



Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy

(ODCP)

Administration & Regulation Appropriations

Subcommittee

February 13, 2023

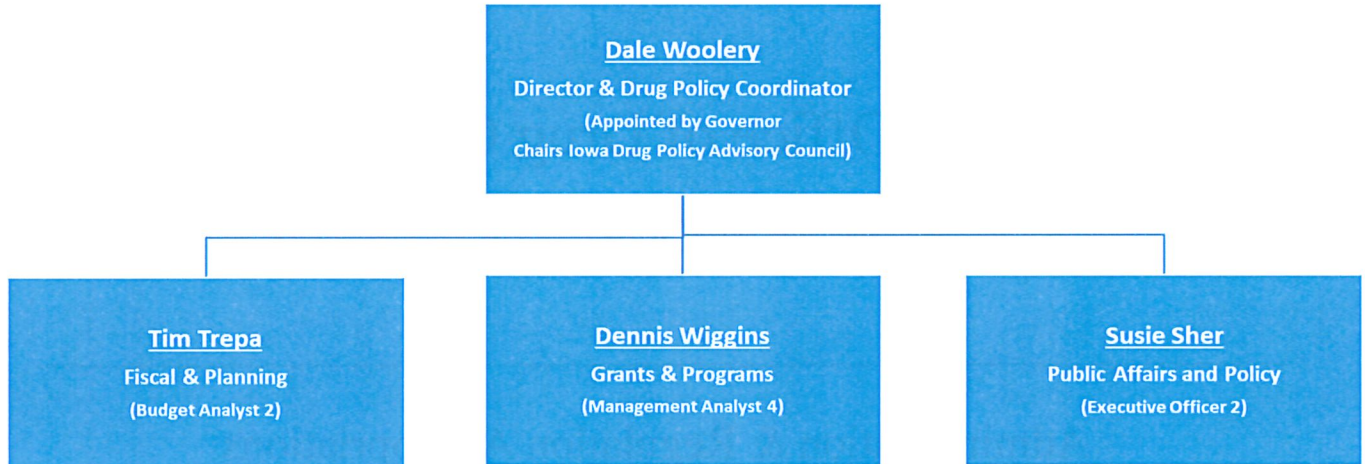


Governor’s Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP)

Iowa Code Chapter 80E

Table of Organization

2022



Vision:

Safe and healthy Iowans.

Mission:

To coordinate substance use related criminal justice resources and policy development.

[2023 Iowa Drug Control Strategy, Overdose Action Plan & Data Profile](#)

ODCP Financials

State funding:

FY16: \$241,134

FY17: \$239,892

FY18: \$226,247

FY19: \$226,247

FY20: \$238,147

FY21: \$239,271

FY22: \$239,271

FY23: \$239,271

FY 24 request: \$239,271

ODCP’s status quo total operational budget for FY23 includes \$239,271 in state appropriation (~43%), combined with \$311,049 in federal grant dollars (~57%), for a total operational budget of \$550,320.

ODCP Grants & Programs in 2023

ODCP currently administers the following federal grants:

Formula Grants (2022 federal awards)

- Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG): \$1,964,093
- JAG Sex Offender Registry and Notification Act (SORNA): \$109,809
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT): \$364,122
- Coverdell Forensic Science: \$293,954
- Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), Northern District: \$91,727
- Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), Southern District: \$116,150
- Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding \$5,754,321
- John R. Justice (JRJ...loan repayment): \$78,405
- State Crisis Intervention Program (first two years combined): \$2,478,792

Competitive Grants (some are multi-year awards)

- Upholding the Rule of Law and Preventing Wrongful Conviction: \$299,234
- COPS Anti-Meth Program (CAMP): \$381,510
- COPS Heroin Enforcement: \$135,000
- Drug Free Communities: \$125,000
- Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP...pre/post arrest diversion): \$1,737,192
- Partners For Success (Subaward from IDPH): \$88,000

SF22 Byrne JAG Project Performance at a Glance

<u>All Projects (Drug/Crime Prevention, Treatment & Enforcement)</u>	
Number of projects funded	25
Grant funds Invested	\$1,895,453
Number of positions supported	51
<u>Drug Enforcement Task Force Projects Performance</u>	
Number of firearms seized	792
Number accepted for federal felony charges	367
Number of trafficking organizations disrupted/dismantled	290
Number of youth referred to the Department of Human Services	181

Grant Programs in Brief

Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Byrne JAG is a general purpose criminal justice/substance abuse federal formula grant. Grant funds can be applied to state priorities with a great deal of flexibility, including innovations. In Iowa, the program primarily supports drug-related law enforcement, prosecution, corrections, substance use and mental health treatment and prevention programming. A portion of this funding is passed through directly to local jurisdictions for similar purposes. Also, 18 Iowa communities also receive direct Byrne JAG funding.

COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Program (CAMP)

This competitive grant is administered by the COPS Office. ODCP partners with the Division of Narcotics Enforcement (DNE) in applying for funding to support mid-level methamphetamine distribution investigations. Funding supports two DNE special agents and overtime funding is passed through to local law enforcement to encourage a multi-agency approach that includes coordinated information sharing through the Division of Intelligence.

ODCP Grant Programs in Brief, continued

Drug Free Communities

This competitive grant is designed to reduce substance use among youth and substance abuse among adults by addressing community factors that increase the risk of substance abuse. ODCP partners with the Iowa Alliance of Coalitions for Change (AC4C) to provide support and guidance to local substance abuse coalitions.

Sex Offender Registration & Notification Act (SORNA)

Funding is a result of a 10% setback on Byrne JAG funding for states that do not fully comply with national guidelines for Sex Offender Registration and Notification. States may use funding to address compliance deficiencies or to maintain and improve sex offender registration and monitoring. In recent years, this funding has been used to develop facial recognition within the sex offender database and to provide equipment to local sheriffs' offices to assist with sex offender registration.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)

The RSAT program provides evidence-based substance use disorder treatment to eligible offenders via a therapeutic community model. In Iowa this funding currently supports treatment programming for clients of the Bridges program in Polk County.

Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant

This grant provides funding to states to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. In recent years, this funding has supported training for state medical examiners, local medical investigators, equipment, and overtime to help reduce backlog in both the Medical Examiner's Office the Crime Lab. Funding also has assisted the Waterloo Police Department's lab to become accredited.

Upholding the Rule of Law & Preventing Wrongful Conviction DNA Testing

This is a competitive grant in which ODCP partners with the State Public Defender and Midwest Innocence Project to ensure due process for all, by reviewing cases of post-conviction and appeals claims of innocence with a focus on those at greatest risk for error.

COPS Anti-Heroin Task Force

This competitive grant is administered by the COPS Office. ODCP partners with the Division of Narcotics Enforcement to support mid-level heroin/opioid distribution investigations. Roughly two-thirds of the funding is passed through to local law enforcement to encourage a multi-agency approach that includes coordinated information sharing through the Division of Intelligence.

John R. Justice

This grant program offers student loan repayment for prosecutors and public defenders to encourage public service in these areas.

Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP)

This is a competitive grant in which ODCP partnered with the Department of Public Safety, Department of Public Health, Pharmacy Board and others to bring stakeholders together to develop a data sharing tool to collect and share opioid/drug specific data from various sectors in a manner that allows for more timely data driven decision making.

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP)

This is a competitive grant in which ODCP partnered with three diverse communities (Black Hawk, Jones, & Story Counties) to implement local pre-arrest/pre-conviction diversion to treatment projects, to prevent participants' formal involvement with the criminal justice system while disrupting the progression to more serious substance abuse and criminal behavior.

Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN)-Northern & Southern Districts of Iowa

This formula grant program is designed to address violent crime with an emphasis on gun and gang activity. The PSN program provides funding to US Attorney districts for a coordinated response to the most critical violent crime problems in each district.

Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF)

This targeted formula grant responds to the coronavirus pandemic. Funding supports state and local criminal justice responses to immediate and long term pandemic needs that include: social distancing, information systems and remote service/supervision delivery services. Thirty-six local communities also received direct CESF funding from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Strategic Prevention Framework—Partnerships for Success (PFS)

ODCP, in partnership with the Alliance of Coalitions For Change (AC4C), is the recipient of a Strategic Prevention Framework Partnership for Success (SPF PFS) grant award from the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (Public Health Division). This grant focuses on primary prevention activities to prevent and reduce binge drinking and alcohol involved deaths among adults ages 45 and older.

State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)

Congress established the new SCIP funding stream in the Byrne JAG Program through the Safer Communities Act. Funding will support the creation and maintenance of crisis intervention programs including red flag law programs, specialty courts, and other programs which address the legislation priorities. The U.S. Department of Justice is currently working on program definitions, rules, and implementation guidelines.



November 16, 2022

Iowa Report Cites Progress Amid Growing Threats from Mutating Illicit Drugs

Iowa's 2023 Drug Control Strategy, released by the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP), is a comprehensive statewide blueprint that flags drug-related trends, assesses current and emerging needs, and prioritizes approaches for responding to those needs.

"When it comes to reducing risky substance use in Iowa, we continue to see a mix of success and challenge," said ODCP Director Dale Woolery. "Complicating matters is the growing variety of increasingly potent substances and combinations, such as illicit synthetic opioids. Among other needs, the fast-changing landscape of intoxicating and addictive substances requires more robust prevention efforts and greater access to substance use disorder treatment."

According to recent federal studies, Iowans binge drink alcohol and use tobacco/nicotine products at levels above the national average. At the same time, Iowans use illicit drugs and succumb to drug overdose deaths at rates below most other states, and youth substance use rates are declining or holding steady. However, substance-related deaths have risen over the last two years, from 2019-2021 (alcohol-related deaths +38%, opioid overdose deaths +64%, stimulant overdose deaths +20%, and total drug overdose deaths among young Iowans under 25 years of age +120%...driven largely by opioids).

"The pandemic added fuel to the fire of behavioral health disorders, including addiction, and now mutating drug supplies add a more devious dimension," said Woolery. "Simply put, those who sell powerful or altered drugs capable of killing unsuspecting users are trying to profit from poison, with products that include fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills."

Key findings of the 2023 Iowa Drug Control Strategy, broken out by substance type, follow:

Alcohol

The rate of binge drinking in Iowa continues at a relatively high level, compared to most other states, as alcohol sales have nearly doubled over the last decade. In 2021, alcohol-related deaths (e.g., poisonings, accidents, and chronic disease) claimed the lives of a record 827 Iowans, up 38% compared to 2019.

Nicotine/Tobacco/Vaping

Iowans' use of tobacco/nicotine products remains slightly higher than most other states. Meanwhile, among young Iowans, 13% of 11th grade students reported vaping in 2021, down from a spike of 23% in 2018.

Marijuana/THC

Marijuana-related hospital emergency department visits increased in Iowa to 6,503 in 2021, up over 58% from five years ago, amid rising drug potency (THC concentrations) and associated health risks. On the other hand, 8% of 11th graders said they used marijuana in the past 30 days during 2021, the lowest level in nearly 20 years.

Methamphetamine

Only 11 methamphetamine (meth) labs were found in Iowa in 2021. However, during the same year, amounts of highly-pure meth reportedly smuggled into Iowa remained at or near record high levels. Also, in 2021, psychostimulant-related deaths (e.g. meth overdoses) in Iowa reached an all-time high of 196, up 20% compared with 2019.

Cocaine

Some indicators point to a possible resurgence in psychostimulant activity involving cocaine. While far less prevalent than meth, Iowa law enforcement seized more cocaine in 2021. Meantime, Iowa prison admissions for powder (14) and crack (9) cocaine increased slightly last year from the year before, but remained near their lowest levels in over 15 years.

Opioids

Opioid-related deaths in Iowa reached a record high 258 in 2021, up 64% compared with 2019, with the largest increase occurring among young Iowans (up 290% among those under the age of 25). Illicit fentanyl was implicated in 83% of the most recent deaths, reflecting how widespread powerful synthetic opioids have become in a short amount of time, including as an adulterant in other substances—such as counterfeit pills—for unsuspecting users.

Polysubstance Use

First-time substance use disorder treatment data confirm reports about many Iowans taking two or more substances together, or within a short time period (e.g., using fentanyl-laced pills or marijuana after meth). Nearly four of every 10 Iowans (39.6%) treated at state-licensed substance use disorder treatment centers last year reported polysubstance use.

Other

New drugs continue to be developed, with shorter seed-to-sale or chemist-to-consumer timelines. A growing share of these new substances are synthetic (e.g., nitazenes), though new organic compounds like cannabinoids are still being discovered in places such as the cannabis plant (e.g., THCv, THCP, CBG-A, CBN and HHC).

Within the 2023 Iowa Drug Control Strategy is a new *Iowa Drug Overdose Action Plan* that outlines a series of steps in four areas to: (1) prevent short and long-term drug use, and associated dangers; (2) strengthen emergency response and intervention tactics; (3) enhance substance use disorder treatment access and capacity; and (4) interrupt illicit drug trafficking.

The comprehensive Strategy also highlights proven and promising approaches for reducing all forms of substance misuse, and sets forth these broad goals:

- Reduce substance-related injuries and deaths.
- Reduce youth use of alcohol, nicotine and marijuana (THC).
- Increase timely access to substance use disorder services.
- Increase employment and quality of life for those in or completing substance use disorder treatment.
- Increase accountable alternatives to incarceration for eligible drug-related offenses, and reduce the disproportionate number of minorities referred to the justice system.

“Effectively addressing these important issues requires a nimble strategy involving virtually all Iowans, and evolving to the changing needs of today and tomorrow,” said Woolery. “The refinement of additional telehealth tools, more emphasis on collaborative crisis response and intervention, online help via YourLifeIowa.org, and the national 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline are a few examples of meeting Iowans where they are with timely services.”

In satisfaction of Iowa Code 80E, requiring an Annual Report by the Drug Policy Coordinator, the 2023 Iowa Drug Control Strategy has been submitted to Governor Kim Reynolds and members of the Iowa Legislature. The full report is available at <https://odcp.iowa.gov>.

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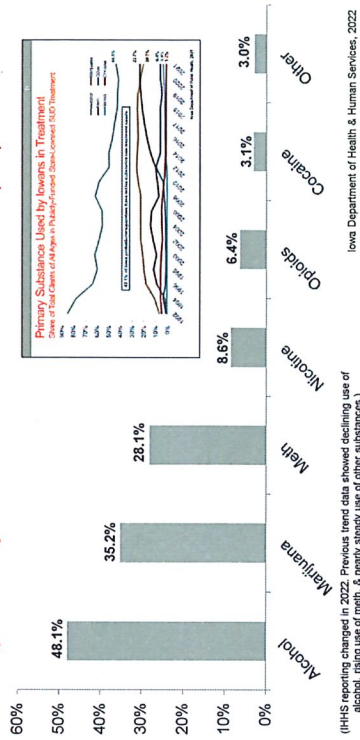


Iowa's Evolving Drug Trends Responding to Health & Safety Concerns

February 2023
Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy

*Vision: Safe & healthy Iowans.
Mission: To coordinate substance use related criminal justice resourcing & policy development.*

Substance Use by All Iowans Entering Treatment Past 30-Day Use Cited by Those Admitted to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment

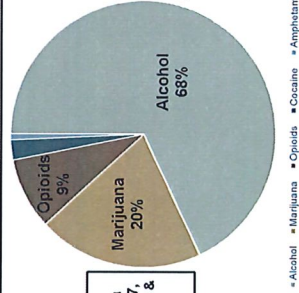


(IHHS reporting changed in 2022. Previous trend data showed declining use of alcohol, rising use of meth, & nearly steady use of other substances.)

Iowa Department of Health & Human Services, 2022

Iowa Substance-Related ED Visits & "Poison" Exposures Some Emergency Department Patients may have Presented Due to Polysubstance Use

Total Iowa substance-related hospital ED visits in 2021 = 32,120
(+10.5% overall, +58% for marijuana vs. 2016)



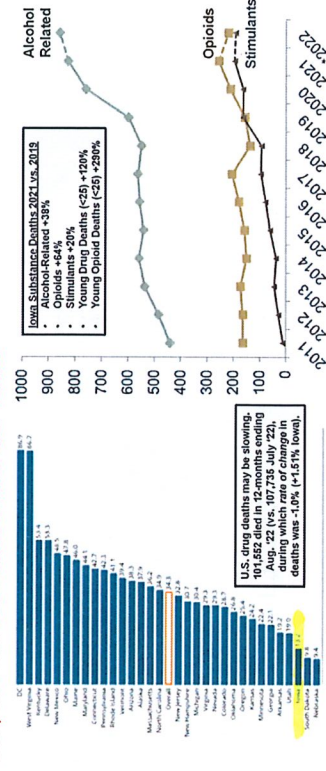
3,054 U.S. children under age 6 accidentally consumed marijuana edibles in 2021, up 1,375% vs. 2017, with 22.7% needing hospitalization & 8% requiring critical care.
National Poison Data System, 2022

Over 50% of Iowa poison exposure calls involved Rx, OTC & herbal drugs, led by pain relievers at #1.
Iowa Poison Control Center, 2022

Alcohol • Marijuana • Opioids • Cocaine • Amphetamines

Iowa Department of Health & Human Services, 2021

Substance-Involved Deaths in Iowa Compared with Other States & Multi-Year Trends



Iowa Substance Deaths 2021 vs. 2018
Alcohol-Related +38%
Opioids +64%
Stimulants +20%
Young Drug Deaths (+25) +190%
Young opioid Deaths (+25) +258%

U.S. drug deaths may be slowing, but are still rising. In August, '22 (vs. 107,736 July '22) deaths was -1.0% (+/-1.5% low).

*2022 projections per IHHS preliminary data, which may lag 11-36-22

ODC & Iowa Department of Health & Human Services, 2023

