Partnerships improving outcomes.

- **CLINIC INFORMATION Clinic Operating**

Hours: Tuesdays 4pm-7pm

Primary Population Served: Recovering Substance Abusers **Additional Services:** Biweekly health education seminars; Fitness program three times a week

- **Clinic Model:** Our clinic is staffed by a clinic coordinator, faculty physician/medical director, and four to five clinician teams of 2 medical students. The clinician teams consist of a 3rd or 4th year and a 1st or 2nd year student. We see approximately 10-12 clients each week. The first 2 hours are generally devoted to seeing new patients and performing intake H&Ps on clients entering substance abuse recovery. The last hour is spent on follow-up for our returning clients. Our upper level students teach the pre-clinical students aspects of the H&P, and the pre-clinical students participate increasingly in the exams as they become more comfortable with their skills. All patients are seen by our faculty physician. **Funding of**
- **Clinic:** The Department of Family and Community Medicine has provided designated (i.e. paid) hours for our faculty sponsor to come to our clinic. Our hardware (exam tables, file cabinets, etc) have been the products of donations. We have tried several types of fundraisers, including a benefit run, t-shirt sales, ribbon sales, and currently a ball/benefit. The space is donated by Bridge House.