



# Drug Market Analysis

# 2008

# Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area



NATIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE CENTER  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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This assessment is an outgrowth of a partnership between the NDIC and HIDTA Program for preparation of annual assessments depicting drug trafficking trends and developments in HIDTA Program areas. The report has been coordinated with the HIDTA, is limited in scope to HIDTA jurisdictional boundaries, and draws upon a wide variety of sources within those boundaries.



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface .....	1
Strategic Drug Threat Developments .....	2
HIDTA Overview .....	2
Drug Threat Overview .....	3
Drug Trafficking Organizations .....	4
Production.....	5
Transportation .....	8
Distribution .....	10
Drug-Related Crime.....	11
Abuse.....	11
Illicit Finance.....	12
Drug Markets .....	12
Overview .....	12
Primary Markets .....	12
Kansas City (Kansas/Missouri) Area .....	12
Omaha (Nebraska) Area.....	13
St. Louis (Missouri) Area .....	13
Secondary Markets .....	14
Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Area .....	14
Des Moines (Iowa) Area.....	14
Fargo/Grand Forks (North Dakota) Area.....	15
Sioux City (Iowa)/ Sioux Falls (South Dakota) Area.....	15
Springfield (Missouri) Area.....	16
Wichita (Kansas) Area.....	16
Outlook.....	17
Sources.....	19



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# PREFACE

This assessment provides a strategic overview of the illicit drug situation in the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), highlighting significant trends and law enforcement concerns related to the trafficking and abuse of illicit drugs. The report was prepared through detailed analysis of recent law enforcement reporting, information obtained through interviews with law enforcement and public health officials, and available statistical data. The report is designed to provide policymakers, resource planners, and law enforcement officials with a focused discussion of key drug issues and developments facing the Midwest HIDTA region.

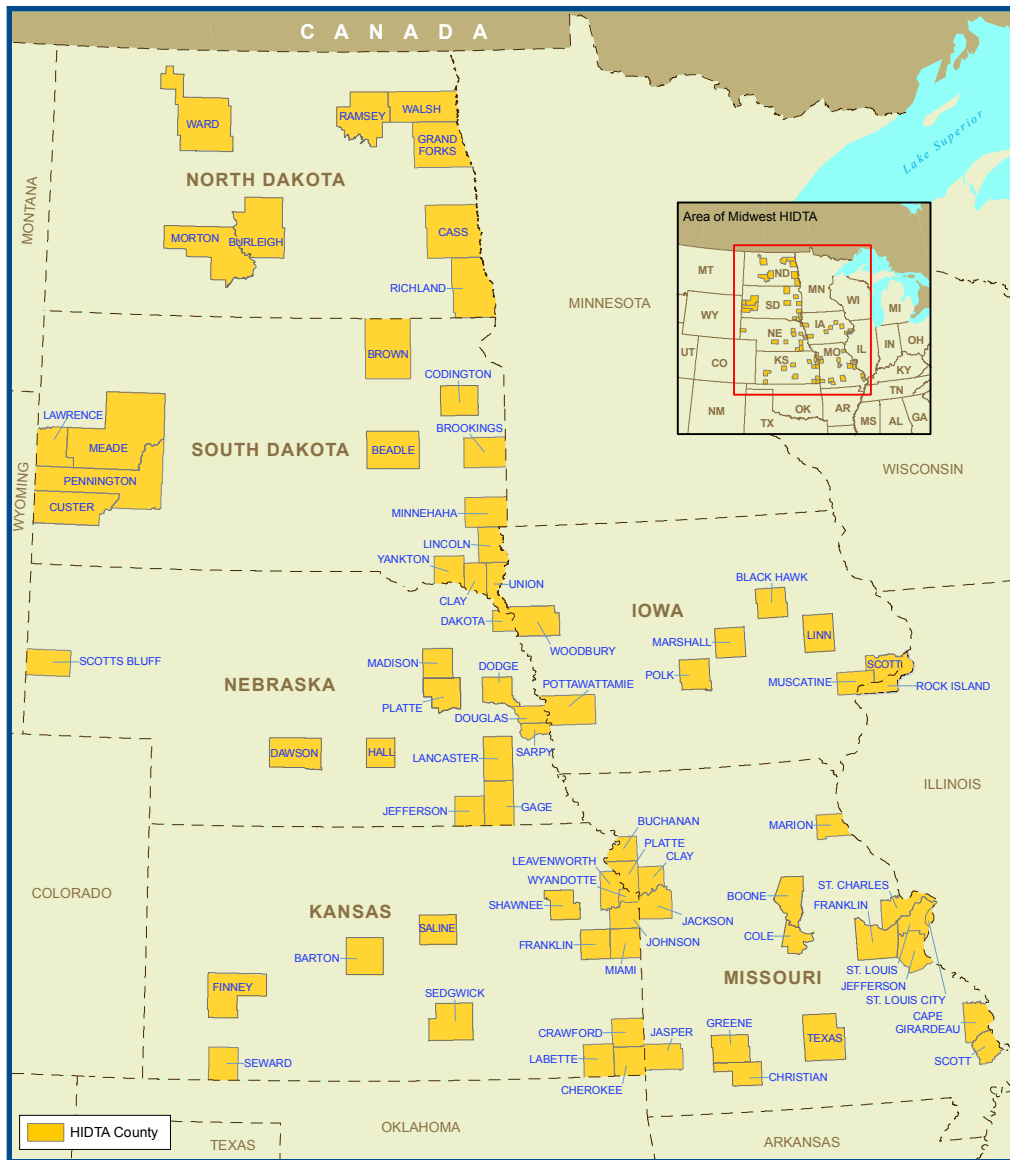


Figure 1. Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.



## STRATEGIC DRUG THREAT DEVELOPMENTS

- A resurgence of methamphetamine production has occurred in several HIDTA areas, particularly southern Missouri. Local law enforcement agencies throughout the HIDTA region report that methamphetamine producers are exploiting the region's lack of centralized reporting on pseudoephedrine purchases by buying pseudoephedrine at or below state thresholds from multiple pharmacies until they obtain enough to produce methamphetamine.
- HIDTA law enforcement agencies report that some gang members who distribute illicit drugs at the retail level are using social networking Internet sites such as MySpace and Facebook to advertise their products.
- Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) are exploiting the growing Hispanic population within the HIDTA to facilitate their control over drug trafficking and to expand their area of operations into small communities in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. These small communities have become transit hubs for Mexican traffickers.

## HIDTA OVERVIEW

The Midwest HIDTA region consists of 73 counties in a seven-state area that stretches from North Dakota to Missouri<sup>1</sup> (see Figure 1 on page 1). The Midwest HIDTA counties are located in the central United States between western and eastern drug markets; they are connected by an extensive transportation infrastructure that makes the HIDTA a significant transshipment area for drug traffickers. Most major interstate highways in

1. The seven states are Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. On February 20, 2008, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) announced the addition of Rock Island County, Illinois, as a Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) designated county.

the northern United States pass through and intersect in the Midwest HIDTA region, facilitating the transportation of illicit drugs from the U.S.–Mexico (Southwest) border and from the U.S.–Canada (Northern) border to drug markets throughout the United States. The region's primary markets (Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Louis) and secondary markets (Cedar Rapids and Des Moines, Iowa; Fargo/Grand Forks, North Dakota; Sioux City, Iowa/Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Springfield, Missouri; and Wichita, Kansas) serve as distribution centers for major U.S. drug markets as well as smaller rural counties in the HIDTA area.<sup>2</sup> The widespread distribution and abuse of crack cocaine and ice methamphetamine and associated violence are the primary drug threats in these market areas.

The Midwest HIDTA region is extremely vulnerable to drug trafficking from the Southwest Border because of its connectivity to that region; most illicit drugs used in and transported through the HIDTA enter the United States through the Southwest Border. Mexican traffickers transport drugs into the Midwest HIDTA region from Mexico through distribution hubs in California (Los Angeles) and the Southwest Border area (El Paso, Dallas, Phoenix, and Tucson). Interstate highways are the primary trafficking routes; however, virtually all U.S. highways, state highways, and local roads are used by drug traffickers to transport illicit drugs. Mexican traffickers transport substantial quantities of ice methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana, and heroin into and through the HIDTA region for local consumption and en route to national-level markets in the Midwest and Northeast, including Chicago and New York.

The Midwest HIDTA region also is vulnerable to drug trafficking from the Northern Border, since North Dakota shares a 300-mile-long border and 18 official land ports of entry (POEs) with Canada (see Figure 1 on page 1). The area between Northern Border POEs is isolated, rural, and rife with

2. Primary markets serve as significant transshipment and distribution centers for illicit drugs supplied to markets in multiple regions of the country. Secondary markets supply illicit drugs to smaller markets within a state or neighboring states.



opportunity for drug traffickers and criminal groups to smuggle Canadian marijuana, MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine, also known as ecstasy), and pseudoephedrine (a methamphetamine precursor chemical) into the HIDTA without detection by law enforcement personnel.<sup>3</sup>

### **BC Bud Seizure at North Dakota POE**

On February 2, 2008, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers seized 555 pounds of BC Bud (a term used for high-potency Canadian marijuana) at the Pembina, North Dakota, POE during a routine border crossing examination. Officers discovered the marijuana in vacuum-packed bags that were concealed beneath the floorboards of an empty tractor-trailer. The street value of the seizure was estimated at \$1.6 million.

Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups dominate the transportation and wholesale distribution of methamphetamine, cocaine, and Mexican marijuana in the area. An increasing illegal and legal Mexican and Central American population in suburban and rural towns is fueling the expansion and dominance of Mexican polydrug trafficking groups who exploit the infrastructure of these growing communities to mask their activities from law enforcement officials and to expand their distribution networks. African American and, to a lesser extent, Hispanic street gangs control retail drug distribution in the Midwest HIDTA metropolitan areas and contribute significantly to violent crime in those areas. Local independent dealers are the principal retail distributors in the rural areas of the HIDTA region.

3. Approximately 90 percent of Canada's population is concentrated within 99 miles of the U.S. border. The 2007 population of the Winnipeg metropolitan area (Manitoba Province's largest city) was 712,700; by contrast, the 2006 population of the entire state of North Dakota was estimated at approximately 636,000.

## **DRUG THREAT OVERVIEW**

Widespread and rising methamphetamine distribution and abuse are the greatest threats to the Midwest HIDTA region and are straining local law enforcement, public health, and social services resources in many areas, particularly in rural locales with limited resources. Although local methamphetamine production has declined significantly in most areas of the region, an abundant supply of Mexican ice methamphetamine throughout the HIDTA region has fueled methamphetamine abuse.

Crack cocaine distribution and abuse are pervasive in urban areas of the HIDTA region, and the drug and its associated crime are serious concerns that have a direct and profound impact on law enforcement and public health resources. Mexican DTOs supply local African American street gangs with powder cocaine that they convert to crack in the area; these gangs control retail distribution of the crack that they manufacture. Additionally, African American street gangs based in Chicago, Detroit, and Minneapolis transport large quantities of powder cocaine, crack cocaine, and other illicit drugs to Midwest HIDTA markets in Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Street gangs and other crack distributors commonly commit violent crimes including assaults, drive-by shootings, and robberies to protect and expand their drug operations.

Various other illicit drugs are available and abused in the Midwest HIDTA region. Mexican commercial-grade marijuana is the most widely available and abused illicit drug throughout the HIDTA region. Locally produced marijuana also is available, as is high-quality hydroponic marijuana produced in Canada; however, most marijuana produced in Canada transits the region en route to other U.S. markets. Heroin availability and abuse are mostly limited to the St. Louis area, where white powder and Mexican black tar are the predominant forms of the drug available. Diverted pharmaceuticals, MDMA, and other dangerous drugs (ODDs) such as PCP (phencyclidine) pose a lesser threat and are available and abused to varying degrees.



## DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS

Mexican DTOs are the primary organizational threat to the Midwest HIDTA region. They are expanding their influence and control over the region's drug markets, particularly in coordinating most of the ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana shipments from the Southwest Border to the Midwest HIDTA region. Mexican traffickers are also strengthening their distribution networks in eastern Missouri, including the St. Louis area. Moreover, Mexican DTOs have taken advantage of decreased domestic methamphetamine production caused by state pseudoephedrine control legislation to increase distribution of Mexican ice methamphetamine in the HIDTA region.

### Drug Trafficking Organizations, Criminal Groups, and Gangs

**Drug trafficking organizations** are complex organizations with highly defined command-and-control structures that produce, transport, and/or distribute large quantities of one or more illicit drugs.

**Criminal groups** operating in the United States are numerous and range from small to moderately sized, loosely knit groups that distribute one or more drugs at the retail level and midlevel.

**Gangs** are defined by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators' Associations as groups or associations of three or more persons with a common identifying sign, symbol, or name, the members of which individually or collectively engage in criminal activity that creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

An increasing Hispanic population in the Midwest HIDTA region has facilitated the expansion of Mexican drug trafficking territory. Many Mexican and Central American illegal immigrants have relocated to midwestern towns seeking employment, particularly at meatpacking and poultry processing

plants in rural communities in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Rural areas and smaller towns with a rising Mexican/Central American population include northwest Iowa; Liberal, Dodge City, Garden City, and Great Bend, Kansas; Joplin and southwest Missouri; and Grand Island, Fremont, and Lexington, Nebraska. Mexican traffickers easily blend with growing Mexican and Central American communities to facilitate their drug trafficking operations and often use these meatpacking towns as hubs and secondary markets for drug distribution. Small, rural law enforcement agencies, constrained by a lack of resources and cultural and language differences, often are unable to infiltrate these drug trafficking organizations.

African American and Hispanic street gangs distribute illicit drugs in the HIDTA's metropolitan and outlying areas. African American street gangs (primarily Bloods and Crips gang factions) dominate distribution of crack cocaine and also distribute retail quantities of marijuana in markets such as Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Springfield, and Wichita. Sureños<sup>4</sup> factions (including Florencia 13, also known as F-13) are the predominant Hispanic street gangs operating in the Midwest HIDTA; Hispanic street gangs distribute retail to wholesale quantities of marijuana and retail quantities of methamphetamine in markets such as Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Wichita, and Cedar Rapids. While some of these street gang members have relocated from California or the Southwest Border and maintain ties with national gangs, many street gangs operating within the HIDTA are homegrown and have limited connections to nationally affiliated organizations. Members often are difficult to classify or affiliate with one specific

4. Sureños and Norteños are affiliations of Hispanic street gangs that initially were formed in the California Department of Corrections by members who wanted to join together to protect themselves from incarcerated street gang members from other areas. Hispanic street gangs in southern California (Bakersfield and points south) were known as Sureños street gangs, while those from central and northern California (north of Bakersfield) were known as Norteños street gangs. Hispanic street gangs operating in the Midwest HIDTA typically claim Sureños affiliation but often are not connected to gangs in southern California.

**Table 1. Drugs in the Midwest HIDTA, by Retail Distributor and Market, 2008**

Drug	Distributor	Market
Methamphetamine	Hispanic street gangs; Caucasian local independent dealers	All markets
Crack Cocaine	African American street gangs and independent dealers	All markets
Marijuana	Hispanic street gangs; African American street gangs; Caucasian local independent dealers	All markets
Heroin	African American street gangs and local independent dealers; Caucasian local independent dealers	St. Louis
PCP	African American street gang members and local independent dealers	Kansas City; Omaha; St. Louis; Wichita

Source: Drug Enforcement Administration *Trends in the Traffic*; Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

gang, and turf boundaries are not clearly defined. In addition, Chicago-based African American street gangs such as Gangster Disciples, Black Peace Stone Nation, and Vice Lords operate in several market areas, including Cedar Rapids, Fargo, Omaha, Sioux City, and Sioux Falls; however, these gang members typically travel from Chicago, Minneapolis, and other markets in order to distribute crack cocaine and then return home. Law enforcement officials in Pennington County, South Dakota; and Kansas City, Missouri, report that gang members sometimes advertise their drugs on social networking Internet sites such as MySpace and Facebook and also post pictures of themselves posing with drugs and/or weapons. In addition, the Garden City, Kansas, Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) St. Louis Field Division report that gang members use these web sites to network and maintain ties with other members. Various outlaw motorcycle gangs (OMGs), including El Forastero, Galloping Goose, and Sons of Silence, distribute limited quantities of methamphetamine and marijuana throughout the HIDTA.

## PRODUCTION

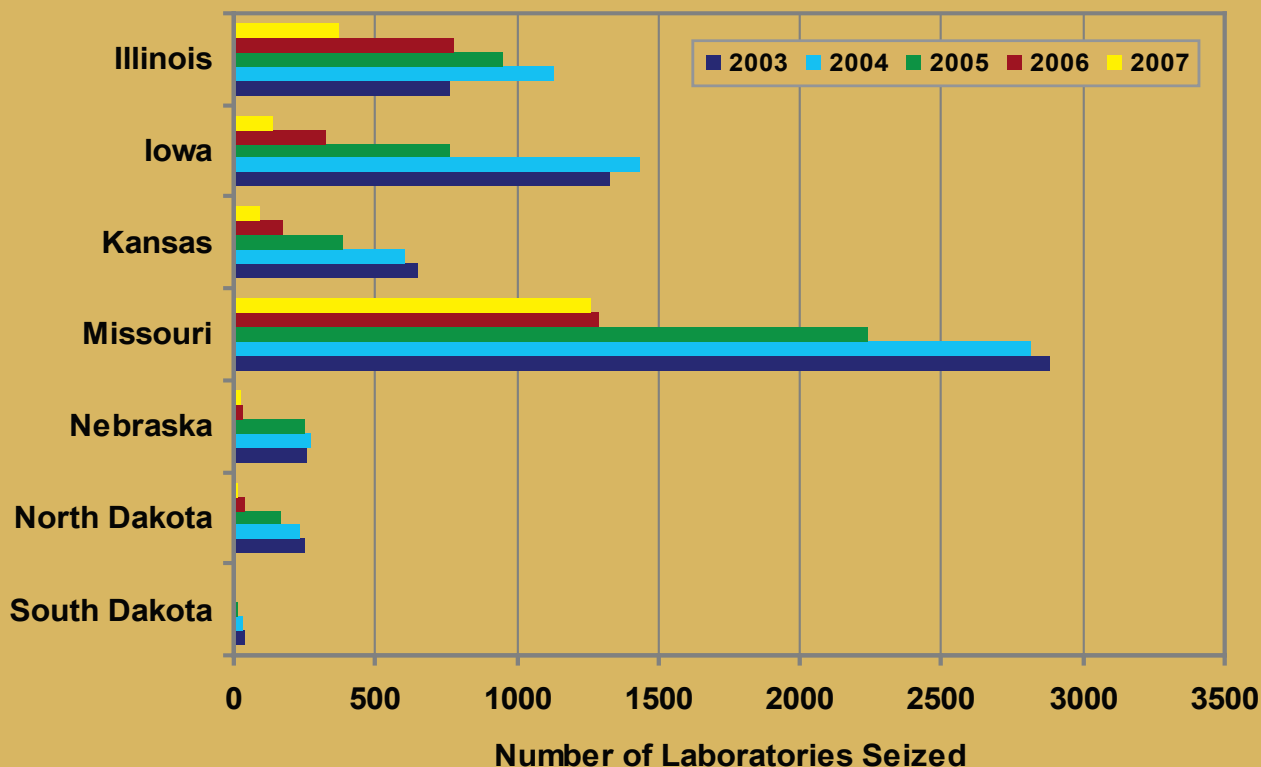
Illicit drug production in the Midwest HIDTA region generally entails methamphetamine production, crack cocaine conversion, and cannabis cultivation. Caucasian criminal groups and independent manufacturers are the primary producers

of methamphetamine and marijuana, while African American criminal groups and street gangs dominate crack cocaine conversion. Domestic methamphetamine production has decreased substantially in many areas of the Midwest HIDTA (see [Figure 2 on page 6](#)); however, clandestine production continues to represent a significant threat, and law enforcement officials in Iowa and Rapid City, South Dakota, are reporting the use of mobile methamphetamine laboratories by traffickers. Methamphetamine production in the Midwest HIDTA region represents a greater threat to public safety and the environment than all other illicit drug production, and combating production of the drug consumes vast amounts of public resources. In addition to posing safety and environmental hazards, continued methamphetamine production forces local law enforcement agencies to divert funding from battling wholesale- and retail-level distribution organizations to remediate laboratory sites.

While methamphetamine production has decreased substantially in many areas of the Midwest HIDTA, production continues throughout the HIDTA region. Notably, several counties in Missouri have experienced a resurgence in methamphetamine production following an initial decrease after the passage of precursor control legislation. (See [text box on page 6 for further information](#).) Law enforcement agencies seized more clandestine methamphetamine laboratories



Figure 2. Methamphetamine Clandestine Laboratory Seizures, by Midwest HIDTA State, 2003–2007



Source: National Seizure System data run on February 20, 2008.

### Continuing Methamphetamine Production

Despite stringent state precursor chemical control laws, methamphetamine production continues in the HIDTA region because producers still are able to obtain sufficient quantities of pseudoephedrine, albeit with a greater effort. Some state precursor control laws have limited access to pseudoephedrine by listing it as a Schedule V controlled substance, and four Midwest HIDTA states have required sellers to maintain a log book. (See Table 2 on page 7 for more information on state precursor control legislation.) However, none of the states have a centralized database of the logs, which hampers law enforcement investigative efforts; many law enforcement agencies must visit each pharmacy and manually gather logbook information—a time-consuming practice. Methamphetamine producers exploit this loophole by making multiple purchases of pseudoephedrine at or below the legal limit from various locations, sometimes within numerous jurisdictions (a practice known as smurfing).

**Table 2. Comparison of Pseudoephedrine Control Legislation, by Midwest HIDTA State**

	Iowa	Kansas	Missouri	Nebraska	North Dakota	South Dakota
Ephedrine/pseudoephedrine (E/P) products in Schedule V	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Schedule V exemptions/ exceptions	Products that are in liquid/ gelcap form containing 360 milligrams or less of E/P	Liquids, liquid capsules, and gelcaps	Liquids or liquid-filled gel-capsules; products not used in illegal manufacture	No	No	No
Written/electronic log or record of sale kept by seller	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Product sold by pharmacy, pharmacist, pharmacy technician, pharmacy intern, or clerk	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Product sold in pharmacy or any retail establishment	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Product stored in locked case, in area inaccessible to public	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
Quantity restrictions	7,500 mg/ 30 days	3 packages/ 7 days	9 grams/ 30 days	1,440 milligrams/24 hours	2 packages containing no more than 2 grams of E/P each/single transaction	2 packages containing E/P as active ingredient/single transaction

Source: National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws, as of January 2, 2007.

in Missouri than in any other state, with 1,258 reported laboratory seizures in 2007.<sup>5</sup> Most methamphetamine laboratories seized in Missouri were discovered in the state’s southern counties and in the St. Louis metropolitan area. (See Figure 3 on page 8.) In response to continued methamphetamine production and smurfing, the Missouri General Assembly has introduced a law to modify existing recordkeeping for

pseudoephedrine products.<sup>6</sup> Among its provisions, the law would replace existing written logbooks with a centralized electronic database.

Crack cocaine conversion, primarily by African American street gangs, is a significant concern to law enforcement agencies in metropolitan areas such as Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Sioux Falls, Springfield, Topeka, and Wichita because of crack’s association with high levels of violence

5. These data (as of February 20, 2008) include all methamphetamine laboratories; dumpsites; and chemicals, glassware, and equipment seized by federal, state, and local authorities and reported to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC).

6. On March 13, 2008, the Missouri Senate passed SB 732, a bill to establish a drug monitoring program and modify existing recordkeeping for controlled substances and pseudoephedrine products.



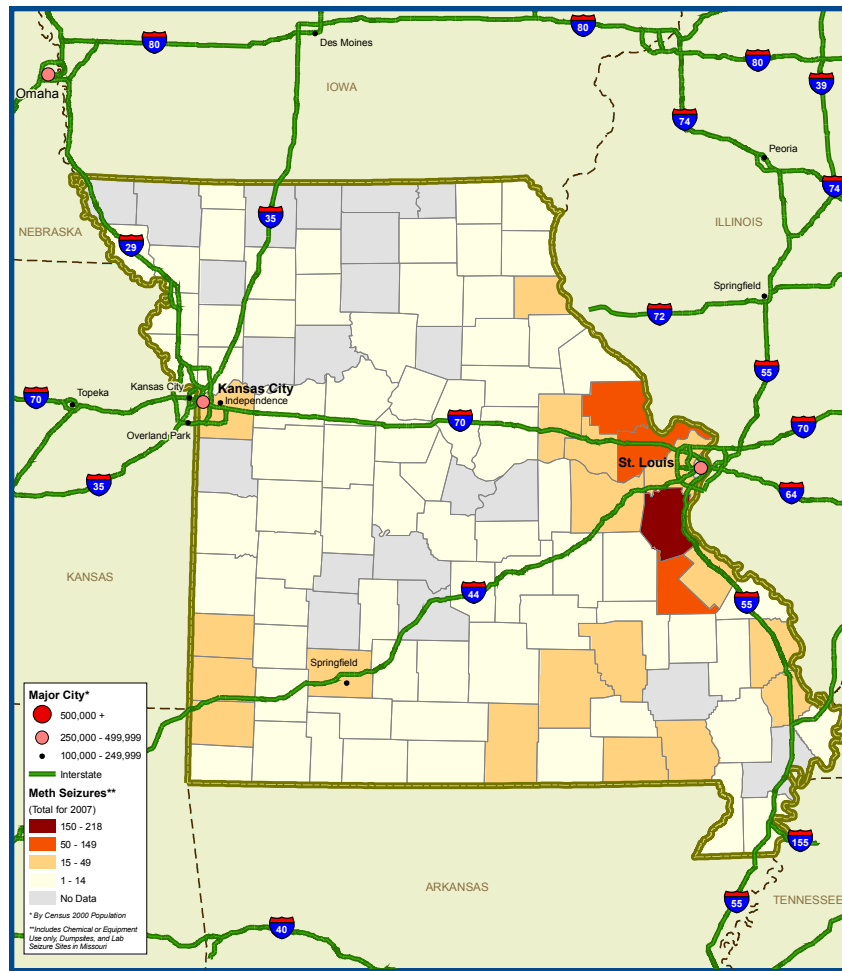


Figure 3. Methamphetamine laboratory seizures in Missouri, 2007.  
Source: National Seizure System data run on February 20, 2008.

and property crime. African American street gangs often obtain powder cocaine from Mexican sources and then convert the cocaine into crack for local sales and further distribution. Limited cannabis cultivation—both indoor and outdoor—occurs throughout the Midwest HIDTA, but most of the marijuana available in the HIDTA is produced in Mexico.

## TRANSPORTATION

The Midwest HIDTA is a significant transit area for illicit drugs; its central geographic location is widely used by traffickers who transport cocaine, heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, and other

illicit drugs into the area from the Southwest and Northwest<sup>7</sup> Border regions en route to midwest and northeast markets including Chicago and New York. Major interstates that traverse the HIDTA region include Interstates 29, 35, 44, 55, 70, 80, 90, and 94. (See Figure 4 on page 9.) These highways are extensively used by traffickers to transport illicit drugs into and through the HIDTA region. As such, many opportunities exist for the interdiction of drugs and illicit proceeds in the region—and recent seizures on I-80 highlight the utility of interdiction programs in the HIDTA region. For example, on

7. Law enforcement believes that available arrest and seizure statistics do not accurately reflect the extent of drug trafficking over the U.S.–Canada Border and underrepresent the level of smuggling on the U.S.–Canada Border.

# MIDWEST High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

2008

October 10, 2007, the Nebraska State Patrol seized \$548,895 in Sarpy County from a commercial vehicle en route from Detroit, Michigan, to Pasadena, California, and on October 14, 2007, the Iowa State Patrol in Polk County seized \$310,080 concealed in the exhaust pipe of a private vehicle en route from Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Phoenix, Arizona.

Investigative information captured from highway seizures reveals that most illicit drug shipments destined for the region originate in Arizona, California, and Texas. Common source cities identified

by Kansas Highway Patrol and Missouri Highway Patrol interdiction efforts include El Paso, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Diego, and Tucson.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups transport most of the ice methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana, and Mexican black tar and brown powder heroin available in the HIDTA region. These organizations primarily use commercial and private vehicles with increasingly sophisticated hidden compartments to transport these drugs into the region. Mexican DTOs frequently

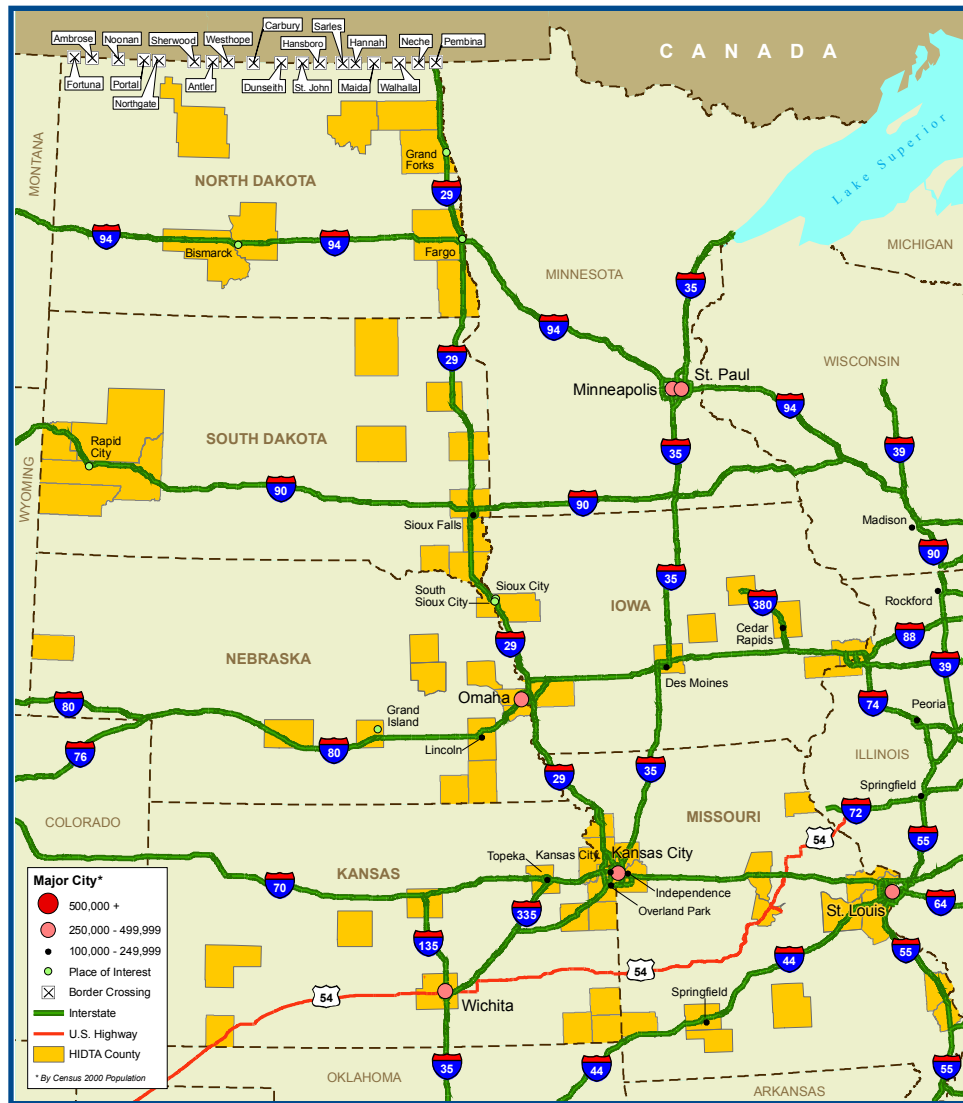


Figure 4. Midwest HIDTA region transportation infrastructure.



recruit unaffiliated Mexican immigrants living in the region to transport illicit drugs from the Southwest Border to the region, thereby insulating themselves from law enforcement detection in the event of interdiction.

African American, Asian, and Caucasian street gangs, criminal groups, and independent dealers transport powder and crack cocaine, Mexican marijuana, and PCP to the region, but less frequently than in the past. These local, retail-level distributors avoid the risk of interdiction and law enforcement detection by purchasing illicit drugs from Mexican wholesalers in Kansas City, Wichita, and other HIDTA markets. African American street gang members based in Chicago, Detroit, and Minneapolis also transport crack and powder cocaine and marijuana to metropolitan areas in Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Asian trafficking groups transport MDMA and Canadian marijuana into and through the HIDTA region. Additionally, Caucasian trafficking groups transport Mexican and Canadian marijuana, Mexican methamphetamine, and limited quantities of MDMA to the region.

## DISTRIBUTION

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups control wholesale and much of the midlevel methamphetamine, powder cocaine,<sup>8</sup> marijuana, and heroin distribution in the HIDTA region. Most Mexican DTOs and criminal groups do not stockpile drug shipments for extended periods of time but, rather, use vacant stash houses and apartments for short-term storage and distribution to midlevel

8. Powder cocaine availability recently has fluctuated in several of the Midwest HIDTA markets. While law enforcement officials in Garden City, Kansas; Omaha, Nebraska; and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, reported significant increases in powder cocaine availability in late 2007 and early 2008, law enforcement officials in Kansas City, St. Louis, and Wichita reported a decrease in availability. These market fluctuations most likely are due to law enforcement operations on the Southwest Border. In addition, the DEA Kansas City Interdiction Task Force reported a high level of bulk cocaine seizures in the Kansas City, Missouri, area during this period.

dealers. Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers are the primary sources of supply for Caucasian and African American retailers, conducting most sales through referrals and prearranged meetings rather than in open-air settings.

Mexican DTOs have increased ice methamphetamine distribution considerably in the Midwest HIDTA region over the past 3 years. State pseudoephedrine control legislation has reduced domestic methamphetamine availability and created a shortfall in supply. This shortfall has served as an opportunity for Mexican DTOs to meet the demand in the HIDTA's markets with high-quality Mexican ice methamphetamine. Law enforcement agencies in most HIDTA drug markets now report that the vast majority of available methamphetamine is ice methamphetamine. Law enforcement officials in most HIDTA markets also report a sustained and plentiful supply of methamphetamine; however, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officials in Garden City, Kansas, reported a decrease in Mexican methamphetamine availability in 2007. This decrease can be attributed to successful law enforcement efforts that disrupted an area distribution network and also to a possible decrease in methamphetamine production in Mexico.

Mexican DTOs use Kansas City and St. Louis as distribution centers to supply illicit drugs to major market areas throughout the United States as well as to supply dealers in the HIDTA region. Mexican traffickers typically offload drug shipments from the Southwest Region to these cities, repackage the drugs, and then supply them to markets within the region as well as to major market areas throughout the Midwest, Great Lakes, and Northeast Regions. Mexican traffickers distribute cocaine from Kansas City to Chicago; Dayton, Ohio; and Detroit. They also distribute cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine from St. Louis to Chicago and Springfield, Illinois, and to Milwaukee. The convergence of Interstates 44, 55, 64, and 70 in St. Louis and Interstates 29, 35, and 70 in Kansas City provide easy access for distributors to transport illicit drugs to these markets.



Various ethnic street gangs and criminal groups distribute illicit drugs at the retail level. Retail crack distribution is conducted primarily by African American street gangs and criminal groups at drug markets in many areas, but aggressive law enforcement efforts have forced some of these distributors to conduct sales from apartments or at controlled locations. Hispanic street gangs distribute methamphetamine and marijuana at the retail level, while Caucasian street gangs, criminal groups, and local independent dealers distribute methamphetamine, marijuana, and limited quantities of MDMA at the retail level. Asian street gangs and criminal groups distribute varying quantities of MDMA in Des Moines, the Kansas City metropolitan area, Springfield, St. Louis, Wichita, and Columbia, Missouri. Various OMGs such as El Forastero, Galloping Goose, and Sons of Silence distribute methamphetamine and marijuana in the HIDTA region.

In order to facilitate drug distribution in the Midwest HIDTA region, particularly at the retail level, traffickers commonly use disposable cell phones. While disposable cell phones commonly have been used by midlevel traffickers in the past, their popularity has increased rapidly among retail-level traffickers because they are relatively cheap and difficult to trace (stores do not require a credit check for their purchase). Traffickers typically use cell phones for a limited time before switching to a new phone with a new number to further reduce the possibility of law enforcement detection. In addition, traffickers often prefer to use text messaging and phones with push-to-talk capabilities in an attempt to thwart law enforcement surveillance.

## DRUG-RELATED CRIME

High levels of violent and property crime in the HIDTA region are often associated with the distribution and abuse of illicit drugs, particularly crack cocaine and methamphetamine. Crack cocaine and methamphetamine distributors commonly commit violent crimes including assault, carjacking, drive-

by shootings, home invasion, robbery, and firearms violations to protect and expand their drug operations. Methamphetamine and crack abuse are often associated with domestic violence and child abuse, and abusers often commit property crimes, such as burglary, forgery, fraud, larceny, and identity theft, to support their addictions.

## ABUSE

Widespread and sustained methamphetamine abuse is the most critical drug abuse concern throughout the HIDTA. The drug's abuse and associated violence severely strain the resources of public health departments, treatment centers, and social service agencies in the Midwest HIDTA region. Methamphetamine-related domestic violence, child abuse, and child neglect have burdened local foster care systems and social services. Because of methamphetamine's highly addictive nature, longer treatment programs and high recidivism rates encumber treatment centers in the area.

Crack cocaine abuse continues to be a serious problem in many metropolitan areas of the Midwest HIDTA. Marijuana abuse is pervasive throughout the HIDTA region and crosses socioeconomic and racial lines. According to Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) administrative data for 2006 (the most recent year for which such data are available) admissions for which marijuana/hashish was the primary substance of abuse accounted for 22.9 percent of all admissions to publicly funded facilities in Midwest HIDTA states. Diverted pharmaceuticals are abused to varying degrees throughout the HIDTA; oxycodone is the most commonly diverted and abused pharmaceutical. Heroin abuse is largely limited to the St. Louis metropolitan area, where both black tar and white powder heroin are readily available. White powder heroin distributed in the St. Louis metropolitan area is occasionally mixed with fentanyl, and law enforcement officers reported some overdose deaths involving heroin/fentanyl combinations in the St. Louis area in 2007.



## ILLICIT FINANCE

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups are the principal drug money launderers in the Midwest HIDTA region. They transport drug proceeds primarily in bulk to other destinations in the United States and Mexico for laundering. Illicit proceeds—including those generated in outlying markets—are consolidated by traffickers within the HIDTA's market areas for shipment to drug source cities, including El Paso, Houston, Phoenix, and Tucson, as well as to Mexico. Traffickers transport bulk cash primarily via private and commercial vehicles that often are equipped with hidden compartments. Mexican DTOs and criminal groups also use money services businesses (MSBs) such as money remitters and check cashing firms to launder drug proceeds. Mexican traffickers in the Midwest HIDTA region also invest drug proceeds in real estate and businesses, as well as expensive items including jewelry and luxury vehicles. They frequently purchase cash-intensive businesses such as bars, jewelry stores, restaurants, and used car lots, and commingle drug proceeds with profits generated at the business.

Retail-level traffickers also launder funds they derive through illicit drug distribution, albeit to a lesser extent than higher-level traffickers. They often use small, cash-intensive front businesses to commingle illicit proceeds with legitimate funds, and purchase real estate, vehicles, luxury items, and businesses with drug proceeds.

## DRUG MARKETS

### OVERVIEW

The Midwest HIDTA region contains several primary drug market areas, including the Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Louis metropolitan areas, and a number of secondary markets, including Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Fargo/Grand Forks, Sioux City/Sioux Falls, Springfield, and Wichita. (See [Figure 4 on page 9.](#)) Individual market discussions are intended to augment the overall discussion of

drug trafficking and abuse in the Midwest HIDTA region, highlighting localized trends and deviations. The general drug situation in the Midwest HIDTA region applies to an individual market unless otherwise stated.

### PRIMARY MARKETS

#### KANSAS CITY (KANSAS/MISSOURI) AREA

The Kansas City metropolitan area includes Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties in Missouri and Johnson and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas, and has a combined population of almost 1.6 million residents. Kansas City is located near the geographic center of the United States at the intersection of several of the nation's busiest highways (I-29, I-35, and I-70), making it a major transshipment point for illicit drugs and drug proceeds to, from, and between significant market areas in the West (Arizona, California, Colorado, Texas), the Midwest (Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska), and the East (Illinois, Michigan, New York).

The Kansas City metropolitan area is also a significant consumer market. Combating crack cocaine distribution and abuse consumes public resources in the inner city of Kansas City, while methamphetamine distribution and abuse are the major drug problems in outlying areas. African American crack distributors frequently obtain powder cocaine for conversion from Mexican and Hispanic midlevel dealers located in the northeast section of Kansas City, Missouri, and from Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers in Kansas City, Kansas. Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers typically are supplied by sources in the El Paso and Phoenix areas. Mexican wholesale and midlevel dealers typically distribute methamphetamine in outlying and suburban areas of the metropolitan area; most of the methamphetamine is Mexican ice methamphetamine.

Drug-related violent crime poses a problem in the Kansas City metropolitan area. African American and Hispanic street gangs are the primary perpetrators, and both rely on illicit drug distribution for revenue. African American gangs are dominant;

## MIDWEST

## High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

2008

while many of these gangs claim Bloods or Crips affiliation, they are local and tend to be loosely organized and based on neighborhood affiliations. Hispanic street gangs are increasing in number and are more organized and tied to nationally affiliated gangs such as Sureños and F-13. African American and Hispanic street gangs periodically clash with each other; most violence between them stems from personal animosities, not disputes over drug territories. Additionally, Hispanic gangs are increasing in number and size, and an ongoing rivalry between Sureños and other Hispanic gangs has resulted in frequent assaults and shootings of rival gang members.

**OMAHA (NEBRASKA) AREA**

The Omaha metropolitan area, which includes the city of Omaha, Douglas and Sarpy Counties in Nebraska, and Pottawattamie County in Iowa, is located on the eastern Nebraska border along the Missouri River and has a combined population of over 670,000 residents. Interstates 29 and 80 intersect in Council Bluffs, Iowa, which is adjacent to Omaha, providing drug traffickers with easy access to the Kansas City metropolitan area and national drug markets in California and southwestern states. Omaha is a regional distribution center for illicit drugs—cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana are distributed from Omaha to neighboring states, including Iowa and South Dakota.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups are the principal transporters and wholesale distributors of most illicit drugs to the Omaha metropolitan area. These traffickers transport wholesale quantities of methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana to and through Omaha from distribution hubs in the state of Sinaloa, Mexico, and numerous Southwest Region cities, including Phoenix, Tucson, San Diego, and Los Angeles. Mexican DTOs have supplanted dwindling supplies of locally produced methamphetamine with high-purity Mexican ice methamphetamine in Omaha and surrounding counties. In addition, Mexican DTOs maintain connections throughout many smaller Nebraska towns near Omaha, such as Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington,

and Norfolk, where large numbers of Mexican nationals have sought employment in meatpacking and poultry processing plants. Mexican DTOs use their connections in these cities to smuggle illicit drugs into the Omaha metropolitan area.

African American and Hispanic street gangs control retail distribution in Omaha. Crack cocaine distribution has increased in Omaha since 2006. This increase is the combined result of local Bloods and Crips sets—some with drug connections in Los Angeles—recently increasing their distribution of crack cocaine, as well as an influx of African American street gang members from Chicago (notably Black Gangster Disciples), who distributed the drug on a large scale in 2006 and 2007. In addition, the Omaha Metro Drug Task Force reports that there was a notable increase in powder cocaine availability in the fourth quarter of 2007. Mara Salvatrucha (MS 13) is the fastest-growing Hispanic street gang in Omaha.

**ST. LOUIS (MISSOURI) AREA**

The St. Louis metropolitan area, which includes the city of St. Louis and St. Louis County, is located in east central Missouri along the Mississippi River and has a combined population of more than 1.3 million residents. St. Louis is a significant consumer market and also serves as a transshipment and distribution hub for Mexican traffickers who supply cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine throughout Missouri and to markets in other states, including Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. The convergence of Interstates 44, 55, 64, and 70 in St. Louis provides easy access for distributors to transport illicit drugs from the Southwest Border to St. Louis and markets outside the HIDTA region.

Mexican DTOs have increased their presence in St. Louis and are now the principal transporters and wholesale distributors of heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana to the area. Mexican DTOs operating in St. Louis have not yet established the intricate drug distribution networks that other Mexican traffickers have created in market areas such as Kansas City and sometimes



must cooperate with local drug traffickers to distribute their drugs, making them vulnerable to law enforcement exposure. Mexican DTOs in St. Louis have primary sources of supply in Phoenix and Tucson; they also acquire illicit drugs from sources in Chicago, Dallas, El Paso, Houston, and Los Angeles. Local law enforcement investigations also have discovered that Mexican traffickers operating in St. Louis frequently have connections in Chicago, Atlanta, Memphis, and New York City. African American street gangs (mostly Crips and Bloods sets) control nearly all retail drug distribution in the city of St. Louis, and African American independent dealers dominate retail distribution in St. Louis County (see Table 1 on page 5). Federal law enforcement officials report that the number of African American street gangs in St. Louis is growing and that this increase may be attributed to a recruiting drive among younger school students.

Heroin and crack distribution and abuse are major drug problems in St. Louis. In 2006 local law enforcement reported that white powder heroin had overtaken Mexican black tar heroin as the dominant type of heroin available in the market, but black tar heroin availability rose again in 2007. Investigations in St. Louis have revealed that Chicago is the source of supply for the majority of white powder and black tar heroin available and that Oakland and Sacramento, California, also serve as sources of supply for black tar heroin. Traditionally, St. Louis heroin distributors have been older (30s to 40s) local independent dealers; however, in 2007 the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department noted an increase of distributors in their teens. African American street gangs dominate crack distribution, converting most powder cocaine available in the city into crack. However, law enforcement reporting indicates that some dealers are believed to purchase limited quantities of powder cocaine (½ to 1 ounce) at a time, in an effort to avoid enhanced penalties for crack distribution.

Methamphetamine is rarely encountered in the city of St. Louis, but it is the primary drug problem in surrounding counties, including St. Louis County. Despite statewide pseudoephedrine control legislation, methamphetamine production remains

relatively high in eastern Missouri and in the areas adjacent to St. Louis. (See Figure 3 on page 8.) According to law enforcement officials, laboratory operators in these locations travel to neighboring counties and states to purchase large amounts of precursor chemicals and return to the area to manufacture methamphetamine.

## SECONDARY MARKETS

### CEDAR RAPIDS (IOWA) AREA

Cedar Rapids is the second-largest city in Iowa and is located in the eastern part of the state on the Cedar River in Linn County, which has a population of over 197,000. Cedar Rapids is primarily a consumer market for illicit drugs, but some cocaine and marijuana are supplied from Cedar Rapids to neighboring cities in Iowa, particularly Cedar Falls, Waterloo, and Dubuque.

Crack cocaine distribution and abuse are significant drug concerns to law enforcement and public health officials in Cedar Rapids. Chicago-based African American street gangs, primarily Latin Kings, Gangster Disciples, and Vice Lords, control the retail distribution of crack cocaine in Cedar Rapids; they also distribute powder cocaine and heroin. Mexican DTOs and criminal groups transport large quantities of methamphetamine to Cedar Rapids by commercial and private vehicles and package delivery services. Mexican DTOs dominate methamphetamine distribution in the market, and the presence of a large, undocumented Hispanic population in the Cedar Rapids area has facilitated this control. Marijuana and powder cocaine also are highly available in the market area. MDMA is available and is transported from New York, California, Spain, and the Netherlands to Cedar Rapids by package delivery services; the drug is used at rave parties.

### DES MOINES (IOWA) AREA

The Des Moines metropolitan area, which includes the city of Des Moines as well as the rest of Polk County, has almost 375,000 residents. The highway infrastructure in the Des Moines area



facilitates the transportation of illicit drugs and drug proceeds to and from the area. Interstates 35 and 80 intersect in Polk County, northeast of Des Moines and are the principal highways that serve the area. Des Moines is primarily a consumer market, but Mexican DTOs also use Des Moines as a transshipment center for ice methamphetamine destined for northeast markets.

Mexican DTOs are the primary transporters of ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana into the area; they use private vehicles to transport the drugs from Mexico, California, Texas, and Arizona. Additionally, African American street gangs from Chicago and the Kansas City metropolitan area transport powder cocaine, crack, and marijuana to Des Moines. They generally transport these drugs to Des Moines in private vehicles, sell the drugs, and return home with the drug proceeds. Moreover, African American street gangs from Detroit have been increasing their influence in Des Moines.

African American and Hispanic street gangs are the primary retail distributors throughout Des Moines. Local African American street gangs are the primary powder cocaine and crack distributors. These gangs tend to be loosely organized and formed in and around housing developments. Hispanic street gangs tend to be more hierarchical and tied to nationally affiliated gangs such as 18th Street, Latin Kings, and MS 13. Hispanic street gangs distribute cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana. Both African American and Hispanic street gangs have used violence in the past to protect their drug territories.

### FARGO/GRAND FORKS (NORTH DAKOTA) AREA

The Fargo/Grand Forks area includes Cass, Grand Forks, Ramsey, Richland, and Walsh Counties in North Dakota. The population of the area's five counties is approximately 215,000, roughly one-third of the total population of the state. The Fargo/Grand Forks area is primarily a consumer market for illicit drugs; however, it does serve as a distribution center for small communities in eastern and central North Dakota.

Cocaine and methamphetamine distribution and abuse are significant drug concerns to law enforcement and public health officials in Fargo and Grand Forks. Methamphetamine distribution and abuse previously have dominated in both markets; however, officials with the Fargo Police Department report that methamphetamine distribution has recently decreased. In addition, law enforcement officials report a recent increase in crack cocaine availability in Fargo and in powder cocaine availability in Grand Forks. Mexican criminal groups are the principal transporters and distributors of most illicit drugs in the Fargo/Grand Forks area. African American street gangs from Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis/St. Paul, and Milwaukee are the primary transporters and distributors of crack cocaine in the Fargo/Grand Forks area. (See Table 1 on page 5.) Marijuana is highly available and frequently abused; despite the Fargo/Grand Forks area's proximity to Canada, Mexican commercial-grade marijuana is more available than Canadian hydroponic marijuana. However, the Grand Forks Narcotics Task Force reports an increase in BC Bud availability in the first quarter of 2008.

### SIoux CITY (IOWA)/ SIoux FALLS (SOUTH DAKOTA) AREA

The Sioux City/Sioux Falls area—which includes Woodbury County, Iowa; Dakota County, Nebraska; and Lincoln and Minnehaha Counties, South Dakota—is located along the Interstate 29 corridor in northwestern Iowa (Sioux City), northeastern Nebraska (South Sioux City), and southeastern South Dakota (Sioux Falls). Sioux City/Sioux Falls is a regional distribution center for methamphetamine, marijuana, cocaine, and MDMA; these drugs are distributed from the area to markets in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

Mexican criminal groups are the principal transporters of illicit drugs to the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area. They transport wholesale quantities of methamphetamine, marijuana, and powder cocaine, and limited quantities of Mexican black tar heroin to the area from California and Arizona, as well as from Omaha. Mexican wholesale traffickers sell methamphetamine and other illicit



drugs to Mexican and Caucasian midlevel dealers, who in turn sell the drugs to the area's retail distributors. Caucasian independent dealers are the primary retail distributors in the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area; Mexican and Native American independent dealers also distribute drugs at the retail level, but to a lesser extent.

The distribution and abuse of methamphetamine are significant drug problems in the Sioux City/Sioux Falls area and frequently are associated with violent and property crimes. Increasing crack cocaine availability in Sioux City is attributed to an influx of African American street gang members from Chicago, Kansas City, Minneapolis, and St. Louis. These gang members travel to Sioux City, often by commercial buses, to distribute crack cocaine because of the drug's large profit margin in the area. A rock of crack cocaine in Chicago sells for \$15, while a rock of crack cocaine in Sioux Falls sells for approximately \$75. In addition, powder cocaine distribution and abuse are increasing in Sioux Falls; law enforcement officials report that they anticipate a continued increase in cocaine availability and a decline in methamphetamine availability in the near term.

### SPRINGFIELD (MISSOURI) AREA

Springfield, with a population of more than 150,000, is the county seat of Greene County and is situated on I-44, which connects Springfield to St. Louis and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Springfield is a consumer market and a state distribution center. Cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine are distributed from Springfield to areas throughout Missouri.

Ice methamphetamine distribution and abuse are major drug threats in Springfield, although crack cocaine distribution and abuse are prevalent and frequently associated with violent crimes. A slight increase in hydroponic marijuana availability and abuse is attributed to the large college population in Springfield that typically prefers this marijuana.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups are the principal transporters and wholesale distributors of most illicit drugs in Springfield. Mexican traffickers transport wholesale quantities of ice methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana from Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas to Springfield for distribution. African American local independent dealers, some with street gang affiliations, dominate retail distribution of crack cocaine. African American criminal groups and street gangs in Detroit, Chicago, the Kansas City metropolitan area, Little Rock, and St. Louis transport and distribute cocaine to Springfield. These groups previously transported the drug in crack form but now typically transport the drug in powder form and convert it to crack in Springfield in an attempt to avoid increased penalties for trafficking crack. Since 2005, the number of Gangster Disciples gang members operating in this market has doubled; these gang members frequently engage in shootings and assaults in order to protect their distribution territory.

### WICHITA (KANSAS) AREA

The Wichita metropolitan area (which includes Wichita as well as the rest of Sedgwick County) has more than 450,000 residents and is located in south central Kansas. Situated on I-35 and U.S. Highway 54, two major drug transportation routes from the Southwest Border, Wichita is a drug distribution hub as well as a significant consumer market. Mexican DTOs and criminal groups are the principal transporters of most illicit drugs available in Wichita and Sedgwick County. They may be using indirect routes, transporting drugs from the Southwest to Wichita through South Dakota or Nebraska in an effort to avoid detection. Mexican ice methamphetamine, powder cocaine, and marijuana are distributed from Wichita to many southeast and south central Kansas towns.

Mexican DTOs and criminal groups control the wholesale distribution of methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana in Wichita. While these three drugs usually are highly available and widely abused in this market, DEA Wichita officials reported a noticeable decline in cocaine availability

in 2007. African American street gangs and Hispanic local independent dealers and street gangs dominate retail-level drug distribution. Additionally, African American distributors convert most of the powder cocaine available in the area to crack for retail distribution. Asian criminal groups from Canada and Washington transport MDMA to Wichita, where it is distributed by Asian criminal groups and independent college age users.

Street gang activity is increasing in Wichita. Some of the increased street gang activity and gang-related violence is caused by rival distributors, including Asian street gangs, becoming active in crack cocaine distribution, which was typically controlled by African American criminal groups.

## OUTLOOK

Ice methamphetamine availability and abuse will remain the most significant drug-related issues facing the Midwest HIDTA in the near term. In addition, increased street gang activity in some HIDTA markets such as Wichita and St. Louis will lead to increased incidents of violent and property crimes. African American and Hispanic street gangs rely on drug revenue, including that generated by crack cocaine and methamphetamine sales, to support their activities and resort to violence in order to protect their operations. This may contribute to levels of violence in the Midwest HIDTA region if gangs increasingly compete for drug territory and market share.

Local methamphetamine production will continue and may increase in some areas of the HIDTA. Unless states in the Midwest HIDTA region create centralized databases to track pseudoephedrine purchases, local methamphetamine producers will continue to purchase pseudoephedrine in quantities less than threshold amounts at several locations throughout the region until they acquire enough to manufacture a supply of methamphetamine. Further, methamphetamine producers will continue to search for alternate means of obtaining sufficient precursor chemicals. Law enforcement agencies in HIDTA areas that

have experienced a resurgence of methamphetamine laboratories will have to balance budget expenditures between remediating methamphetamine laboratories and targeting organizations.

The Midwest HIDTA may face an increased trafficking threat from its shared border with Canada if chemical controls enacted by the government of Mexico cause a sustained decrease in Mexican methamphetamine production and a shortfall in the supply of methamphetamine in the HIDTA region. Law enforcement officials in some western drug markets have already noted intermittent methamphetamine shortages as a result of law enforcement pressure and chemical controls in the United States and Mexico. Law enforcement officials also have reported that methamphetamine production in Canada has risen in recent years and that they expect increasing supplies of Canadian methamphetamine to flow into areas of the United States, including some markets in the midwest.

The availability and abuse of high-potency marijuana in the Midwest HIDTA region may increase as Asian traffickers increase their production in Manitoba, particularly the Winnipeg area, and as demand for the drug rises in the area. The Fargo/Grand Forks, Sioux City/Sioux Falls, and Omaha markets will be especially vulnerable to this increase, since I-29 connects with Canada's Manitoba Provincial Highway 75, which passes through Winnipeg. In addition, Asian traffickers from Canada may attempt to increase their market share and control by establishing indoor, high-potency cannabis cultivation operations within the HIDTA region, as they have reportedly done in other regions of the country, such as the Great Lakes and Pacific Regions.



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## SOURCES

### Local, State, and Regional

#### Iowa

Cedar Rapids Police Department  
 Des Moines Police Department  
   Intelligence Unit  
   Vice and Illicit Drugs Unit  
 Iowa Department of Public Safety  
   Division of Illicit Drugs Enforcement  
 Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy  
 Mid-Iowa Narcotic Enforcement Task Force

#### Kansas

Abilene Police Department  
 Butler County Sheriff's Office  
 Crawford County Sheriff's Department  
 Garden City/Finney County Drug Task Force  
 Garden City Police Department  
 Jasper County Drug Task Force  
 Johnson County Crime Lab  
 Kansas City Police Department  
   Special Enforcement Unit  
 Kansas Highway Patrol  
 Kansas Office of Attorney General  
   Kansas Bureau of Investigation  
     Southeast Kansas Drug Task Force  
 Kearny County Sheriff's Department  
 Lawrence Police Department  
 Lenexa Police Department  
 Lyon County Sheriff's Office  
 Miami County Sheriff's Office  
 Montgomery County Sheriff's Office  
 Riley County Police Department  
 Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office  
 Wichita Police Department  
   Gang/Felony Assault Unit

#### Missouri

Camden County Sheriff's Department  
 Christian County Sheriff's Department  
 Cole County Sheriff's Office  
 Florissant Police Department  
 Jefferson City Police

Kansas City Police Department  
   Drug Interdiction Squad  
   Financial Investigations Unit  
   Street Gang Squad  
   Street Illicit Drugs Unit  
 Independence Police Department  
 Marshall Police Department  
 Maryland Heights Police Department  
 Missouri Senate  
 Missouri State Highway Patrol  
 Southwest Missouri Drug Task Force  
 Springfield Police Department  
 St. Charles County Criminalistics Laboratory  
 St. Louis County Police Department  
   Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force  
 St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department  
   Criminal Forensics Section  
   Narcotics Division  
 Warrensburg Police Department  
 Webster Groves Police Department

#### Nebraska

Bellevue Police Department  
 Blair Police Department  
 Chadron Police Department  
 Columbus Police Department  
 Elkhorn Police Department  
 Kearney Police Department  
 Lincoln Police Department  
 Nebraska State Patrol  
 North Platte Police Department  
 Omaha Metro Drug Task Force  
 Omaha Police Department  
   Gang Intelligence Squad  
 Ralston Police Department  
 Scottsbluff Police Department  
 Sidney Police Department

#### North Dakota

Fargo Police Department  
   Illicit Drugs/Gangs Unit  
 Grand Forks Narcotics Task Force  
 Grand Forks Police Department  
 North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation

#### South Dakota

Pennington County Drug Task Force  
 Sioux Falls Area Drug Task Force



Sioux Falls Police Department  
Southeast Human Services Center  
Adult Addiction Services

## Federal

Central Intelligence Agency  
*The World Factbook*  
Executive Office of the President  
Office of National Drug Control Policy  
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area  
Midwest  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Census Bureau  
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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
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Chicago Field Division  
Fargo Resident Office  
El Paso Intelligence Center  
National Seizure System  
St. Louis Field Division  
Des Moines Resident Office  
Garden City Resident Office  
Kansas City District Office  
Omaha District Office  
Sioux City Resident Office  
Wichita Field Office  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Criminal Enterprise Squad  
Kansas City Field Office  
St. Louis Field Division

## Other

Midwest Gang Investigators Association  
Iowa Chapter  
National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws  
Statistics Canada

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