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Montgomery, Alabama
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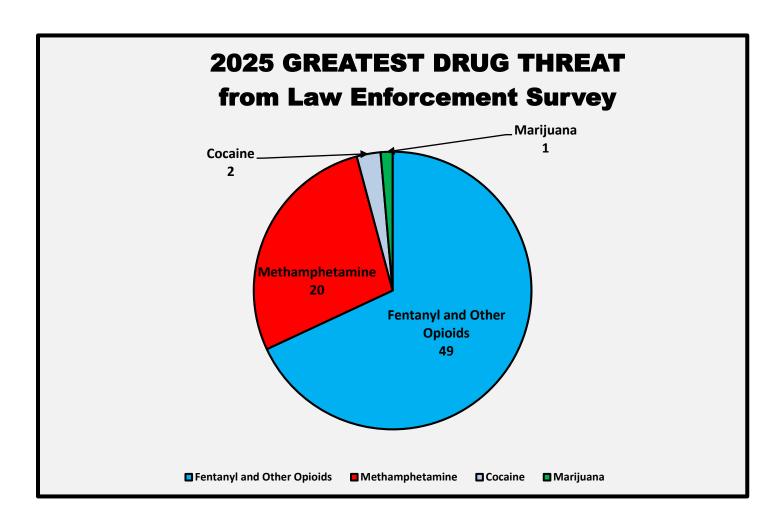
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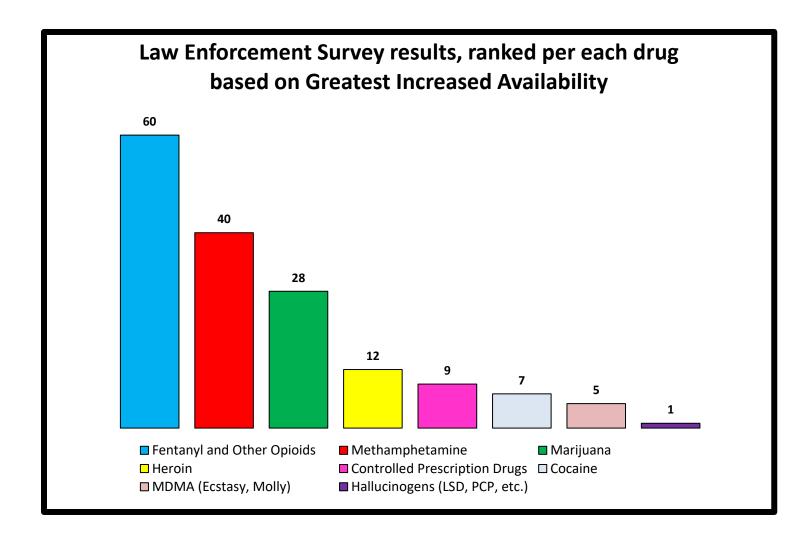
I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Alabama has both interstates, and smaller roads, that make transportation of illegal drugs very easy. The physical location of Alabama with its close distance to Atlanta, Georgia, considered a major drug hub, and close proximity to the Mexican border, also contribute to drugs commonly seized within the State.

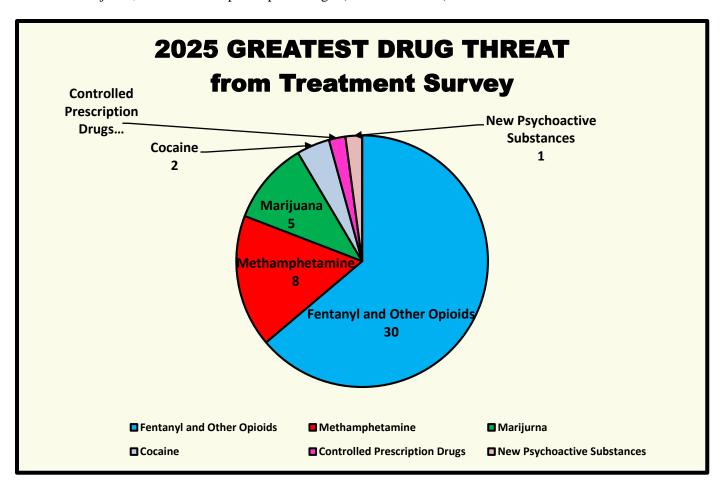
Each year the Alabama Drug Threat Assessment is written in order to inform law enforcement agencies of current and potential illicit drug concerns that exist throughout Alabama. This assessment has also been used in assisting law enforcement, and mental health agencies with statistics in order to fund operations. The diagram below depicts the greatest drug threat as documented by results from the 2025 GC HIDTA law enforcement survey respondents. There were 72 law enforcement respondents across Alabama that answered the greatest drug threat question. This year fentanyl and other opioids was recorded as the number one greatest drug threat across the State. (A map showing responses per agency/location is listed in the appendix).



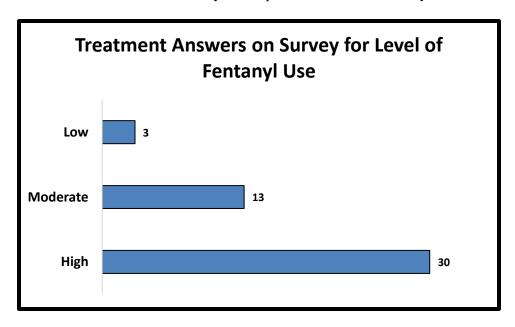
According to the law enforcement respondents on the Survey, the following is what they consider to be the drugs increasing as most available in their part of the State. This ranking is based on each drug and using only the increased category per drug and per law enforcement respondent.



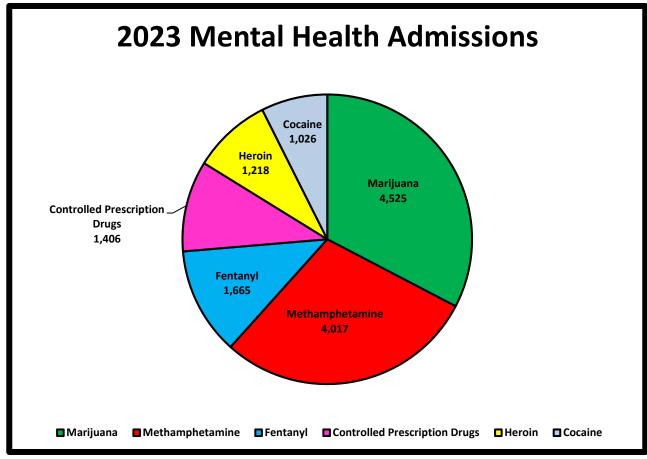
According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Treatment Survey, fentanyl and other opioids are again considered the greatest threat in Alabama. Methamphetamine was next, followed by cocaine, marijuana, and controlled prescription drugs. (See Chart below).

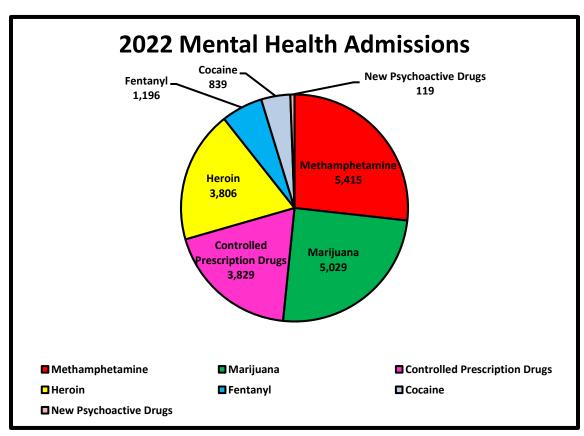


The Treatment answers on the Survey that requested the level of Fentanyl use for 2023.

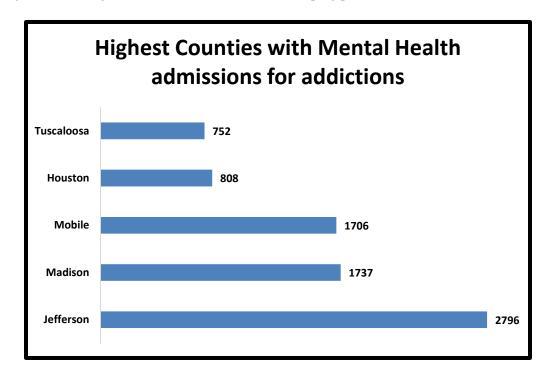


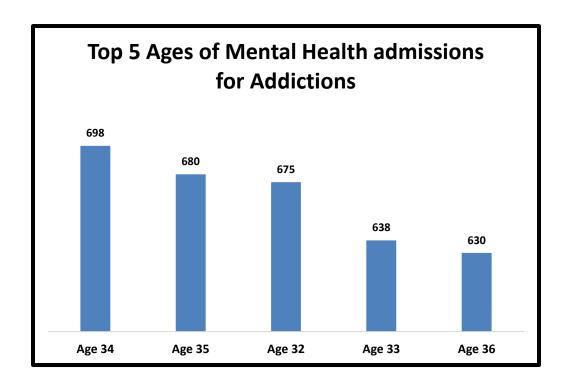
According to the Alabama Department of Mental Health, marijuana was the illegal drug most commonly attributed to treatment admissions in 2023, followed by methamphetamine, fentanyl, controlled prescription drugs, heroin, and cocaine. Treatment admissions decreased in all of the below drugs with the exception of fentanyl, and cocaine. Fentanyl continues to show larger increases than other drugs. In 2023 fentanyl showed 469 more admissions than in 2022. Cocaine showed an increase of 187 more admissions in 2023 than in 2022 The following diagrams depict the treatment admissions for 2022 and 2023.





Additional information that the Mental Health statistics show, provides the five highest counties where mental health admissions are seen (which could be for any drug or alcohol addiction), as well as the top five age brackets of those admissions for addictions. The below information could prove very helpful in targeting areas that might need additional assistance in helping prevent overdoses.





Fentanyl and other Opioids

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, both law enforcement respondents, and treatment respondents ranked fentanyl overwhelmingly above methamphetamine as the drug of greatest threat. The overdose death rate in Jefferson county (the most populous county in the State), showed fentanyl overdose cases have increased by over 22%. The overdose death rate statewide has increased according to forensic data. The numbers increased by 6.73% in overdoses only, and in all case types (DUI's living, suicide, traffic fatalities...etc) the increase was 9.1%. Also, the drug with the greatest increase of patient admissions within the mental health system in 2023 was fentanyl.

• Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine was reported as the second greatest drug threat by law enforcement, and treatment respondents. Methamphetamine was also reported as the greatest contributor to violent crime, as well as property crime, according to law enforcement respondents to the survey. In 2023, there was one methamphetamine laboratory seizure reported by the Lauderdale County Drug Task Force.

Heroin

Heroin has seen a decrease by law enforcement and treatment respondents. Both law enforcement and treatment respondents to the GC HIDTA survey did not report heroin as a drug threat in Alabama for 2023. The Alabama Department of Mental Health reports heroin as the fifth most abused illegal drug based on treatment admissions, but those numbers have shown a decrease from last year. The overdose numbers statewide also continue to show a decrease.

• Controlled Prescription Drugs

Hydrocodone (lortab and vicodin) and oxycodone (oxycontin, roxycontin) continue to be the most frequently abused pharmaceutical drugs in Alabama as reported by the Alabama Department of Mental Health. Alprazolam (Xanax) and Buprenorphine (Suboxone) are also heavily abused. Pharmaceutical diversion remains the primary method of obtaining pharmaceuticals; however, pharmaceuticals transported into the state by vehicle or postal packaging also persists. The availability of controlled prescription drugs in Alabama remains basically the same as 2022, with only 9 respondents on the law enforcement survey stating an increase.

Cocaine

Cocaine remains available in Alabama; however, cocaine is listed by both law enforcement, and treatment respondents on the survey as a drug of low threat in Alabama. Cocaine has seen an increase of individuals being admitted into mental health facilities for 2023. According to the Alabama Department of Mental Health admissions data, cocaine had 187 more individuals admitted in 2023 as opposed to 2022. Cocaine is still ranked sixth behind marijuana, methamphetamine, fentanyl, controlled prescription drugs, and heroin by survey respondents.

• Marijuana

Law enforcement respondents reported marijuana as the third most available drug in Alabama, behind fentanyl, and methamphetamine. The Alabama Department of Mental Health lists marijuana as the number one illegal drug according to treatment admissions. The actual marijuana related mental health treatment admissions decreased from 5,029 admissions in 2022 to 4,525 in 2023. Marijuana is still reported as a contributor to both violent, and property crime as reported by law enforcement respondents. The Marijuana Eradication Program eradicated a total of 394 plants both indoor and outdoor in 2023.

• New Psychoactive Drugs

The Alabama Department of Mental Health, has very few admissions this year of gamma hydroxybutyric (GHB) and lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), however, The Department of Forensic Sciences does show several synthetic cannabinoids increasing over the past year in Alabama. The Synthetic cannabinoids such as MDMB-4en-PINACA increased from 25 seen in 2022 to 110 in 2023, another increase was ADB-BUTINACA which increased from 18 n 2022 to 36 in 2023.

Money Laundering

Law enforcement will continue to see money laundering across Alabama. According to FINCEN the most suspicious activity reports (SARs) filed in Alabama were the same in 2023 as they were in 2022. The highest ranked were from Depository Institutions. The second highest group of SARs were filed by the Money Service Businesses. The primary reason on the Depository Institutions was due to check transactions below the CTR threshold, and counterfeit instrument. The primary reason for Money Service Businesses was due to transactions below BSA recordkeeping threshold. Casino activity regarding SARs saw a decrease from 177 in 2022 to 144 in 2023.

II. ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER RELATED RISKS

A. Demographic Factors/Cultural Diversity

The United States (U.S.) Census Bureau population estimate for Alabama in July of 2023 was 5,108,468 residents. This represents an increase of over 34,000 individuals from the population documented in 2022.

2023 Population Race Estimates		
White	68.9%	
Black	26.8%	
Hispanic or Latino	4.9%	
Two or more races	2%	
Asian	1.6%	
American Indian, Alaskan native	.7%	
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	.1%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

B. Economics

According to the 2022 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, Alabama's median income is \$59,609 per year. Alabama's leading employers include manufacturing jobs, retail sales, and health care professions.

C. Geography

Alabama covers 50,647.13 square in land miles, making it the 24th largest state in the nation. The Alabama State Port Authority operates port facilities in Axis, Bridgeport, Claiborne, Columbia, Cordova, Demopolis, Eufaula, Mobile, Montgomery, Phenix City, Selma, and Tuscaloosa-Northport. The Port of Mobile is one of the larger ports in the country. The primary interstates in Alabama include: I-10, I-20, I-59, I-65 & I-85, consisting of 904 miles of interstate highways. According to BLOC and EPIC statistics, the top seizure interstate reported was I-20 with a combined total of 58 stops. The interstate of I-65 showed 35 stops, and I-10 showed 18 stops.



III. DRUG THREATS AND OVERVIEW

A. Overall Scope of Drug Threat

According to law enforcement, and treatment respondents, answering the GC HIDTA Drug Survey, fentanyl is still ranked as the greatest drug threat in Alabama. The fentanyl overdose data received continues to show an increase in overdose deaths. Methamphetamine, although not ranked as high as fentanyl is still continuing to be attributed to property, and violent crime in the State. Controlled prescription drugs, marijuana, cocaine, and new psychoactive drugs are listed as available but not as dangerous as fentanyl or methamphetamine. Heroin, once considered a huge threat has continued to see a decrease in overdoses, and mental health admissions. The most frequent form of communication in drug transactions between wholesale and retail distribution according to the GC HIDTA Drug Survey is by way of Whats App. The most prominent places where DTO's obtain the drugs seen in Alabama, are mainly from across the southwest border.

The charts below show DEA statistics on arrests, drugs seized, and asset values for all offices in Alabama for fiscal year 2023. The drugs seized, includes all drug categories.

2023 BIRMINGHAM DEA (TF & DIVERSION & TD)		
ARRESTS ASSET VALUE DRUGS SEIZED IN GRAMS		
41	907,797.00	4.1

2023 MONTGOMERY DEA (MONTGOMERY & DOTHAN)			
ARRESTS ASSET VALUE DRUGS SEIZED IN GMS, D.U.			
81	245,826.18	11,508 GMS, 29 D.U.	

2023 MOBILE DEA (TF & DIVERSION)			
ARRESTS ASSET VALUE DRUGS SEIZED IN D.U.			
1	17,800.00	22	

2023 HUNTSVILLE DEA			
ARRESTS ASSET VALUE DRUGS SEIZED IN GRAMS			
61	112,190.00	54,508.18	

The charts below show the HIDTA statistics as reported on the quarterly reports for fiscal year 2023. The drugs seized includes all drug categories.

JEFFERSON COUNTY HIDTA OFFICE (DEA) 2023		
ARRESTS	ASSET VALUE	DRUGS SEIZED IN GMS, D.U.
36	1,569,201.00	223,861 GMS, 103 D.U.

ALABAMA OPERATIONS HIDTA OFFICE (DEA) 2023		
ARRESTS	ASSET VALUE	DRUGS SEIZED IN GMS, D.U.
106	154,419.63	12,672.54 GMS., 1,568 D.U.

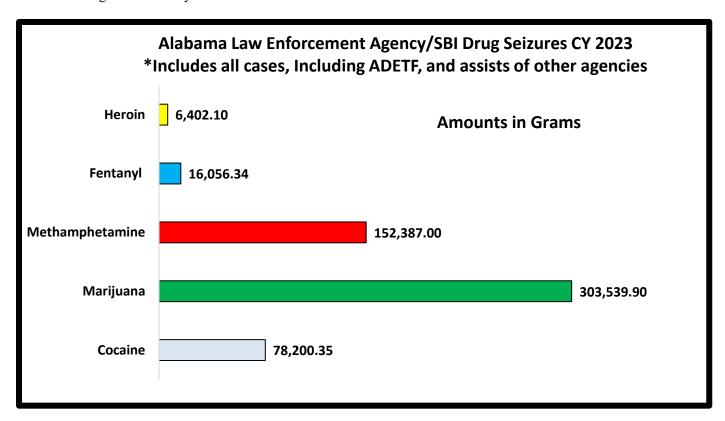
MOBILE-BALDWIN MIT HIDTA OFFICE (DEA) 2023		
ARRESTS ASSET VALUE DRUGS SEIZED IN GMS		
71	280,650.00	46,830.65

MOBILE-BALDWIN BEST HIDTA OFFICE (HSI) 2023		
ARRESTS	ASSET VALUE	DRUGS SEIZED IN KILOS
470	2,237,322.00	7092.14

NORTH ALABAMA DTF HIDTA OFFICE (HPD) 2023			
ARRESTS ASSET VALUE DRUGS SEIZED IN KILOS & D.U.			
116	300,576.00	329.4 KILOS & 1,559 D.U.	

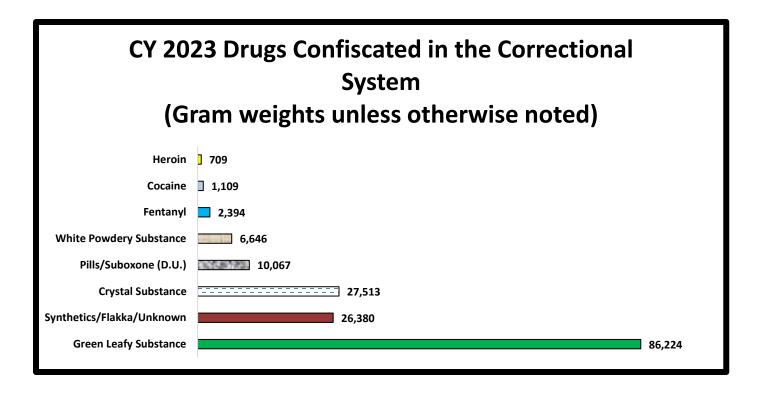
Drug abuse in Alabama as it affects children is a constant statistic to consider when looking at how drugs affect the community. According to the Alabama Department of Human Resources, **AFCARS** (**The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System**) report, there were 1,495 children removed from residences in Alabama in 2023; that is an increase of 64 children that were removed in 2022. This statistic is always concerning considering children are always the innocent victims when it comes to drug abuse by one or both parents in the home.

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA), division of State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), lists the below total drug seizures reported from the major drug categories for CY 2023. Also included in the bottom chart which shows the leading counties for each drug as well as the number of counties where each drug was seized by ALEA/SBI.



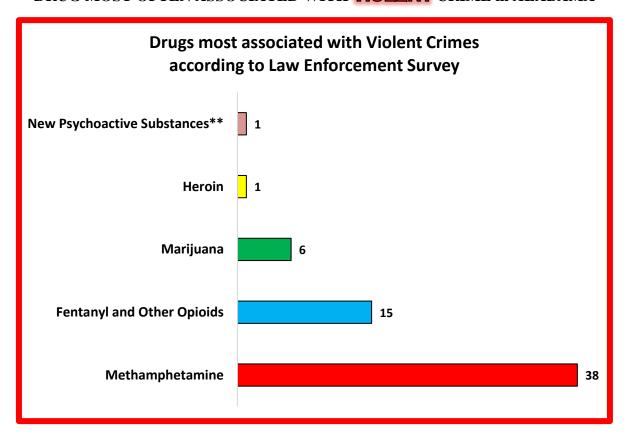
Drug	Highest Seizure Counties	Number of Counties in Alabama where this Drug has been Seized
METHAMPHETAMINE	Madison County	48
	Jefferson County	
FENTANYL	Madison County	27
	Jefferson County	
COCAINE	Dallas County	31
	Madison County	
MARIJUANA	Jefferson County	51
	Morgan County	
HEROIN	Colbert County	5
	Jefferson County	

Multiple drugs are confiscated yearly in the prison system of Alabama. According to the Department of Corrections the chart below depicts several types of substances that were seized in the prison system in 2023. (The amounts are in grams with the exception of the pills/Suboxone, which is in dosage units).

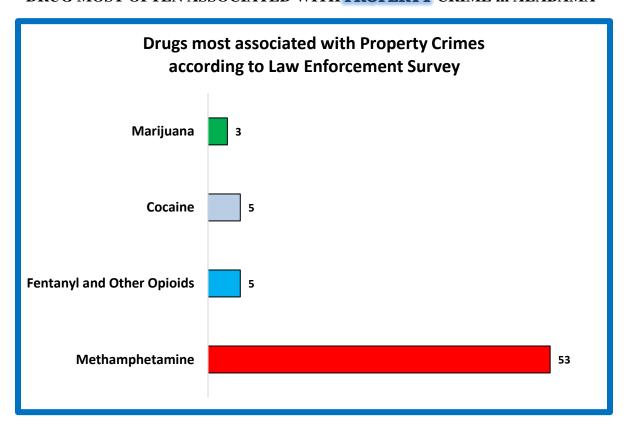


Based on data gathered from the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, the graphs below depict drugs most frequently associated with violent crime and property crime in Alabama per number of law enforcement respondents. The majority of law enforcement respondents indicated both violent and property crime is most closely associated with methamphetamine use within their jurisdictions.

DRUG MOST OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH **VIOLENT** CRIME in ALABAMA



DRUG MOST OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH PROPERTY CRIME in ALABAMA



B. Fentanyl and other Opioids

1. Assessment of the Threat

According to the Alabama Department of Mental Health, there were 1,665 admissions into treatment centers for the abuse of fentanyl in 2023 compared to 1,196 in 2022, representing 469 more admissions. Fentanyl is continuing to increase throughout the State. In 2023, EPIC reported 51.33 kilograms and 3,842 dosage units of fentanyl seized in investigations, mail parcels, and traffic stops in Alabama. The BLOC Watch Center reported 20.75 lbs., and 36,123,395 dosage units seized in Alabama in 2023. Fentanyl has been encountered in the form of counterfeit pills as well as mixed in with multiple other drugs. The fentanyl related overdose death rates have continued to increase statewide. The statistics from the statewide forensic data are listed below:





2. Abuse

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, Black Americans are the primary distributors of fentanyl and other opioids as reported by Alabama law enforcement respondents. The tables listed below document statewide overdose fentanyl deaths, as well as all case types from all counties excluding Jefferson. A concerning statistic is once the overdose deaths are subtracted from the all case types from statewide data it leaves 339 individuals that possibly could be driving on roads or possibly committing suicide.

FENTANYL OVERDOSE ONLY DEATHS 2023		
All Counties (excluding Jefferson County)	740	
Jefferson County		
TOTAL STATEWIDE	1,126	

FENTANYL ALL CASE TYPES 2023	
All Counties (excluding Jefferson County)	1079

^{*}All case types include DUI's living, traffic fatalities, suicide....etc.

3. Availability

Fentanyl and other opioids were reported as the drug with the greatest increase in availability according to law enforcement, with over 88 percent of respondents reporting a high availability in Alabama. Additionally, over 65 percent of treatment and prevention respondents reported a high level of use of fentanyl. Fentanyl is most commonly combined with cocaine, and controlled prescription drugs, but has been seen with heroin, methamphetamine, and marijuana as reported by law enforcement.

4. Associated Crime and Violence

Fentanyl and other opioids were ranked as the second greatest contributor to violent crime and property crime by law enforcement in Alabama. According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, law enforcement did put fentanyl second to methamphetamine on violent crime, while a lower number of respondents associated fentanyl with property crime.

5. Production

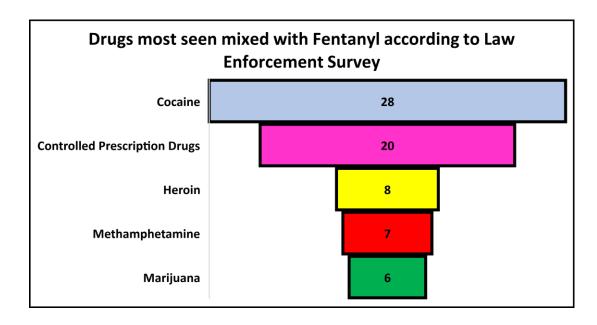
Fentanyl and other opioids are not produced in Alabama. Most of these opioids abused in Alabama are transported from out of state and/or across the border. On the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, it was interesting to note that the most common drugs seen mixed with fentanyl in Alabama was cocaine, controlled prescription drugs, heroin, and marijuana. Methamphetamine was also seen mixed with fentanyl but not as much as the others (see chart below).

6. Transportation

The majority of the law enforcement respondents on the GC HIDTA Drug Survey reported an increase in fentanyl transportation. Over the past 12 months law enforcement response on the survey listed Black American DTOs as the primary responsible group for the transportation of fentanyl and other opioids in Alabama. In 2023, EPIC traffic stops reported 5.4 kilograms, and 1,028 dosage units of fentanyl and other opioids seized in Alabama.

7. Distribution

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, Black American DTOs are primarily responsible for the wholesale and retail distribution of fentanyl and other opioids, followed by Caucasian American DTOs.



C. Methamphetamine

1. Assessment of Threat

Methamphetamine is the second greatest drug threat in Alabama, following fentanyl and other opioids. Treatment and prevention respondents also reported methamphetamine as the second greatest drug threat. Methamphetamine continues to be reported as the greatest contributor to violent crime, property crime, according to the law enforcement survey answers. According to EPIC, there were 250 kilograms of methamphetamine seized through investigations in Alabama in 2023.





The Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences analyzed the following methamphetamine-related drugs and chemicals in 2023:

		Items/Results
•	Amphetamine	189
•	Methamphetamine	11,820
•	Pseudoephedrine	6
•	Ephedrine	3

2. Abuse

According to the Alabama Department of Mental Health, 4,017 individuals sought treatment at state operated or funded institutions for abuse of methamphetamine in calendar year 2023. The results methamphetamine analyzed from the Department of Forensic Science showed an increase from 2,444 results analyzed in 2020 to 11,820 results in 2023.

The NPLEX (National Precursor Log Exchange) reports the following data for Alabama in years 2022 and 2023 concerning the precursors used in methamphetamine production. There was a decrease in all categories, with the exception of blocked purchases. Which shows that the NPLEX system is helping reduce the illegal use of these substances in drugstores.

Data Years	Total Purchase Activity	Total Grams Sold	Total Boxes Sold	Blocked Purchases	Total Grams Blocked
2023 NPLEX total of					
amphetamine/products	621,563	1,324,889	637,730	23,160	84,688
2022 NPLEX total of					
amphetamine/products	667,231	1,404,735	683,375	21,358	86,432

3. Availability

The majority of methamphetamine seen in Alabama is transported into the area via the Interstate Highway System. Most of what is seen in Alabama is generally from the Southwest Border. The availability of methamphetamine continues to remain high in Alabama.

The 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey showed 61 law enforcement respondents indicating methamphetamine availability as high. Treatment survey respondents also responded stating a high methamphetamine use.

Methamphetamine Availability		
High	61	
Moderate	9	
Low	1	

Methamphetamine price is most often determined based on location within the state. According to law enforcement across the State, methamphetamine prices range from \$25 a gram up to \$8,000 a kilogram.

4. Associated Crime and Violence

In 2023, methamphetamine was still identified by law enforcement as the leading drug contributing to property crime, and violent crime.

5. Production

According to EPIC, there were no labs reported in Alabama for CY 2023, however, a lab was reported by local law enforcement in north Alabama. Most of the methamphetamine seized on the highways and in DTO investigations is Mexico-produced methamphetamine which is transported into the state.

6. Transportation

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, Black American DTOs, and Caucasian American DTOs are almost even when it comes to the transportation of methamphetamine into Alabama. The BLOC HIDTA Watch Center reported a total of 23 pounds of methamphetamine seized on Alabama highways in 2023. EPIC reported 294.25 kilograms, and 56,779.74 ml of methamphetamine seized in Alabama traffic stops, investigations, and mail parcels in 2023.

7. Distribution

Results from the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey indicates that both Black American DTOs, and Caucasian American DTOs are responsible for the wholesale and retail distribution of methamphetamine.

D. Cocaine

1. Assessment of Threat

Cocaine, both powder and crack, continue to pose a threat to Alabama according to the GC HIDTA law enforcement and treatment survey respondents. Cocaine related mental health admissions showed an increase in 2023. In 2023, the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences analyzed 2,521 results of cocaine.





2. Abuse

According to the Alabama Department of Mental Health, 1,026 individuals sought treatment for cocaine abuse in 2023, showing an increase of 187 individuals from 2022. On the GC HIDTA law enforcement survey, respondents listed cocaine as the most prevalent drug mixed in with fentanyl

3. Availability

Cocaine is readily available throughout the state. The majority of the respondents to the survey reported the availability of cocaine was moderate in 2023. The 2025 GC HIDTA law enforcement survey responses indicated the drug trafficking of cocaine availability in Alabama is as follows:

Cocaine Availability			
	Number of Respondents		
High	15		
Moderate	44		
Low	11		

The price of cocaine (crack and powder), ranges from \$56 per gram to \$35,000 per kilogram as reported by law enforcement.

4. Associated Crime and Violence

The crime and violence associated with cocaine continues to be less of a threat compared to methamphetamine and fentanyl according to law enforcement in Alabama.

5. Production

Coca is not cultivated nor is cocaine produced within Alabama, but rather originates in South America, and is transported into Alabama via hub cities along the Southwest Border, and through Atlanta. Wholesale levels of cocaine are generally sold in powder form with street level retailers converting the powder cocaine to crack cocaine prior to retail.

6. Transportation

Black American DTOs are primarily responsible for the majority of the powder and crack cocaine transported into Alabama. Cocaine is transported to the area overland in private and commercial vehicles. According to the BLOC HIDTA Watch Center, 47 pounds of cocaine was seized in Alabama during highway interdiction in 2023. EPIC reports 404.81 kilograms of cocaine seized from Alabama traffic stops, investigations, and mail parcels in 2023.

7. Distribution

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, Black American DTOs dominate the wholesale and retail distribution of crack and powder cocaine.

E. Marijuana

1. Assessment of the Threat

Marijuana is the second most used and available illegal drug in the state, followed by methamphetamine. Alabama has not legalized marijuana for recreational use but there are measures for medical use CBD in place. As of December 2023, the Alabama Medical Cannabis Commission had awarded six businesses a license to issue medical marijuana to patients that meet the legal qualifying conditions. According to the statute in Alabama, the commission can award 12 cultivator licenses, 4 processor licenses, 4 dispensary licenses, and 5 integrated facility licenses. There is also an unspecified number of secure transport and state testing laboratory licenses that can be issued. With Alabama's weather, marijuana can be grown indoors, outdoors, and hydroponically. According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, marijuana is primarily distributed by black Americans.



2. Abuse

Marijuana has outranked methamphetamine as the most abused illegal drug in Alabama, according to the Mental Health admission data. The Alabama Department of Mental Health reported 4,525 individuals seeking treatment from marijuana in 2023.

3. Availability

Marijuana is available from three primary sources: locally produced marijuana, marijuana produced in states that allow the production, and Mexican produced marijuana. Most marijuana encountered in Alabama is transported via the interstate highway system. The majority of law enforcement respondents reported a high availability of marijuana.

4. Associated Crime and Violence

Based on the law enforcement survey respondents, marijuana is not considered a major leading contributor to violent crime or property crime.

5. Production

The temperatures in Alabama certainly allow for marijuana to be grown outdoors. The Marijuana Eradication team coordinated by ALEA also encounters indoor grows in the State as well. According to EPIC, there were 528.03 kilos of marijuana seized in investigations, traffic stops, and mail parcels in Alabama in 2023. The tables shown on the following page show results of the marijuana eradication team seizures and hours flown in 2023.

FLIGHT HOURS FLOWN	COUNTIES
169.2	31

MARIJUANA ERADICATION 2023			
OUTDOOR			
GROW SITES	PLANTS SEIZED	ARRESTS	
13	301	8	
INDOOR			
GROW SITES	PLANTS SEIZED	ARRESTS	
12	93	13	

6. Transportation

Most marijuana seized in Alabama occurs during traffic stops via highway interdiction. According to the BLOC HIDTA Watch Center, 971 pounds of marijuana was seized in traffic stops in Alabama in 2023. EPIC reported a total of 346.01 kilograms seized in traffic stops in Alabama, not including edible marijuana or synthetic marijuana. According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, Black American DTOs are the primary transporters of marijuana in Alabama. The origination points are mainly from the states of California and Colorado.

7. Distribution

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, marijuana is distributed primarily by Black American DTOs.

F. Heroin

1. Assessment of the Threat

Heroin is a highly addictive drug processed from morphine, a naturally occurring substance extracted from the seed pod of certain varieties of poppy plants.

Heroin comes in several forms, the main forms being "black tar" from Mexico (found primarily in the western United States) and white/brown powder from south of the border (primarily sold in the Southeast). Most of the heroin encountered in Alabama is in the powder form.





Heroin abuse and death is showing a continued decrease statewide in Alabama. Medical examiners statewide, law enforcement authorities, and mental health officials continue to see a decrease in heroin abuse in Alabama. The charts listed below show documented heroin deaths statewide for 2023 and 2022.

For calendar year 2023 the Department of Forensic Sciences analyzed 806 results which compared to data from back in 2022 was 1,289 results of heroin.

HEROIN OVERDOSE DEATHS 2023			
All Counties (excluding Jefferson County)	34		
Jefferson County	17		
TOTAL STATEWIDE	51		

HEROIN OVERDOSE DEATHS 2022		
All Counties (excluding Jefferson County)	52	
Jefferson County	20	
TOTAL STATEWIDE	72	

2. Abuse

Alabama continues to see individuals seeking treatment for heroin abuse. According to the Alabama Department of Mental Health, 1,218 individuals sought treatment for heroin abuse in 2023. Heroin showed the biggest drop in Mental Health admissions over last year.

3. Availability

The majority of law enforcement respondents to the GC HIDTA Drug Survey reported a remained the same status, in availability of heroin, while only 12 reported an increase in heroin availability. Heroin prices range from \$80 a gram to \$3,000 an ounce.

4. Associated Crime and Violence

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, heroin is not a contributor of violent crime and is seldom a contributor to property crime in Alabama.

5. Production

Opium is not cultivated nor is heroin produced in Alabama. Heroin is produced primarily in Mexico, South America, Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Southwest Asia.

6. Transportation

Caucasian American DTOs were listed as the primary transporters of heroin to Alabama according to the GC HIDTA Drug Survey. Heroin is primarily transported to Alabama overland via private, commercial, and rental vehicles. The BLOC HIDTA Watch Center reported a total of 14 pounds of heroin seized on Alabama highways in 2023. EPIC reported in 2023 a total of 18 kilograms seized from traffic stops, investigations, and mail parcels in Alabama.

7. Distribution

The 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey respondents indicated that Black American DTOs are the primary distributors of heroin.

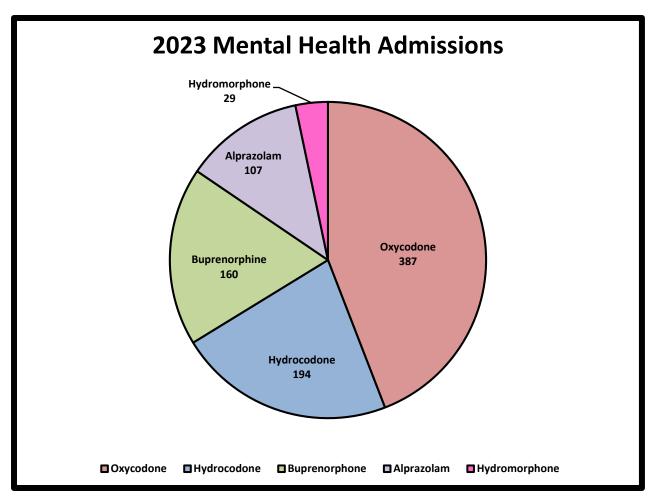
G. Controlled Prescription Drugs

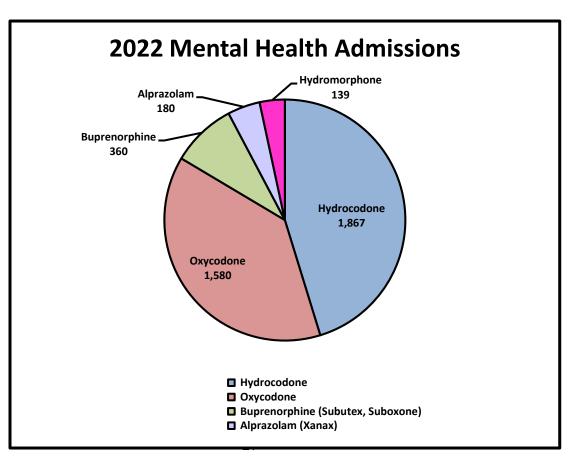
1. Assessment of the Threat

Oxycontin and hydrocodone are still the two most frequently abused controlled prescription drugs (CPDs) according to Mental Health statistics. There were 387 admissions to treatment centers attributed to oxycodone in 2023, representing a huge decrease from 1,580 admissions in 2022. Hydrocodone also decreased greatly going from 1,867 in 2022 to 194 in 2023. The number of mental health treatment admissions for each of the pharmaceutical drugs listed in the charts on the next page continue to all show decreases. According to law enforcement Caucasian American groups are still the primary distributors of controlled prescription drugs.









In 2023, the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences analyzed the following pharmaceuticals:

		RESULTS
•	Alprazolam (Xanax):	494
•	Codeine	19
•	Dihydrocodeinone (Hydrocodone)	535
•	Ephedrine	3
•	Fentanyl	1,725
•	Oxycodone	443

2. Abuse

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey respondents, Caucasian American DTOs are the primary retail distributors of CPDs. According to the Alabama Department of Public Health, Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, there were 10,333,052 prescriptions written in 2023 for Schedule 2-4 which does show a decrease over the past year in Alabama. The chart listed on the following page shows the statistics as broken down by the last two years and the Category/Schedule of drugs.

YEAR	CATEGORY	RECIPIENT COUNT	RX COUNT	QTY DISPENSED	DAYS OF SUPPLY
2023	C2	1,139,367	5,255,579	276,745,481	119,816,903
2023	С3	203,339	1,101,436	39,195,525	31,018,983
2023	C4	748,075	3,976,037	192,427,514	108,926,030
2022	C2	1,145,226	5,299,590	281,587,193	120,546,094
2022	С3	193,900	1,037,252	37,807,353	28,465,642
2022	C4	759,041	4,080,556	200,089,477	112,062,348

As listed on the DEA website the following controlled substance definitions describe the basic or parent chemical and do not necessarily describe the salts, isomers and salts of isomers, esters, ethers and derivatives which may also be classified as controlled substances. These lists are intended as general references and are not comprehensive listings of all controlled substances.

Schedule II (**C2 on chart above**) substances, or chemicals are defined as drugs with a high potential for abuse, less abuse potential than Schedule I drugs, with use potentially leading to severe psychological or physical dependence. These drugs are also considered dangerous. Some examples of Schedule II drugs are:

Cocaine, methamphetamine, methadone, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), meperidine (Demerol), oxycodone (OxyContin), fentanyl, Dexedrine, Adderall, and Ritalin

Schedule III (C3 on chart above) substances, or chemicals are defined as drugs with a moderate to low potential for physical and psychological dependence. Schedule III drugs abuse potential is less than Schedule I and Schedule II drugs but more than Schedule IV.

Combination products with less than 15 milligrams of hydrocodone per dosage unit (Vicodin), Products containing less than 90 milligrams of codeine per dosage unit (Tylenol with codeine), ketamine, anabolic steroids, testosterone

Schedule IV (**C4 on chart above**) substances, or chemicals are defined as drugs with a low potential for abuse and low risk of dependence. Some examples of Schedule IV drugs are:

Xanax, Soma, Darvon, Darvocet, Valium, Ativan, Talwin, Ambien

3. Availability

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, the majority of law enforcement respondents reported CPDs as Moderately available in Alabama. They also stated that the availability had mostly stayed the same as last year.

4. Associated Crime and Violence

According to the 2025 GC HIDTA Survey, no law enforcement respondent indicated that CPDs contributed to property crimes nor violent crimes in Alabama.

5. Production

There are several pharmaceutical companies located in Alabama. Generics Bidco I, LLC, dba Qualitest Pharmaceuticals, Inc. which manufactures and sells prescription and over-the-counter products is located in Huntsville. Oxford Pharmaceuticals which manufactures generic drugs is located in Birmingham. According the GC HIDTA Law Enforcement Survey, the majority of controlled prescription drugs originate here in Alabama. These answers are very likely where the drugs were seized, and not necessarily where they are manufactured.

6. Transportation

CPDs are primarily transported by private and commercial vehicles; however, some CPDs are also shipped to the state via mail services. Caucasian American DTOs have been identified as transporting the majority of diverted pharmaceuticals into Alabama. In 2023, EPIC traffic stops, investigations, and mail parcels reported 4,020 dosage units seized, 101,639.59 milliliters, and 6.58 kilograms seized in Alabama. The BLOC HIDTA Watch Center reported 36,123,667 pounds seized through highway interdiction efforts in Alabama in 2023.

7. Distribution

The majority of respondents of the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey reported Caucasian American DTOs as the primary wholesale and retail distributors of CPDs in Alabama. Unfortunately, there are many seizures in Alabama that contain counterfeit prescription drugs. According to the survey the number one counterfeit drug seized in 2023 was Xanax.

H. New Psychoactive Drugs

1. Assessment of the Threat

New Psychoactive drugs which includes PCP, LSD, GBL, and GHB are not seen as a major threat in Alabama currently. Synthetic cannabinoids continue to change in their chemical makeup which can cause quite a dangerous problem when used. The synthetic cannabinoids are drugs that are made up of mind-altering substances intended to produce a high like that of marijuana. These types of drugs act on the same brain receptors as THC and CBD do, however, since they are man-made and are a conglomeration of multiple chemicals they can become very dangerous once ingested.



2. Abuse

The presence of LSD and MDMA continues to be available in Alabama according to the Mental Health Admissions data, however, the Synthetic cannabinoids are seen in a much greater capacity. The Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences continues to see various synthetic cannabinoids each year, and each year seems to bring a new type (*see chart below*). According to EPIC, 40.82 kilograms and 421 dosage units of new psychoactive drugs were seized in Alabama from investigations and traffic stops in 2023. In 2023, the BLOC HIDTA Watch Center seized 55,831 pounds in Alabama and 12 dosage units.

3. Availability

The majority of law enforcement respondents from the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey reported a low availability of new psychoactive drugs. The synthetic cannabinoids which showed the highest increase from 2022 from the Department of Forensic Sciences are listed below.

2023 DRUG	ITEMS/RESULTS
4F-MDMB-BINACA (4F-MDMB-BUTINACA)	6
ADB-BUTINACA	570
MDMB-4en-PINACA	287

2022 DRUG	ITEMS/RESULTS
ADB-BUTINACA	68
MDMB-4en-PINACA	199

4. Associated Crime and Violence

New psychoactive drugs are rarely reported as associated to violent or property crime, however, according to the GC HIDTA Drug Survey, one respondent did state it contributed to violent crime.

5. Production

There is no evidence of new psychoactive drugs being produced in Alabama.

6. Transportation

According to the 2024 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, Caucasian American DTOs and Black American DTOs are listed as almost equal transporters of new psychoactive drugs. These DTOs transport via the highways and mail as the main source of transportation.

7. Distribution

The most prominent areas for distribution continue to be social functions of the younger generation; however, there continues to be individual dealers that sell new psychoactive drugs on the street as well. The internet is also an easy way to obtain these drugs for a drug abuser.

IV. DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION

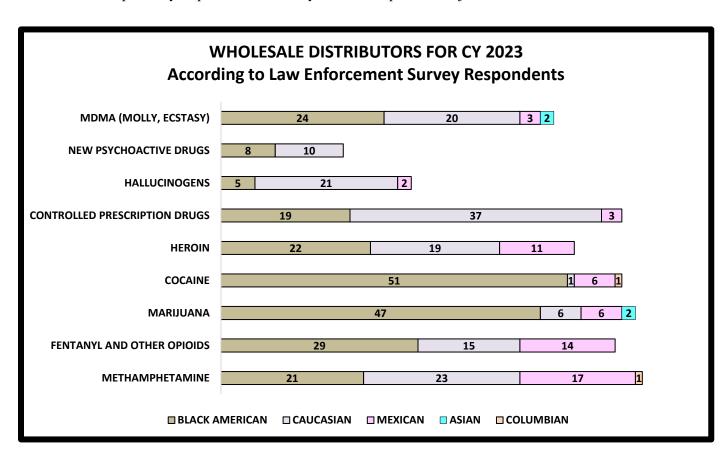
Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) are the primary subjects who control the main drug distribution details in a defined area whether it be locally, regionally, nationally or internationally. Within Alabama, these groups can vary widely depending on where the source of the drug, and who or how that particular drug is distributed in a specific area.

a. Sources of Drugs

Fentanyl is mostly encountered transported from Mexico into Alabama. According to law enforcements respondents from the survey, the availability of fentanyl is increasing in their area. With information from the Drug Enforcement Administration in Alabama, the origination of fentanyl and other opioids, methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin are mainly sourced from Mexico. Marijuana according to the GC HIDTA Survey is sourced from California. Diverted pharmaceuticals as well as new psychoactive drugs are sourced from the any available avenue but possibly the majority is via the internet or dark web.

b. Groups in Alabama distributing the drugs

The following chart documents the main criminal groups according to law enforcement respondents responsible for the wholesale distribution of drugs in Alabama. As the chart below documents, Black American DTOs and Caucasian DTOs are responsible for all of the drug categories. Methamphetamine, controlled prescription drugs, and new psychoactive drugs, are primarily the Caucasian American DTOs. While Black American DTOs are primarily responsible for fentanyl and other opioids, marijuana, and cocaine.



V. ILLICIT FINANCE

Money laundering always occurs when DTOs look for ways to elude law enforcement in their drug operations. The top SAR Activity for Alabama in 2023 is the Depository Institutions. Money Service businesses via SAR reports are standing at number two for Alabama. In 2023, the BLOC HIDTA Watch Center reported a total of \$3,187,819.00 in U.S. currency seized in Alabama. According to EPIC the currency seizures from traffic stops and investigations for Alabama in 2023 totaled \$5,409,080.00. Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA/SBI) reported 1,026,087.00 currency seized for 2023.

Suspicious Activity Reports

FinCEN reported 144 SARS filed by casinos and card clubs in Alabama in 2023. The SAR totals as reported to FinCen in each category below have shown decreases in every category with the exception of the SAR (Other Business), which showed an increase. The chart below shows the SAR reports for Alabama as reported to FinCEN during calendar years 2022 and 2023.

FinCEN Suspicious Activity Reports 2022-2023			
	2022	2023	
SAR-C (Casino and Card Clubs)	177	144	
SAR-DI (Depository Institution)	31,073	28,313	
SAR MSB (Money Service Businesses)	11,657	11,441	
SAR (Other business)	85	143	

In the SAR filings for Alabama, the Depository Institutions and the Money Service Businesses continue to top the list. The Depository Institutions show the most filed SARS for 2023. The below chart explains the top reasons for the SARS filed by Depository Institutions, and Money Service Businesses in Alabama. The characteristic of Suspicion Concerning the Source of Funds did show a slight increase from 4,998 in 2022 to 5,063 in 2023.

Top Characteristics listed on SARS filed for Money Service Business		
Transaction(s) Below BSA Recordkeeping Threshold	5,501	
Two or more individuals working together	4,127	
Suspicious use of multiple transaction locations	3,381	
Other suspicious activities	2,459	

Top Characteristics listed on SARS filed for Depository Institutions		
Check	12,940	
Transaction(s) below CTR Threshold	6,521	
Counterfeit Instrument	5,581	
Suspicion Concerning the Source of Funds	5,063	

VI. OUTLOOK

Based on the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, fentanyl is still considered to be the most significant drug threat in Alabama for law enforcement respondents, and treatment and prevention respondents. Based on 2023 data from forensic, and mental health admission data, fentanyl is continuing to rise in abuse, and in deaths. Fentanyl showed the greatest increase of individuals admitted to mental health facilities in Alabama compared to other illegal drugs. Methamphetamine remains the number one drug for its contribution to violent and property crime in Alabama. Heroin although not reported by law enforcement as a drug threat in 2023, continues to show mental health admissions; but they have decreased in number. Marijuana will continue to be widely available and in high demand in Alabama as marijuana related mental health admissions continue to increase, and law enforcement continues to seize large quantities of the drug. Cocaine will continue to pose a moderate to low threat compared to other illicit drugs in Alabama as its availability, demand, and distribution have basically remained the same

The southwest border along with Atlanta, Georgia, will remain the primary distribution point for drugs coming into Alabama. With marijuana, the main distribution source was documented as California.

Oxycodone, and hydrocodone continue to remain the primary CPDs most frequently abused. Other dangerous drugs such as synthetic cannabinoids and hallucinogens and other designer drugs, will continue to be available to the population of Alabama. The Alabama Department of Forensic Science continues to see large totals analyzed when it comes to the synthetic substances.

The main communication of drug distributors in Alabama use the WhatsApp to communicate. Illegal drug transactions will continue to take place via the internet and dark web. All virtual currencies that are used to obtain drugs will continue to pose a challenging avenue for law enforcement in Alabama.

VII. METHODOLOGY

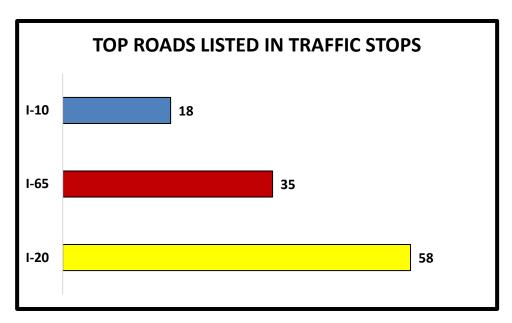
In December 1996, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) designated 12 counties/parishes across Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama as the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (GC HIDTA); additional counties/parishes were designated at later dates. In 2008, the GC HIDTA added four additional designated counties located in Arkansas and in 2010 the county of Shelby Tennessee was added. Northwest Florida became a member of the Gulf Coast HIDTA in 2016. Combined, the six states serve as a gateway/throughway for drugs crossing into the United States and as a transit and staging zone for drug distribution.

The 2025 Alabama Drug Threat Assessment details the drug categories of fentanyl and other opioids, methamphetamine, heroin, controlled prescription drugs, cocaine, marijuana, and synthetic/other dangerous drugs. Also included within the threat assessment are details on drug admissions/treatment given at various mental health facilities located across the state as well as statistics from several agencies that handles forensics and overdoses.

Sources used to create this assessment include statistics from the 2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA), Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences, Alabama Department of Mental Health, Alabama Department of Public Health, BLOC HIDTA Watch Center, Alabama Department of Human Resources and various law enforcement agencies who contributed individual statistics from their area.

VIII. APPENDICES, TABLES AND ADDENDUMS

**The following chart documents the top seizure roads as recorded by EPIC and HIDTA BLOC in Alabama for CY 2023.



The following two charts includes totals accounting for all traffic stops reported to EPIC and HIDTA BLOC in 2023

EPIC and HIDTA BLOC Total
Traffic Stops in Alabama for
2022 with currency, illegal
drugs, controlled
prescription drugs, and/or
drug paraphernalia seized
228

EPIC and HIDTA BLOC 2023 Total of each drug and currency seized in stops			
Methamphetamine	35.49 kilos		
Marijuana	786.01 kilos		
Cocaine	233.15 kilos		
Heroin	12.8 kilos		
Fentanyl	36,127,237 dosages, 59.86 kilos		
Controlled Prescription Drugs	101,639.59 mil, 4,182 dosages, 10.64 kilos		
Other Dangerous Drugs	649 dosages, 25,324.50 kilos		
Currency	8,596,899.00 dollars		

The following chart references all Alabama traffic stops (drug, currency, firearm....etc.) as reported to EPIC and HIDTA BLOC according to day of the week and highest time of day stopped.

2023 TRAFFIC STOPS BY DAY OF WEEK		
WEDNESDAY	67	
TUESDAY	44	
THURSDAY 39 MONDAY 34		
SATURDAY	13	
SUNDAY	10	

2023 TOP TIMES FOR		
STOPS		
12 PM TO 3 PM	70	
3 PM to 8 PM	60	

SAFETY CONCERNS / TRENDS/ OF VARIOUS DRUGS SEEN IN ALABAMA or SURROUNDING STATES or NATIONWIDE

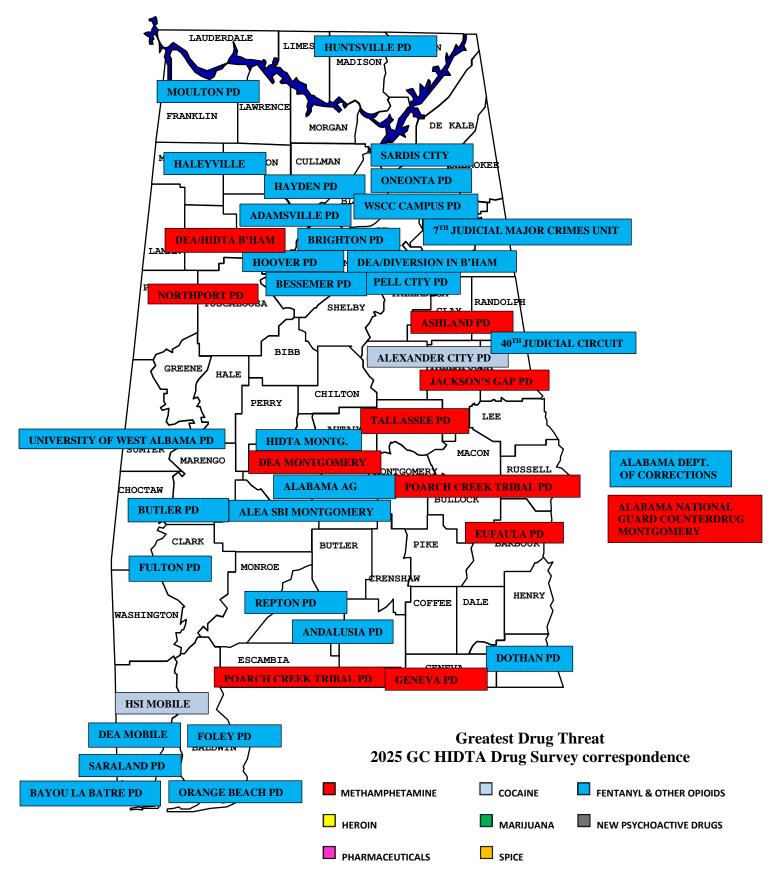
Nitazenes (Isotonitazene ISO)

Nitazenes are highly potent, illegal synthetic opioids that have been related to overdose deaths in numerous jurisdictions across the country. They were first developed roughly six decades ago as a potential pain reliever medicine, but they have never been approved for use in the United States. They are considered more potent than fentanyl, heroin, and morphine, even one-time use of them creates a serious risk. Nitazenes are sold as a white powder, crystalline solid, or brown/yellow powder. They have also been found in tablets (fake oxycodone), heroin, ketamine and synthetic cannabinoids.





2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey with Alabama PD/DTF/Board Agencies



^{*}If there is more than one answer per agency, then the answer with the most is recorded, or if only two are presented, then the first response is used.

2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey correspondence with participates from (Local Police, State/Board Agencies, District Attorneys, DEA and Drug Task Forces).

7th Judicial Major Crimes Unit 40th Judicial Court

Adamsville PD

Alabama AG

Alabama Department of Corrections

ALEA/SBI

Alabama National Guard Counterdrug

DEA/Birmingham

DEA/Mobile

DEA/Montgomery

Dothan PD

Eufaula PD

Foley PD

Fulton PD

Geneva PD

Haleyville PD

Hayden PD

Hoover PD

Huntsville PD

ICE/HSI/Mobile

Jackson's Gap PD

Northport PD

Oneonta PD

Orange Beach PD

Pell City PD

Poarch Creek Tribal PD

Repton PD

Saraland PD

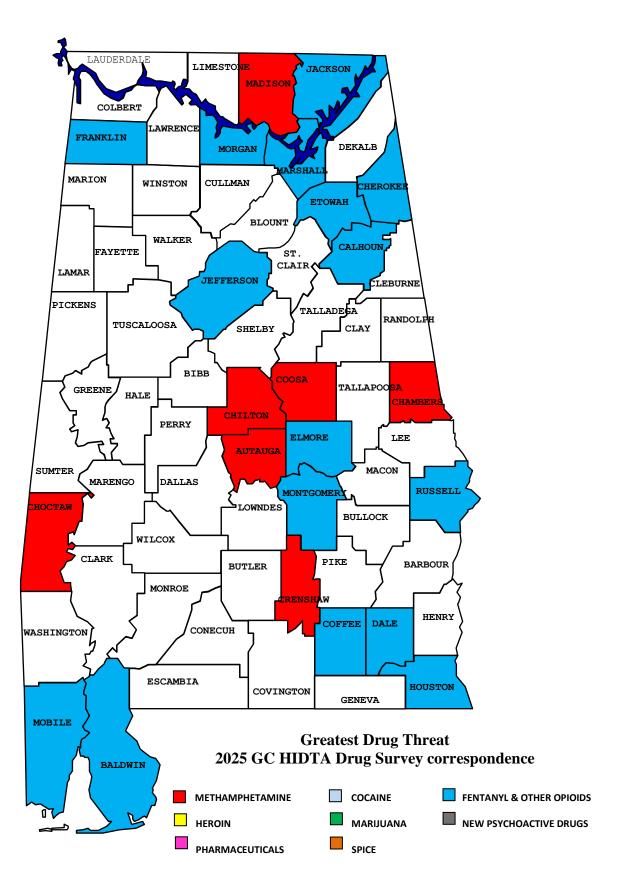
Sardis City PD

Tallassee PD

University of West Alabama PD

WSCC Campus Police

2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey County Sheriff Offices



^{*}If there is more than one answer per agency, then the answer with the most is recorded, or if only two are presented, then the first response is used.

$2025~{ m GC~HIDTA~Drug~Survey}$ correspondence with participates from (County Sheriffs, Coroners).

Autauga County Sheriff Baldwin County Coroner Calhoun County Sheriff Chambers County Sheriff Cherokee County Coroner Chilton County Sheriff Choctaw County Sheriff Coffee County Coroner Coosa County Sheriff Crenshaw County Sheriff

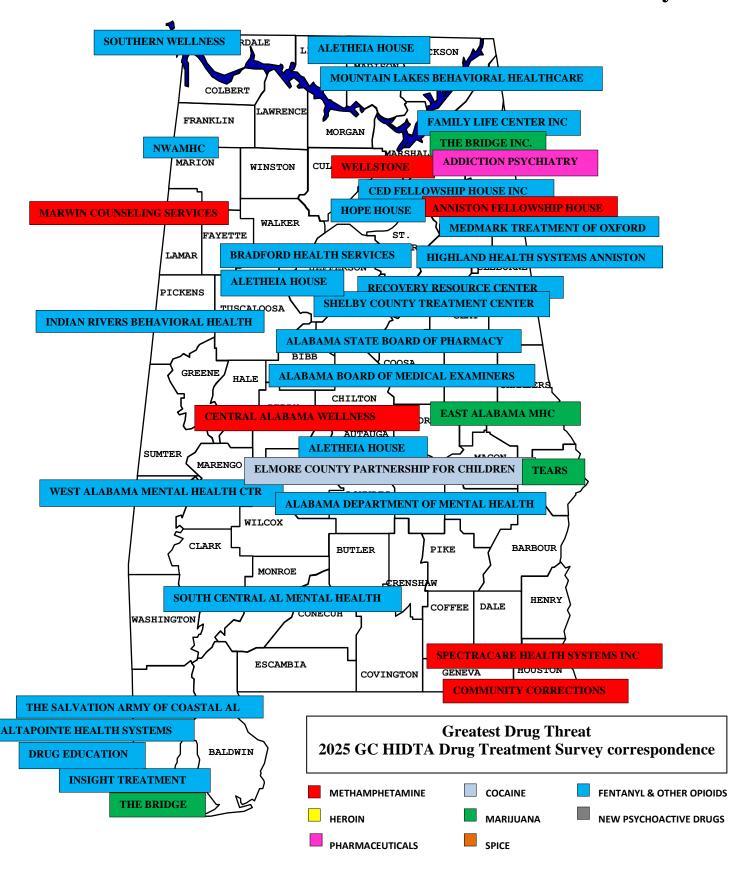
Dale County Sheriff

Elmore County Sheriff

Etowah County Sheriff
Franklin County Sheriff
Houston County Sheriff
Jackson County Sheriff
Jefferson County Sheriff
Lee County Coroner
Madison County Sheriff
Marshall County Sheriff
Mobile County Sheriff
Montgomery County Sheriff
Morgan County Sheriff

Russell County Sheriff

2025 GC HIDTA Treatment and Prevention Survey



^{*}If there is more than one answer per center, then the answer with the most is recorded, or if only two are presented, then the first response is used.

2025 GC HIDTA Drug Survey correspondence with participates from

AltaPointe Health
BHG Mobile and Grand Bay
Bradford Health Services
CED Fellowship House Inc.
Central Alabama Wellness
Community Corrections
Drug Education
East Alabama MHC
Elmore Co. Partnership for Children
Family Life Center
Fellowship House
Highland Health Systems
Indian Rivers Behavioral Health
Insight Treatment Program
Marwin Counseling Services
MedMark Treatment Centers
Mountain Lakes Behavioral Healthcare
Hope House
NWAMHC
Recovery Resource Center
Salvation Army
Shelby County Treatment Center
SCAMHC
Southern Wellness
SpectraCare Health Systems
TEARS Inc.
The Bridge
Wellstone
WAMHC

Addiction Psychiatry

Aletheia House

Alabama Board of Medical Examiners Alabama Department of Mental Health Alabama State Board of Pharmacy

A. Additional Sources

The following agencies contributed additional sources to the Alabama Drug Threat Assessment:

Alabama Department of Corrections (DOC)

Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences

Alabama Department of Human Resources

Alabama Department of Mental Health

Alabama Department of Public Health

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA)

GC Watch Center, Gulfport, MS (BLOC)

Jefferson County Coroner's Office

Drug Enforcement Administration / HIDTA

El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)

U.S. Army National Guard

U.S. Census Bureau

B. Illicit Drug Prices for Alabama (2023 prices)

Cocaine (Crack) State/Territory/District City Price in Dollars

Birmingham	Gram 60	Ounce N/A
Mobile	56-100	900-1,300
Montgomery	60-80	1,000
Huntsville	80	N/A

Cocaine (Powder) State/Territory/District City Price in Dollars

Birmingham	Gram 60-75	Ounce 1,150	Kilogram 31,000-32,000
Mobile	80-100	1,100-1,400	27,000-28,000
Montgomery	80-100	1200	32,000-35,000
Huntsville	80	N/A	N/A

Methamphetamine State/Territory/District City Price in Dollars

Birmingham	Gram 30-50	Ounce 400-550	Pound N/A	Kilogram N/A
Mobile	90-100	175-200	2,000-2,500	6,400-8,000
Montgomery	25-30	250-300	2,000-2,500	4,000-5,000
Huntsville	50	N/A	N/A	N/A

High Grade Marijuana State/Territory/District City Price in Dollars

Birmingham	Gram 20	Ounce 200	Pound N/A
Mobile	N/A	130-200	1,500-2,200
Montgomery	10	300	2,500-3,000
Huntsville	25	N/A	N/A

Heroin (Brown)

State/Territory/District City

Price in Dollars

Birmingham	Gram 100-150	Ounce 2,500	Kilogram N/A
Mobile	125-175	1,900-3,000	N/A
Montgomery	80-150	2,000	N/A
Huntsville	160	N/A	N/A

Fentanyl

State/Territory/District City

Price in Dollars

	Pill	Gram	Ounce	Kilogram
Birmingham	N/A	100-150	2,500	N/A
Mobile	15	50	1,500-4,500	N/A
Montgomery	5	70-100	1,500	N/A
Huntsville	N/A	200	N/A	N/A

MDMA

State/Territory/District City

Price in Dollars

Dosage/Unit

Birmingham 1

Mobile 1-5

Montgomery 2

Huntsville 15

Spice / K2 (Synthetic Cannabinoids) State/Territory/District City Price in Dollars		•	LSD State/Territory/District City Price in Dollars	
Birmingham	Package N/A	Birmingham	Tablets N/A	Full Sheet N/A
Mobile	3-5	Mobile	N/A	N/A

Montgomery N/A Montgomery N/A

Huntsville 20 Huntsville 10 N/A