METH in Washington

Public Safety Unit
Criminal Justice Section
May 23, 2012
Drugs, Crime and Violence

Drugs are related to crime in multiple ways.

It is a crime to:

- use,
- possess,
- manufacture, or
- distribute drugs

classified as having a potential for abuse.
Illicit Drugs

There are many illicit drugs addressed by our drug task forces today this is an update on:

METHAMPHETAMINE
What is a Drug Trafficking Organization?

- Uses business practices with a profit motive
- Is a criminal organization

- Criminal activities:
  - drug and sex trafficking
  - money laundering
  - criminal violence
  - Destructive neighborhood values
Criminal Drug Organizations

Drug Trafficking Organizations & Organized Criminal Gangs are the two sides of the same crime coin.
Criminal Organization’s Business Plan

• Theft
• Assaults
• Property Crimes
• Drug sales
• Auto Theft

• Armed Assault
• Prostitution
• Invasion / Burglary
• Financial Fraud
• Weapons Trafficking
What is a Drug Task Force?

1. Works in groups of 4 or more

2. Uses common drug enforcement best practices

3. Dismantles criminal organizations and disrupts drug trafficking
Drug Task Forces

The mission of the **Byrne Drug Task Forces** is to target mid to upper level drug violators, reduce drug availability and trafficking in Washington State, thereby improving the quality of life in our communities.
Drug Task Force Areas of Coverage

Areas served:
41 of 49 Legislative Districts; all 9 Congressional Districts;
28 of the 39 Counties, and; 94.74% of the state’s total population
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
Methamphetamine Arrests
July 2007 thru March 2012
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
Methamphetamine Arrests
July 2007 thru March 2012
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
Meth Removed
July 2007 to March 2012
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
MDMA-Ecstasy Removed
July 2007 to March 2012
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
MDMA Removed
July 2007 to March 2012
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
Crystal Meth Removed
July 2010 to March 2012
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
Crystal Meth Removed
July 2010 to December 2011
Byrne Drug-Gang Task Force
Meth Removed
July 2007 to March 2012
# Five Year Review

## Drugs Removed 2007 to 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Drug Type</th>
<th>Grams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>METH'07</td>
<td>66,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>METH'08</td>
<td>99,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>METH'09</td>
<td>134,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>METH'10</td>
<td>63,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>METH'11</td>
<td>17,178</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Drugs Removed 2007 to 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Drug Type</th>
<th>Grams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Meth (ICE)'07</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Meth (ICE)'08</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Meth (ICE)'09</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Meth (ICE)'10</td>
<td>15,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Meth (ICE)'11</td>
<td>36,072</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Drugs Removed 2007 to 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Drug Type</th>
<th>DUs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>MDMA'07</td>
<td>4,190,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>MDMA'08</td>
<td>501,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>MDMA'09</td>
<td>682,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>MDMA'10</td>
<td>289,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>MDMA'11</td>
<td>9,402</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methamphetamine continued to be a serious problem in the two Western sites in 2011 (Portland and Sacramento), but did not increase appreciably in the other eight sites.

Sacramento remained the site with the highest percent of methamphetamine positives, increasing from 31 percent in 2000 to 43 percent in 2011.

While the portion of Portland arrestees who tested positive dropped from 20 percent in 2007 to 15 and 13 percent in 2008 and 2009, respectively, it increased significantly from those levels in 2011 (23 percent).

Denver had the next highest number of arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine (6 percent), but 5 of the 10 sites had 1 percent or fewer arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine.

Few arrestees had acquired methamphetamine in the prior 30 days other than those in Portland, Sacramento, and Denver. In these sites the number of arrestees reporting obtaining methamphetamine was significantly higher in 2011 than was reported in earlier data collections.
One of the goals of the renewed ADAM II in 2007 was to determine if the methamphetamine epidemic that plagued the Western states was moving eastward. ADAM II data indicate that this has not happened, at least in the arrestee population in these 10 sites.

Methamphetamine remains a serious issue in Portland and Sacramento, where 23 percent and 43 percent of arrestees, respectively, in 2011 tested positive for the drug, figures which represent a significant increase over 2009 and 2010. However, the sites with the next highest percent positives were Denver, with only 6 percent, and Minneapolis, with only 3 percent.

In all other sites, 2 percent or fewer arrestees tested positive for methamphetamine. Not surprisingly, arrestees in Portland and Sacramento described very active methamphetamine markets: users reported making on average from 7 to 11 buys in the previous 30 days, and fewer than half reported having experience difficulty (a failed buy) in the prior month.

Despite the similarities at these two sites, just 500 miles apart, there were also differences in their users’ modes of use. In Portland, 36 percent of methamphetamine users reported that they injected the drug at the most recent use, while only 13 percent of Sacramento users reported injection.