



Tarrant County
**Drug Impact
Index**
2015

S.A.I.D.

Eighteenth Edition

Mission Statement

Challenge of Tarrant County is dedicated to confronting substance abuse in Tarrant County by identifying needs, educating the community, mobilizing resources, promoting collaboration and advocating for sound public policy.

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Sadly, and ironically, the way we manage pain in this country is killing us.

An average of 79 people, many of them young, die every day from opioids, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Approximately 30,000 people died in the United States in 2014 from opioid abuse. This is far from someone else's problem. Opioids killed more than 300 people in the North Texas in 2014, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported. And the numbers are only going up.

If you're thinking heroin, you'd be right. But if you think prescription pain pills are not as dangerous as heroin, you would be dead wrong. Heroin actually accounts for fewer than half of all opioid deaths, even with its widely varying purities and adulterants, the CDC reported. In fact, of the 28,647 people who died from opioids in 2014, the majority -- more than 18,000 -- died from overdoses of prescription pain pills. The same pills many of us have left over after a surgery or injury and keep just in case. I know because I've kept them myself.

And just when we thought it couldn't get worse, we're seeing a spike in deaths caused by fentanyl, a synthetic opioid that's as much as 40 times stronger than heroin. Fentanyl is so potent that the equivalent of a few grains of sugar can kill. It's being mixed with heroin, unbeknownst to the user, and like heroin, pressed by traffickers into pills and capsules that are indistinguishable from the commercially produced version.

Although the United States accounts for only 5 percent of the world's population, we consume 80 percent of the world's opioid supply and 99 percent of its Hydrocodone, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. More than 300 million prescriptions were written for pain pills last year in the United States, costing \$24 billion, CNBC reported, and that's just for legally prescribed pills. In fact, since 1999, according to the CDC, the amount of prescription opioids sold in the United States has nearly quadrupled.

One other number has also quadrupled during that same time period: Deaths from opioids. Hardly a coincidence. More people died from drug overdoses in the United States in 2014 than from either motor vehicle accidents or homicide, the CDC reported, and opioids were by far the biggest driver of this statistic.

Local, state, and federal law enforcement, including my office, have been aggressively attacking the supply front of this battle for years. I won't insult anyone by suggesting that we're winning that war. We all understand that we can't arrest our way out of this problem, but law enforcement obviously has a vital role in drug enforcement. For our part, my office

will continue working with our local, state and federal partners to vigorously prosecute gangs, cartels and other drug trafficking organizations who put these drugs on the street.

But we are also re-energizing efforts to take this fight to those health care professionals who are anything but. Those who divert legitimate drugs from their lawful, therapeutic purposes to illicit and deadly purposes, all in the name of money. These diverted pills not only cause more deaths than heroin, but they also fuel its demand because addicts frequently turn to the cheaper and more easily obtainable heroin when they can no longer afford or obtain prescription pills.

In fact, 80 percent of heroin users started abusing prescription pills first. Prescription pill abuse is the strongest risk factor for heroin addiction, the National Institute on Drug Abuse reported, making a person 40 times more likely to start using heroin. So, while these dirty doctors and pharmacists who divert pain pills for profit represent an extremely small fraction of our dedicated health care professionals, they belong in prison with the other drug traffickers, and we're on that.

The stark facts compel the conclusion that any solution lies in reducing demand. What can you do? It's simple, won't take long, and will save lives, possibly someone you know. Reducing demand starts with a single person doing a single act to promote education and awareness.

Many adolescents and even their parents believe that prescription pain pills are safe because they're manufactured by a well-known pharmaceutical company, approved by the FDA, and prescribed by a licensed doctor.

So, please, commit to having a meaningful conversation with a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Talk to your child's school about inviting me, someone on my staff, or anyone in law enforcement to talk to the students about the issue.

There is reason to hope, and it all starts with a single act.

JOHN R. PARKER
United States Attorney
Northern District of Texas

Introduction

The Eighteenth Edition of the Tarrant County Drug Impact Index profiles, for the citizens of Tarrant County, the pervasiveness of the community's substance abuse problem today. Substance abuse encompasses the misuse of alcohol, as well as legal and illegal drugs. This Index relies on archival data through established surveys or standard national, state and local reporting systems.

Selection of particular indicators was driven by a broad-based community steering committee and a series of focus groups to ensure that the data collected would be relevant to the needs of the community. Though no single measure can provide an adequate picture of the impact of substance abuse on a community, a number of indicators can reveal significant trends. Accurate, timely information is critically important when crafting effective local responses to the damaging impact substance abuse has on individuals, families, and communities.

Thus, community relevance is the main criterion used to select indicators for the Index. Other criteria were determined by whether the indicator can be measured from year to year, whether the indicator measures what it intends, and whether it is practical to collect. Challenge of Tarrant County cannot warrant the reliability/validity of the indicators, though every effort has been made to accurately report and depict the data as received from the primary sources cited throughout this publication. This Drug Impact Index was not designed as a precise quantitative measurement or an evaluation device, but is intended to reflect important trends, such as major increases or decreases in illegal drug use or alcohol abuse. Additional indicators may be added to future versions of the Index.

This Eighteenth Edition of the Tarrant County Drug Impact Index grew from prior Challenge of Tarrant County projects, which focused on the City of Arlington. Subsequent editions of this work or studies of other specific areas or populations are within the scope of services offered by Challenge of Tarrant County. For further information or additional copies of this publication, please contact Challenge of Tarrant County at (817) 336-6617 or visit our website at www.challengeetc.org.

Note: Reprinting of this Index in whole or in part is permitted with acknowledgement of the source.

Data Sources

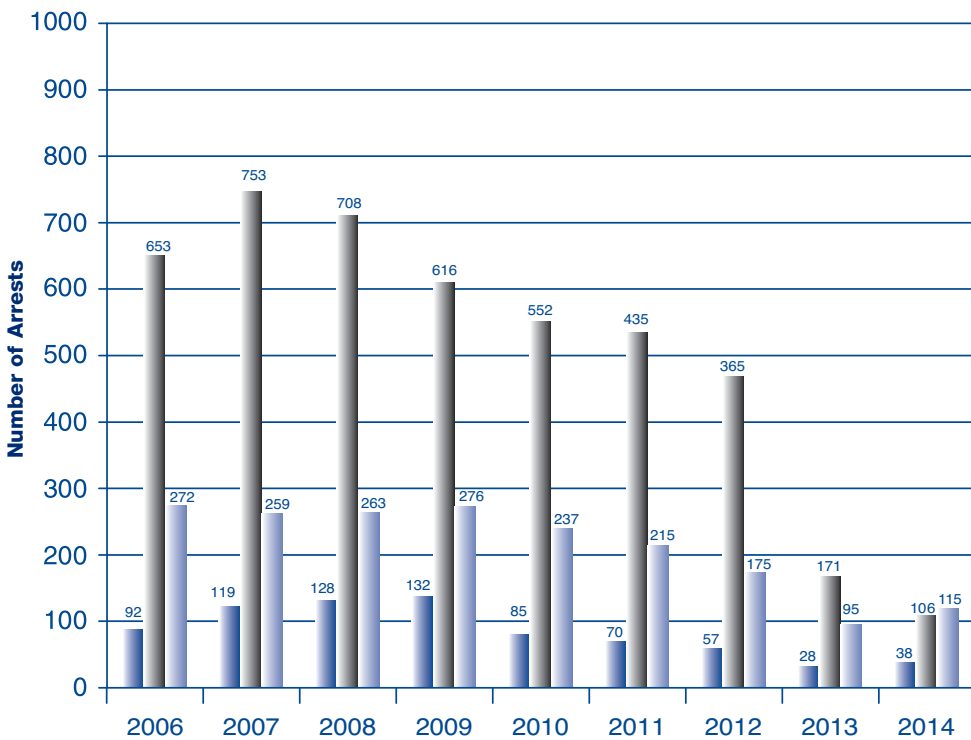
- Mental Health and Mental Retardation of Tarrant County, Addiction Services
- Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University
- Tarrant County Juvenile Services
- Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission
- Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of State Health Services
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Fort Worth Resident Office

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INDICATOR 1

Youth Alcohol Related Arrests in Tarrant County



DUI
(Driving under
the influence)



Liquor laws



Drunkenness

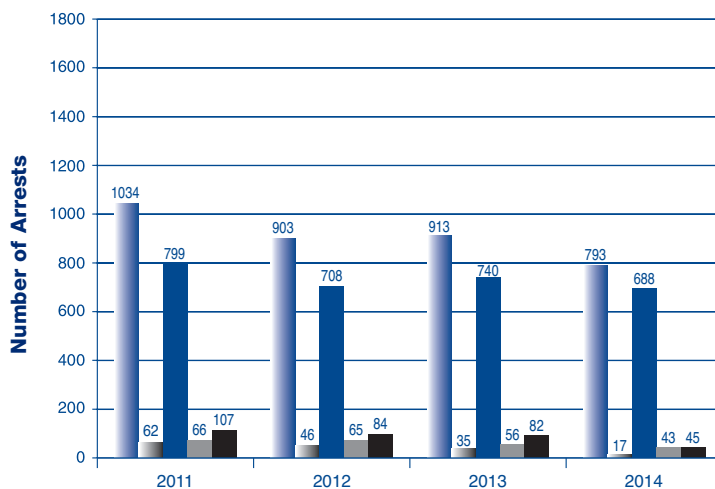
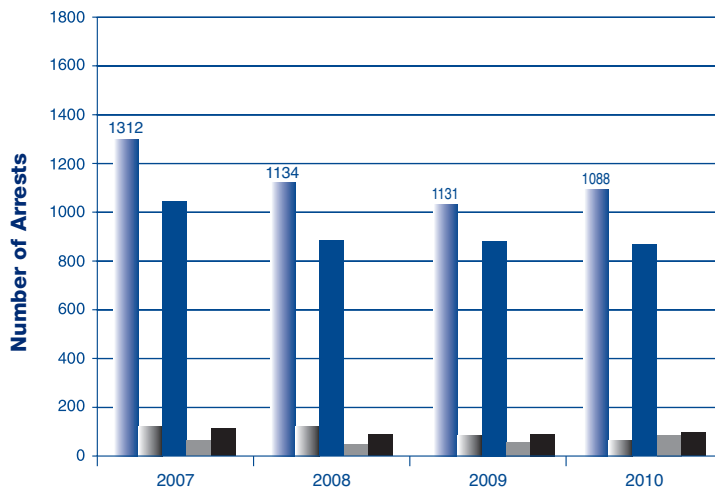
NOTE: The numbers reported here reflect arrests of individuals 17 years of age and under.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Public Safety

INDICATOR 2



Youth Arrests for Drug Possession Tarrant County



Total

Opium/Cocaine

Marijuana

Synthetic
Narcotics

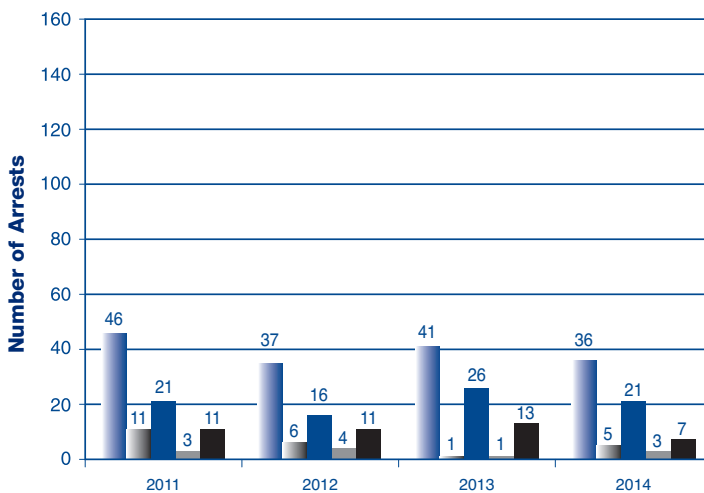
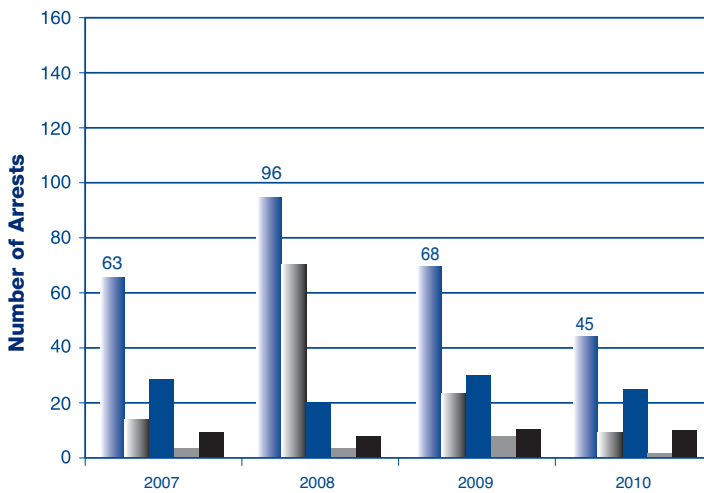
Non-Narcotics

NOTE: The numbers reported here reflect arrests of individuals 17 years of age and under. Synthetic narcotics are prescriptions drugs which contain opium derivatives. The non-narcotics category includes prescription drugs which are not opium derivative based, inhalants, and all other illicit drugs which do not fall into the categories marijuana or opium/cocaine.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Public Safety

INDICATOR 3

Youth Arrests for Drug Sales and Manufacturing in Tarrant County



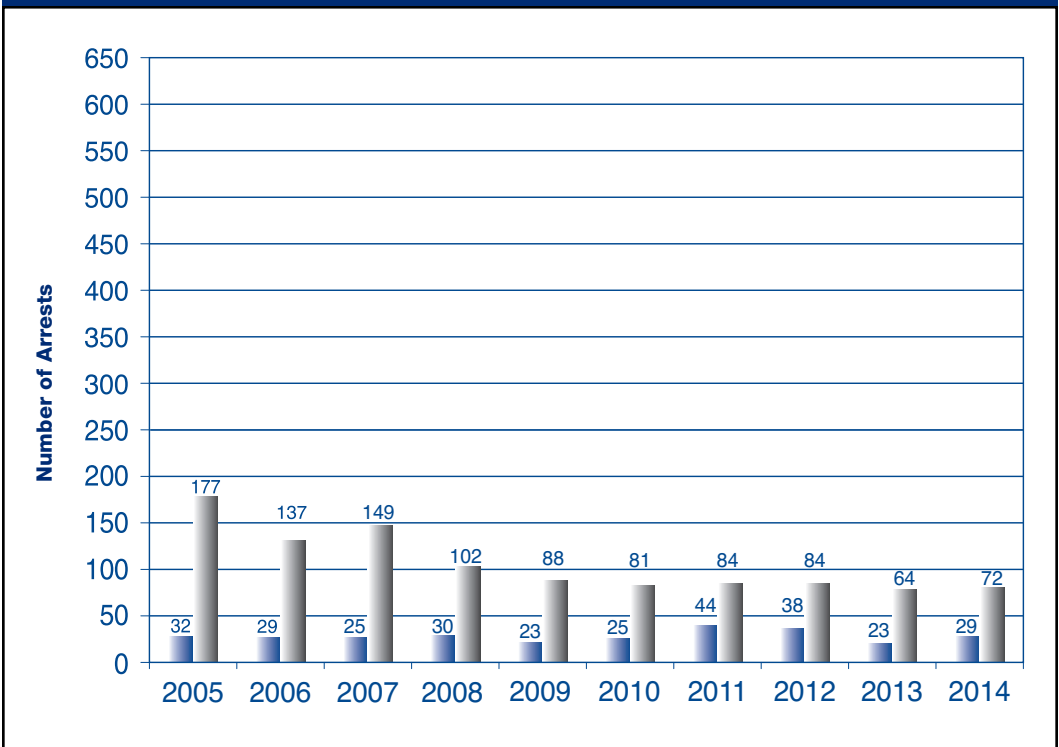
Y
O
U
T
H

NOTE: The numbers reported here reflect arrests of individuals 17 years of age and under. Synthetic narcotics are prescription drugs which contain opium derivatives. The non-narcotics category includes prescription drugs which are not opium derivative based, inhalants, and all other illicit drugs which do not fall into the categories marijuana or opium/cocaine.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Public Safety

INDICATOR 4

Juveniles on Probation for Drug Arrests



Felony

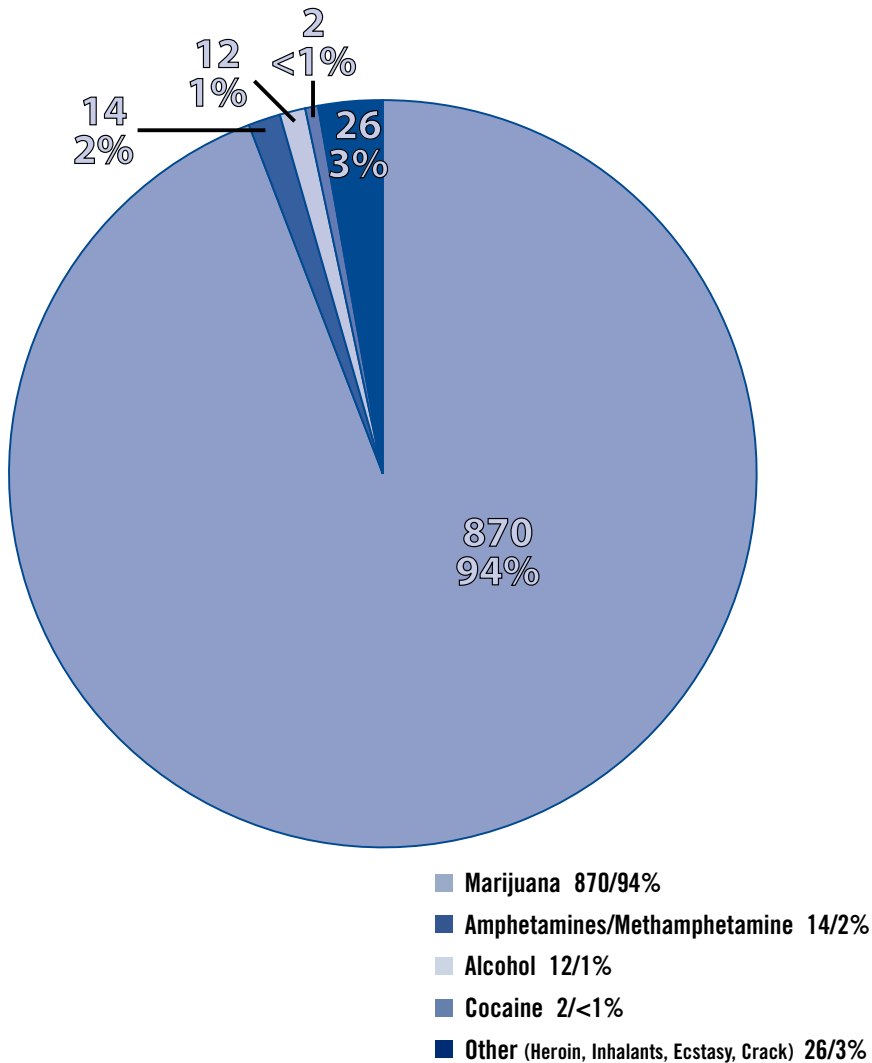
Misdemeanor

Y
O
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T
H

NOTE: The majority of youthful offenders are handled with a broad range of other sanctions or supervisory outcomes, e.g., citations, referrals, supervisory caution, deferred prosecution, or adjudication to probation. Juveniles are individuals 10 years of age or older and under 17 years of age.

SOURCE: Tarrant County Juvenile Services

Primary Drug at Time of Adolescent Admission to DSHS Funded Facilities 2014



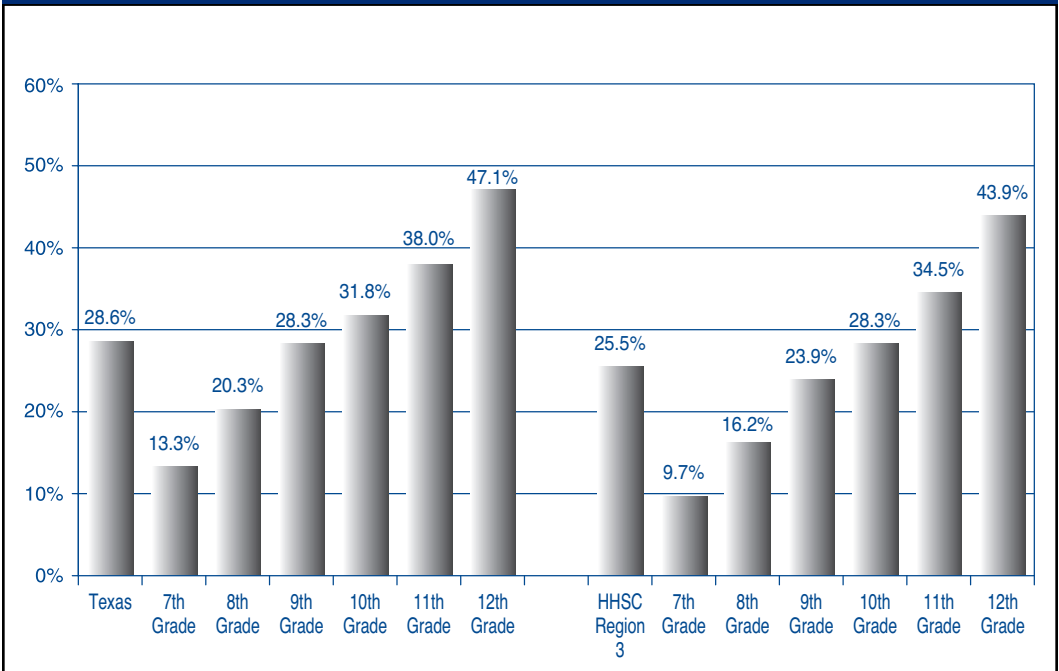
NOTE: DSHS funded facilities primarily serve individuals without behavioral health insurance coverage.

SOURCE: Texas Department of State Health Services

INDICATOR 6



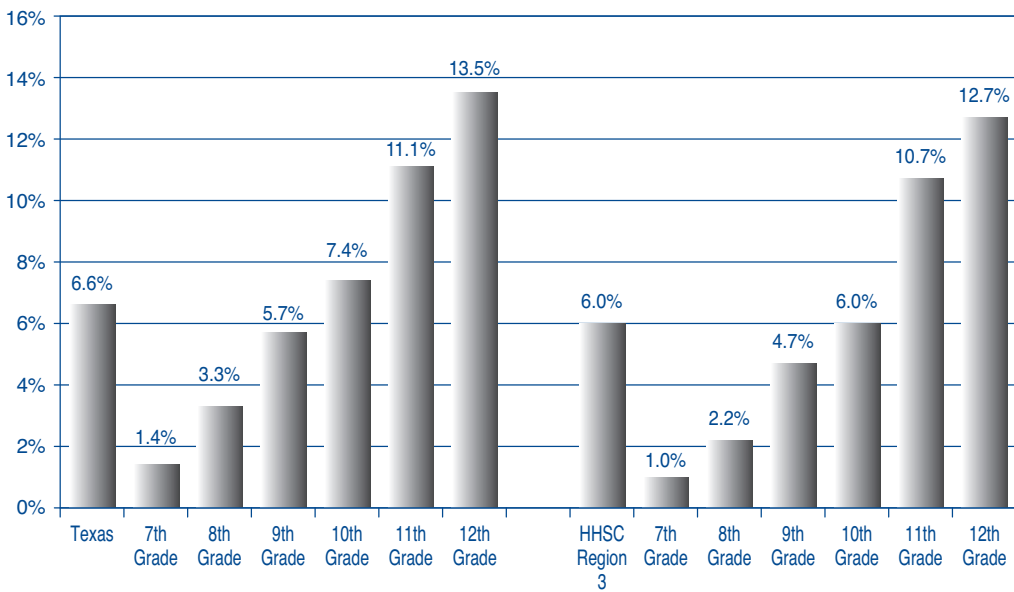
Youth Who Reported Using Alcohol in the Month Prior to the Survey



NOTE: These numbers represent youth who participated in the 2016 survey conducted by the Public Policy Research Institute of Texas A&M University.

SOURCE: Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University

Youth Who Reported Using Alcohol Several Times per Month



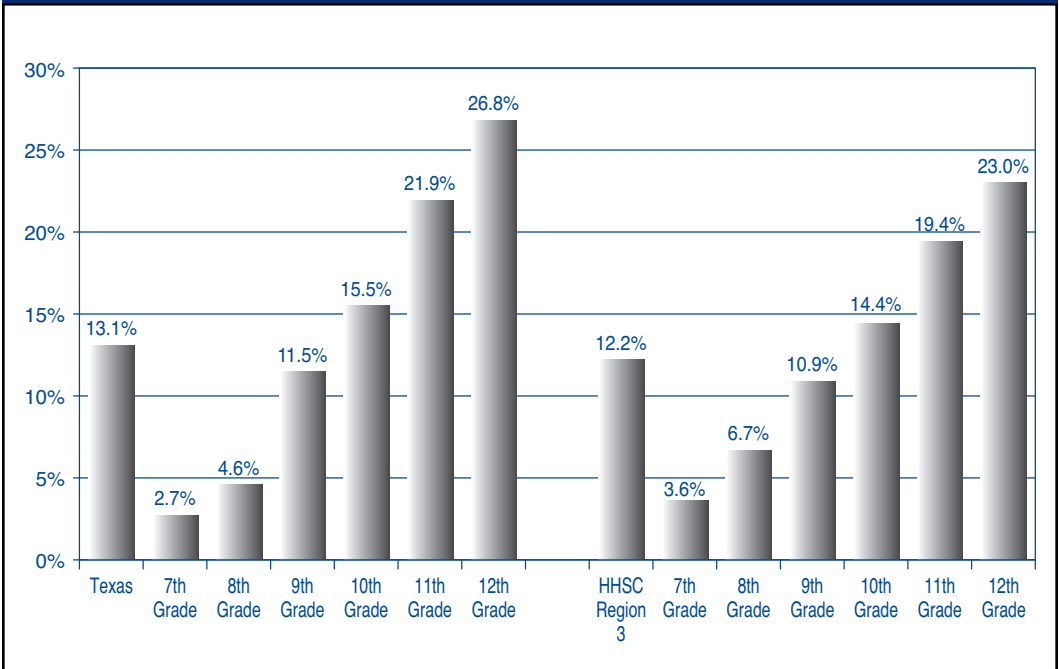
NOTE: These numbers represent youth who participated in the 2016 survey conducted by the Public Policy Research Institute of Texas A&M University.

SOURCE: Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University

INDICATOR 8



Youth Who Reported Using Marijuana in the Month Prior to the Survey

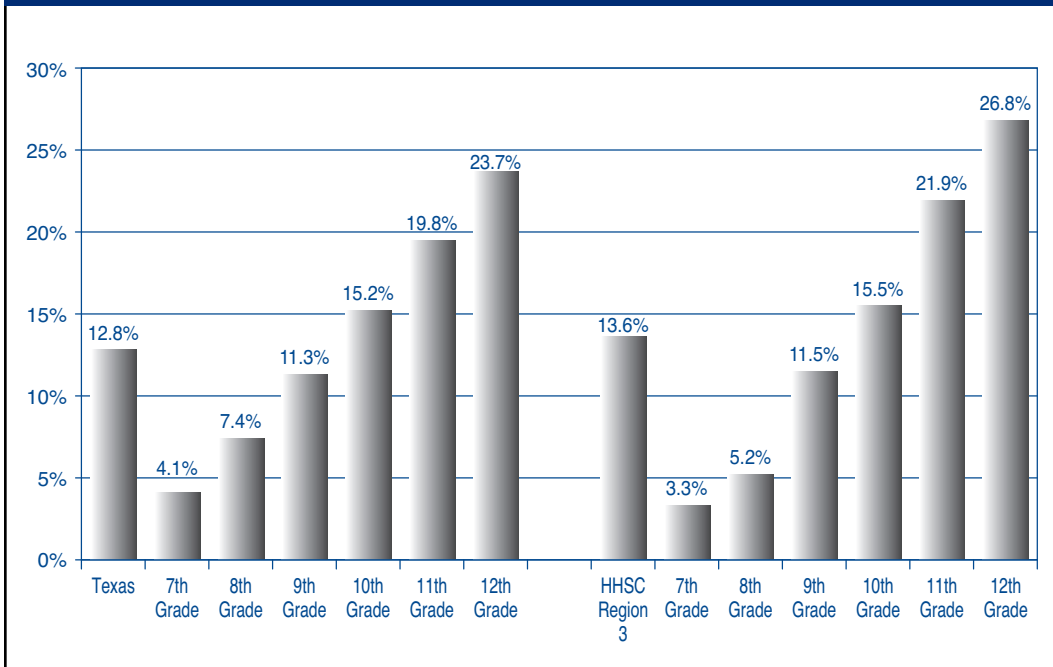


NOTE: These numbers represent youth who participated in the 2016 survey conducted by the Public Policy Research Institute of Texas A&M University.

SOURCE: Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University

INDICATOR 9

Youth Who Reported Using any Illicit Drugs in the Month Prior to the Survey

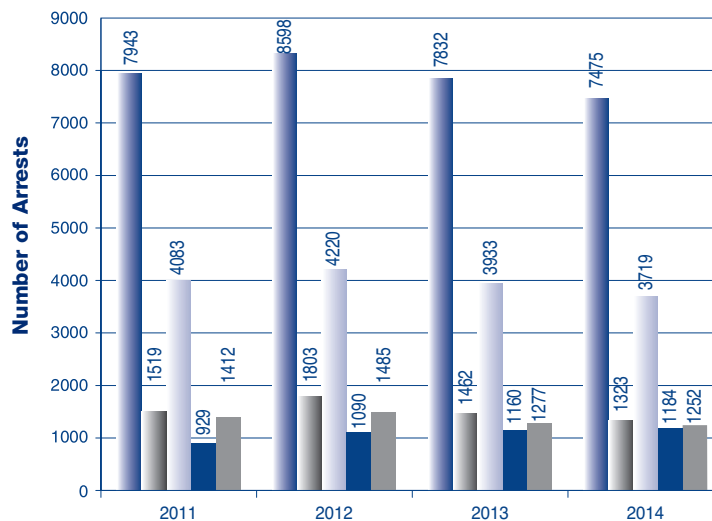
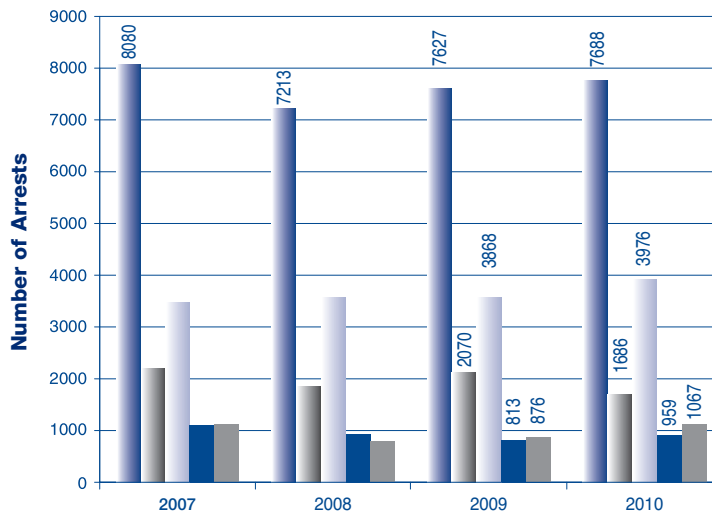


NOTE: These numbers represent youth who participated in the 2016 survey conducted by the Public Policy Research Institute of Texas A&M University.

SOURCE: Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University

INDICATOR 10

Adult Arrests for Drug Possession Tarrant County



Total

Opium/Cocaine

Marijuana

**Synthetic
Narcotics**

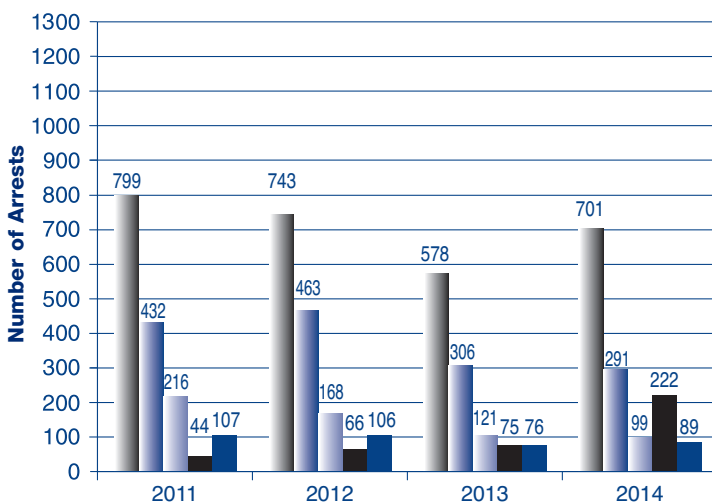
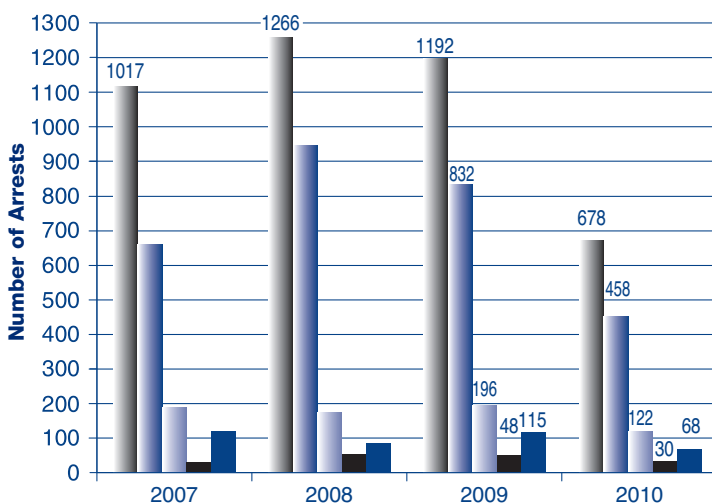
Non-Narcotics

NOTE: The numbers reported here reflect arrest of individuals 18 years of age and older. Synthetic narcotics are prescription drugs which contain opium derivatives. The non-narcotics category includes prescription drugs which are not opium derivative based, inhalants, and all other illicit drugs which do not fall into the categories marijuana or opium/cocaine.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Public Safety

INDICATOR 11

Adult Arrests Sale and Manufacturing of Drugs Tarrant County



Total

Opium/Cocaine

Marijuana

Synthetic
Narcotics

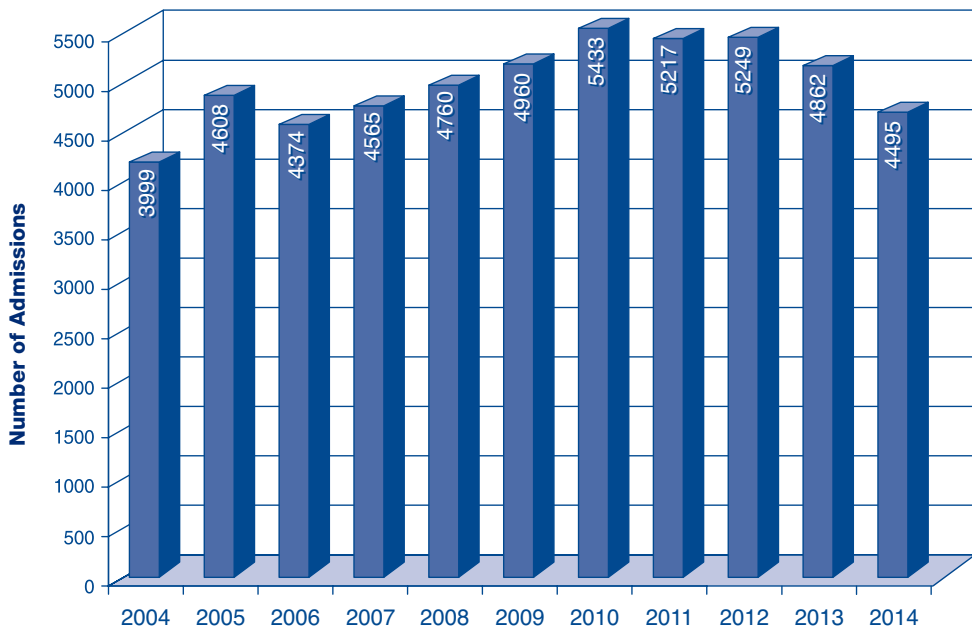
Non-Narcotics

NOTE: The numbers reported here reflect arrests of individuals 18 years of age and older. Synthetic narcotics are prescription drugs which contain opium derivatives. The non-narcotics category includes prescription drugs which are not opium derivative based, inhalants, and all other illicit drugs which do not fall into the categories marijuana or opium/cocaine.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Public Safety

INDICATOR 12

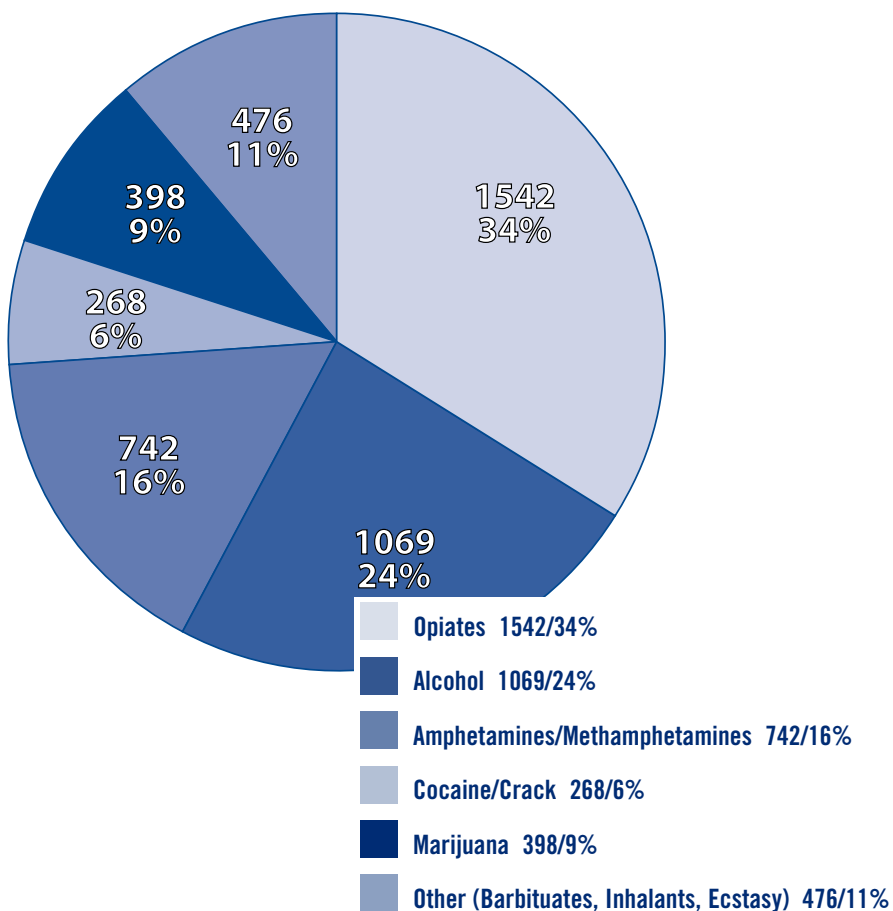
Adult Admissions to Tarrant County DSHS Funded Treatment Programs



NOTE: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is a state agency that administers both federal and state funds. These figures represent only the adult clients for whom the agencies seek reimbursement from DSHS. Individuals who receive treatment at DSHS funded facilities often do not have private insurance and are unable to pay for their treatment.

SOURCE: Texas Department of State Health Services

Primary Drug at Time of Adult Admission to DSHS Funded Facilities 2014

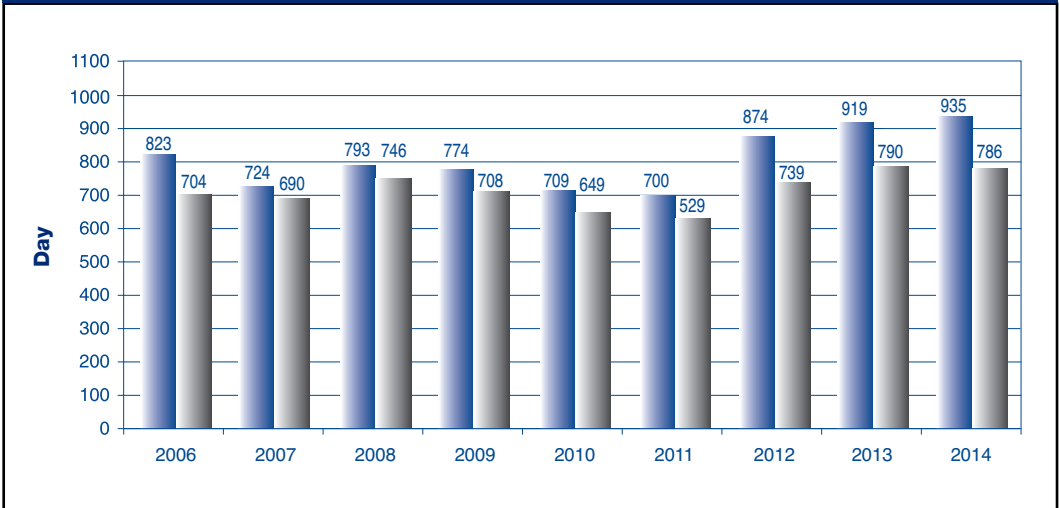


NOTE: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is a state agency that administers both federal and state funds. These figures represent only the adult clients for whom the agencies seek reimbursement from DSHS. DSHS funded facilities primarily serve individuals without behavioral health insurance coverage.

SOURCE: Texas Department of State Health Services

INDICATOR 14

Number of Detox/Rehab Clients Served



Pine Street
(Rehabilitation)

Billy Gregory
(Detoxification)

Average Days to Wait for Admission to Detox/Rehab Centers

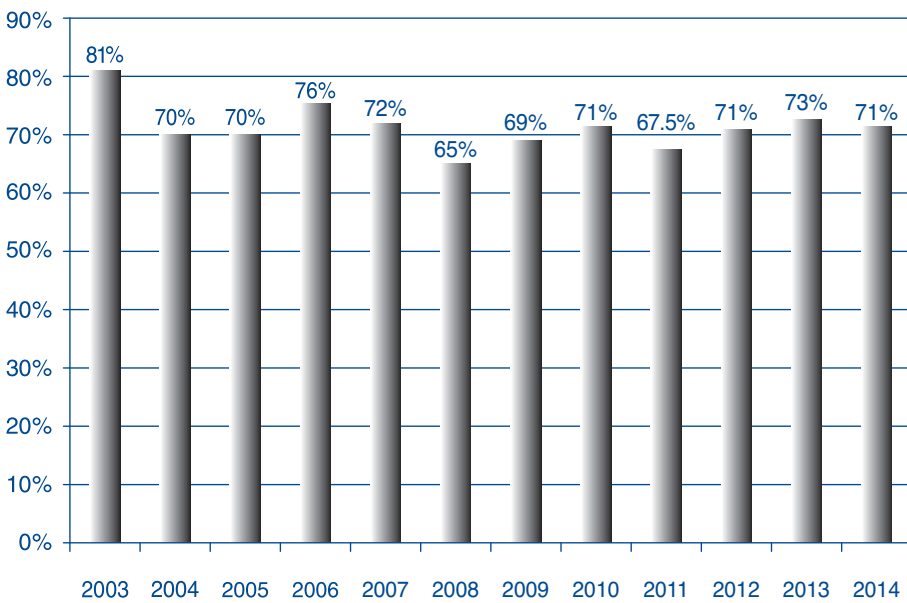


Pine Street
(Rehabilitation)

Billy Gregory
(Detoxification)

INDICATOR 15

Percentage of HIV Tests in Tarrant County in which Drug Use was a Reported Risk Factor

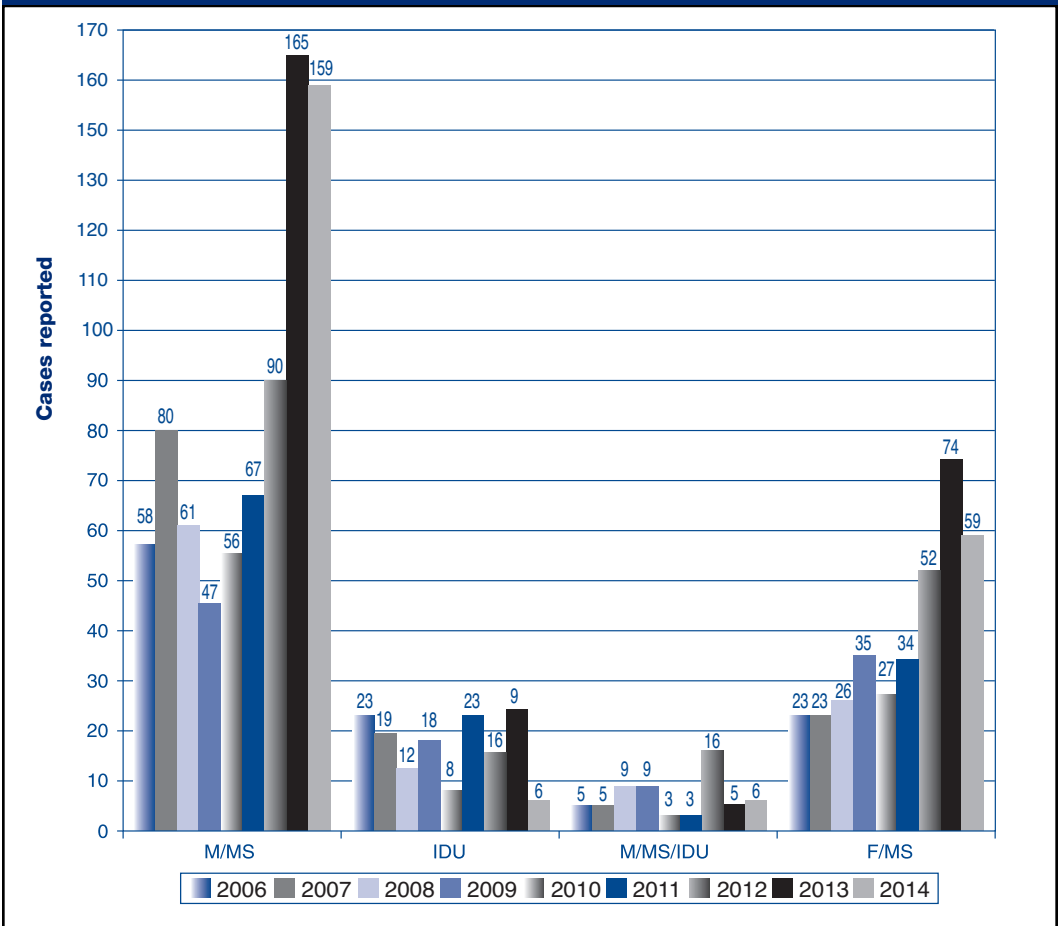


NOTES: These figures represent the proportion of HIV tests performed for Tarrant County residents who indicate drug use with sex. These figures are minimum proportions since data is obtained from prevention counseling sessions, which are client centered, and the counselor only reports behavior that was discussed during the prevention counseling session. This does not indicate that clients who test for HIV are using more drugs. The increase in drug risks may only reflect that HIV prevention counseling contractors serving Tarrant County residents are now reaching higher risk populations, and not an indication of increased drug use in these clients.

SOURCE: Texas Department of State Health Services

INDICATOR 16

Assumed Mode of Transmission of Newly Identified AIDS Cases from Individuals Who Reside in Tarrant County



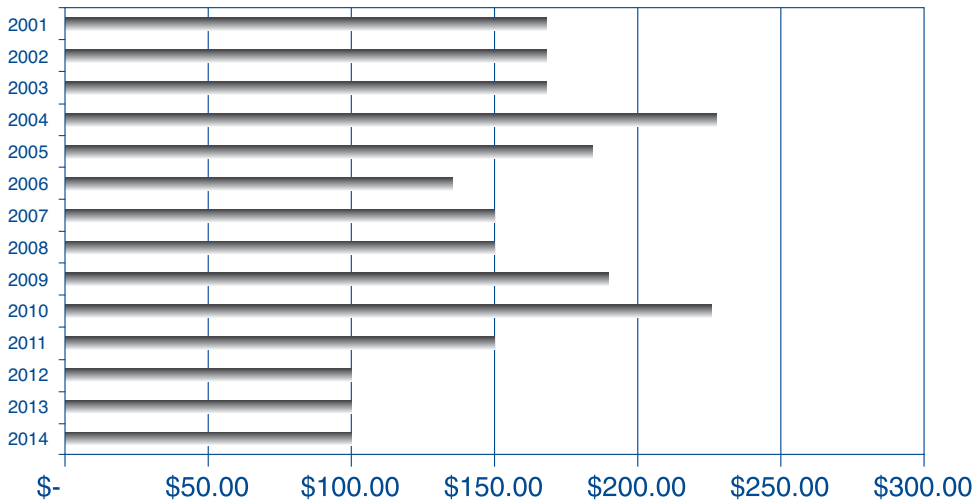
Assumed Mode of Transmission	Cases Reported in 2014
Men who have sex with men (M/M/S)	159
Injection Drug Users (IDU)	6
M/M/S and who inject drugs (M/M/S/IDU)	6
Heterosexual Contact (F/M/S)	59
Transfusion	0
Not Classified (NIR)	0

NOTE: Assumed modes of transmission are determined through provider and client interview, using a hierarchical system developed by the Center for Disease Control. To be classified in a category, risk must meet strict criteria.

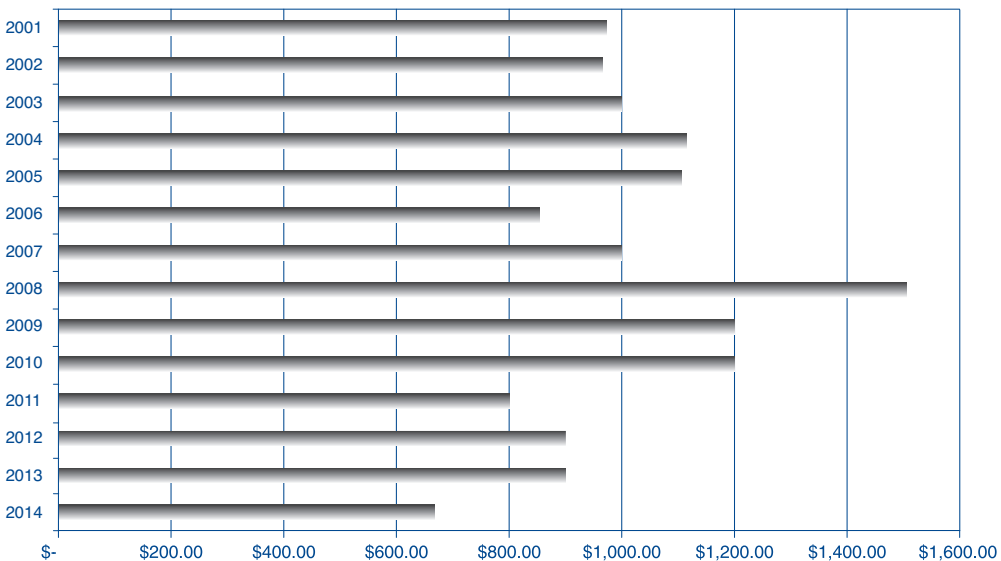
SOURCE: Texas Department of State Health Services

INDICATOR 17

Average Price of a Gram of Heroin State of Texas



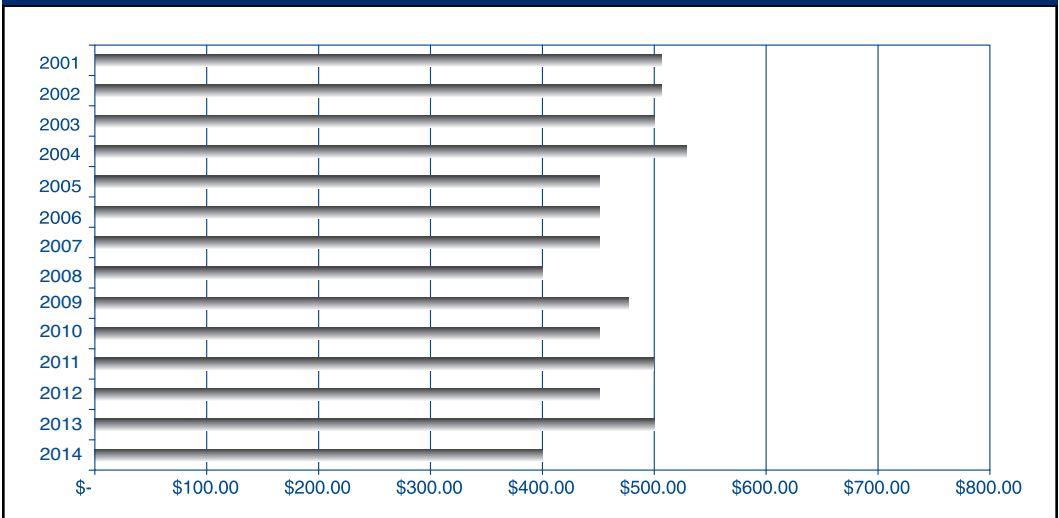
Average Price of an Ounce of Methamphetamine - State of Texas



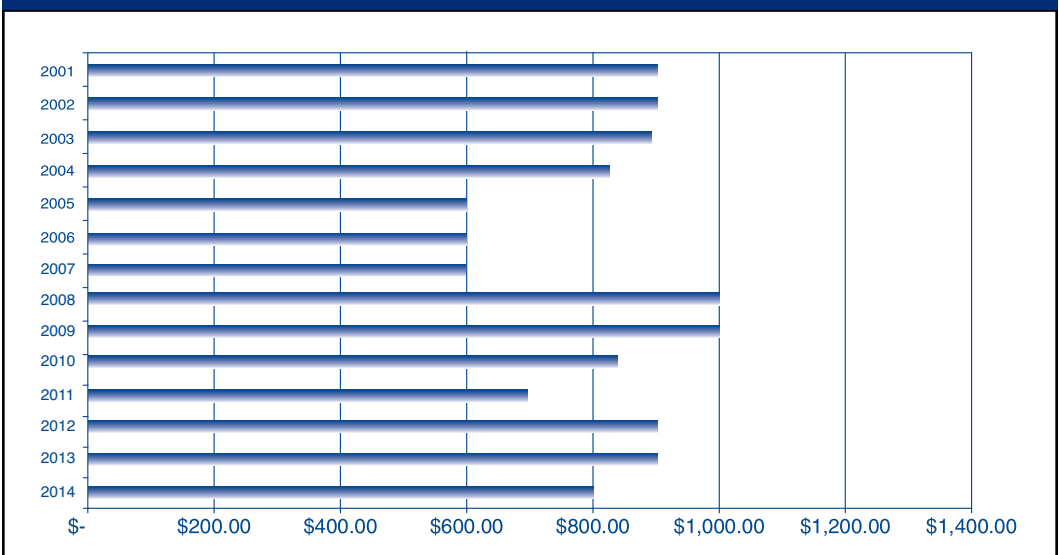
SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Fort Worth Resident Office

INDICATOR 18

Average Price of a Pound of Marijuana State of Texas

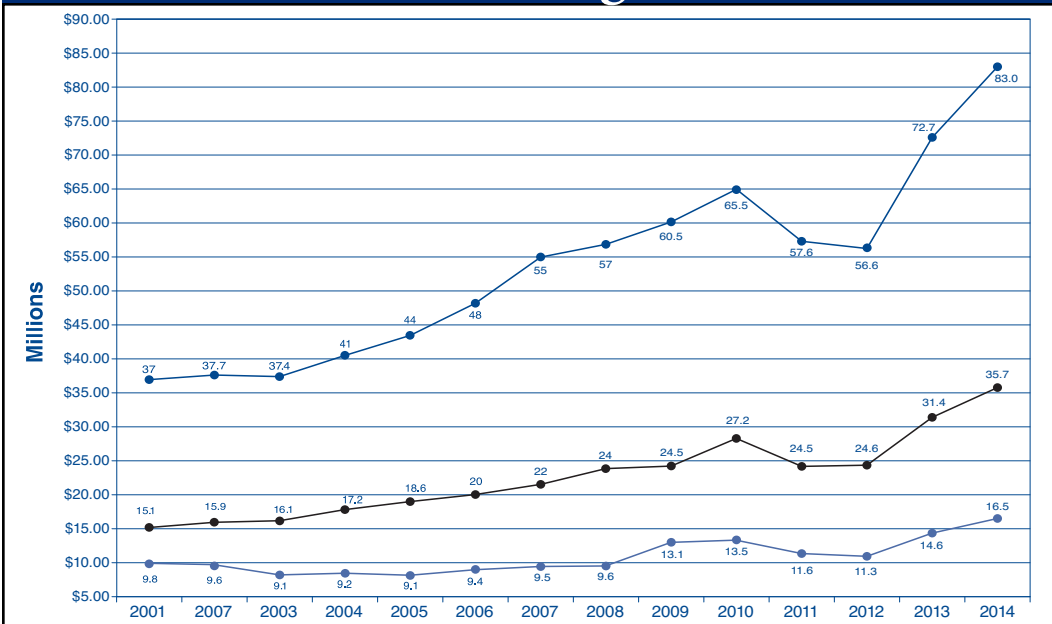


Average Price of an Ounce of Cocaine State of Texas



INDICATOR 19

Total Tax Revenue to the State Mixed Beverage Sales



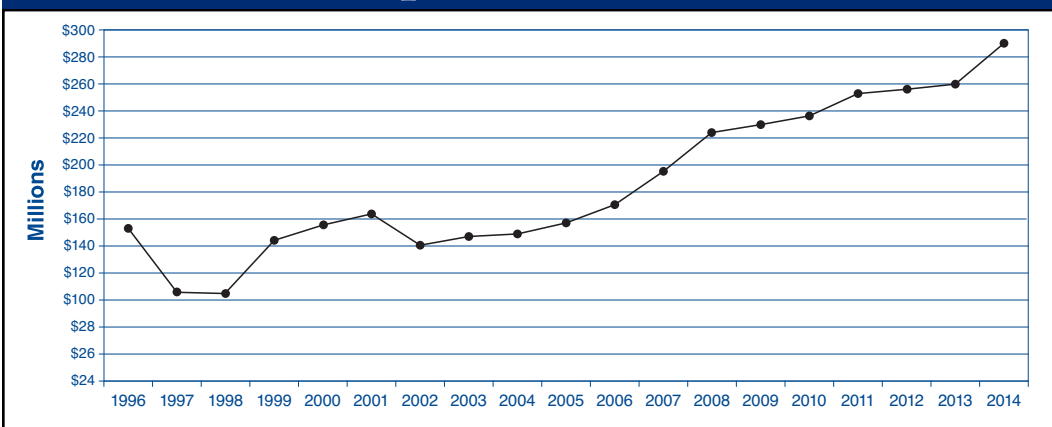
● Tarrant County

● Fort Worth

● Arlington

NOTE: This amount is the total amount remitted to the state by businesses in Tarrant County, Fort Worth, and Arlington. This money is then distributed back to the city and county at the rate of 10.7143% each. The net amount of money remaining is transferred to the State's General Revenue Fund.

Gross Sales - Liquor Stores Tarrant County



NOTE: Liquor store sales taxes are one measure of alcohol sales in the county and have increased steadily since 1992, before dropping by 29.5% from 1996 to 1998. This change may imply reduced demand or may only indicate the increased availability of alcohol in the form of wine and beer from other sources (e.g., restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, drug stores, etc.).

SOURCE: State Comptroller of Public Accounts

Juvenile/Adolescent Resources:

For drug information visit <http://www.drugfreeamerica.org>

For tobacco use prevention visit <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org>

For suggestions on keeping kids drug free visit <http://www.theantidrug.com>

Texas Department of State Health Services visit <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us>

For Adolescents visit <http://www.thecoolspot.gov>

Prevention Programs

Betty Ford Center Five Star Kids Program (972) 751-0363

Boys & Girls Clubs of Arlington (817) 226-2422 or Fort Worth (817) 834-4711

Communities in Schools (817) 446-5454

Girls, Inc. of Tarrant County (817) 468-0306

JPS Mom & Baby Special Services (817) 920-7322

Lena Pope (817) 255-2652

Recovery Resource Council (817) 332-6329

Santa Fe Youth Services (817) 492-4673

Challenge of Tarrant County (817) 336-6617

Volunteers of America (817) 529-7300

Treatment Programs

Clearfork Academy (817) 714-1311

Excel Center (817) 335-6429

Lena Pope (817) 255-2652

MHMRTC Tarrant Youth Recovery Campus (817) 569-4270

Millwood Hospital (817) 261-3121

Nexus Recovery (214) 321-0156

North Texas Addiction Counseling and Education (817) 426-2868

Phoenix Associates Counseling (817) 338-0311

Sundance (817) 583-0838

Community Coalitions

Challenge Prevention Providers Coalition (817) 336-6617

Challenge Treatment Providers Coalition (817) 336-6617

Challenge/UTA/SMART Coalition (817) 336-6617

Challenge/TCU/The Bottom Line Coalition (817) 336-6617

Challenge/Weatherford College/Follow Our Lead Coalition (817) 336-6617

Challenge/Keller/Stay on Track Coalition (817) 336-6617

For more resources please visit our website at www.challengetc.org or call us at (817)336-6617

Adult/Community Resources:

Recovery Resource Council operates a 24-hour information and referral telephone hotline for substance abusers and their families.

Call (817) 332-6329.

For information on treatment and prevention, visit the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information at <http://www.health.org>.

Treatment Programs

ABODE (817) 246-8677

Casa Palmera (858) 481-4411

Cenikor Foundation (817) 921-2771

Center for Therapeutic Change (817) 446-9770

Enterhealth (855) 393-6856

Harris Methodist Springwood (817) 355-7700

Hemphill Treatment Facility (817) 334-0111

Huguley Hospital (817) 568-3336

JPS Mom and Baby Drug Free Program (817) 920-7322

La Hacienda (800) 749-6160

Lena Pope (817) 255-2500

Med Mark Treatment Center (817) 207-8700

Mental Health and Mental Retardation of Tarrant County Addiction Treatment Services (817) 569-4600

Mesa Springs Hospital (817) 292-4600

Nexus Recovery (214) 321-0156

North Texas Addiction Counseling and Education (817) 332-7165 • (817) 795-8278

Phoenix Associates (817) 795-3030

Ranch at Dove Tree (817) 310-0379

Recovery Resource Council (817) 332-6329

Salvation Army - First Choice Program (817) 926-6662

Sante (940) 464-7222

Starlight Recovery Center (817) 988-3318

Summer Sky (888) 857-8857

Sundance Behavioral Health (817) 583-8038

The Right Step (817) 857-9100

Valley Hope Grapevine (817) 424-1305

Volunteers of America (817) 529-7300 • (817) 534-3432

For more resources please visit our website at www.challengetc.org or call us at 817-336-6617

For more information or to find out how you can help your community call 817-336-6617

Challenge of Tarrant County Programs

Planning and Advocacy: educates advocates and decision makers and the community regarding substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment. Projects encourage networking among agencies, develop media strategies, collect and disseminate information, and advocates for sound public policy.

Challenge Coalitions raise awareness and reduce substance abuse in Tarrant County by strengthening collaboration among community partners who represent schools, youth service agencies, law enforcement, health and human services, elected officials and concerned citizens.

Supportive Education for Children of Addicted Parents designed by the nation's top researchers assists children of all ages whose parents suffer from addiction. Through participation, children learn to cope with their parent's disease and heal from the devastation of living with addiction

Family Drug Court (FDC) an integrated, court-based collaboration that protects children from abuse and neglect precipitated by substance abuse through timely decisions, coordinated services, treatment, and safe and permanent placements. FDC empowers the community to build collaborations that provide much needed services to parents struggling with substance abuse and are involved with the Department of Family and Protective Services.

Challenge Training Institute (CTI) provides a wide variety of training programs designed to help professionals, parents, students, elected officials and the community increase their knowledge around substance abuse issues. Trainings are delivered in the community or workplace and continuing education units (CEUs) are available. CTI can customize training to meet specific organizational needs.

Closing the Addiction Treatment Gap (CATG) is designed to create awareness of—and increase resources to close—an alarming gap in the availability of drug and alcohol addiction treatment for Americans who need it. Program strategies include broadening insurance coverage, increasing funding, and achieving greater efficiency and quality.

Substance Abuse Information Index (SAID) utilizes technology to collect and disseminate state and local data to demonstrate the nature and extent of substance abuse in Tarrant County. The project maintains an internet site at www.challengetc.org and produces the Drug Impact Index, a valuable research tool used by hundreds of individuals and organizations annually.



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