Drug Cases Submitted to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science CY 2014

A Joint Report by the Virginia Departments of Forensic Science & Criminal Justice Services
Drug Cases Submitted to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science

- DFS receives tens of thousands of drug samples every year
- Data presented here are for select drug categories of interest
  - Cocaine
  - Heroin
  - Methamphetamine
  - Marijuana
  - Cannabimimetic Agents*
  - “Club Drugs”
  - Prescription Opioids
  - Prescription Stimulants
  - Benzodiazepines

*Cannabimimetic agents were previously labeled “synthetic cannabinoids.”
Comparing DFS Cases to Arrest Data
Select drug types, calendar years 2001-2014

- **Heroin**
  - Cases Submitted to DFS
  - Arrests
  - Graph showing trends from 2001 to 2014.

- **Amphetamine/Methamphetamine**
  - Cases Submitted to DFS
  - Arrests
  - Graph showing trends from 2001 to 2014.

- **Cocaine**
  - Cases Submitted to DFS
  - Arrests
  - Graph showing trends from 2001 to 2014.

- **Marijuana**
  - Cases Submitted to DFS
  - Arrests
  - Graph showing trends from 2001 to 2014.
Drug Cases Submitted to DFS
Selected Drugs in CY2014, By VSP Division

- Benzodiazepines
- "Club Drugs"
- Cocaine
- Heroin
- Marijuana
- Methamphetamine
- Prescription Opioids
- Prescription Stimulants
- Cannabimimetic Agents

Legend:
- VSP1
- VSP2
- VSP3
- VSP4
- VSP5
- VSP6
- VSP7
Regional Variations in Drug Submissions
Distribution of Select Drug Cases Submitted to DFS, CY2014

- % of State Population
- % of State Benzodiazepine Cases
- % of State "Club Drug" Cases
- % of State Cocaine Cases
- % of State Heroin Cases
- % of State Marijuana Cases

[Map showing regional variations with data for each region]
Regional Variations in Drug Submissions
Distribution of Select Drug Cases Submitted to DFS, CY2014
Benzodiazepine Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
Benzodiazepine Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014

VSP1  VSP2  VSP3  VSP4  VSP5  VSP6  VSP7  State
CY2006  CY2014
2006  2010  2014
10.9  10.6  14.1  10.6  10.9  14.0  14.6  123.5
2006  2010  2014
9  8.8  4.7  4.3  4.7  30.5  8.8  35.9
2006  2010  2014
36  30.5  10.6  35.9  10.6  14.0  4.3  4.7
2006  2010  2014
5  2.7  1  2  7  23.5  14.5  14.0
“Club Drug” Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
“Club Drug” Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014
Cocaine Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
Cocaine Cases Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014
Heroin Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
Heroin Cases Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014
Methamphetamine Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
Methamphetamine Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014
Prescription Opioid Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
Prescription Opioid Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014
Prescription Stimulant Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2014
Prescription Stimulant Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014

[Graph showing the submission rate per 100,000 population for different regions and years, with bars indicating the rate for CY2006 and CY2014.]
Cannabimimetic Agent* Submissions
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2011-2014

*Previously labeled "synthetic cannabinoids." Includes substances that were not listed as cannabimimetic agents by law at the time they were identified, but appear to have included a cannabimimetic agent-type substance.
Cannabimimetic Agent* Submission Rate
Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2014

*Previously labeled “synthetic cannabinoids.” Includes substances that were not listed as cannabimimetic agents by law at the time they were identified, but appear to have included a cannabimimetic agent-type substance.
Combined Drug Submissions
Selected Drug Types

- Cocaine
- Marijuana
- Heroin
- Presc. Opioids
- Other*

*Includes all substances other than those listed, including those not presented in this report
Data Sources

Drug submission data for this report were provided by DFS, using information collected for the National Forensic Laboratory Information System. When multiple drug samples of the same type of drug were submitted as part of the same case, they were only counted a single time, as one case. When multiple samples of different drug types were submitted as part of the same case, they were counted as a single case for each included drug type.

Arrest data were taken from the annual *Crime in Virginia* reports prepared by the Virginia State Police (VSP), [http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm](http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm).

Population data used to calculate rates were provided by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, [http://www.coopercenter.org/demographics](http://www.coopercenter.org/demographics).

Data analysis was provided by the DCJS Criminal Justice Research Center.