

HAWAII METH PROJECT

Methamphetamine Impact: Hawaii Statistics

The majority of U.S. counties report Meth is their most serious drug problem—more than cocaine and marijuana combined. The RAND Corporation’s Drug Policy Research Center estimates that the total annual cost of Meth abuse in 2005 to the U.S. is approximately \$23.4 billion.¹

The increase in Meth use in states across the U.S., including Hawaii, is contributing to this enormous national burden. Meth use and treatment in Hawaii are considerably higher than the national average. The financial and social consequence of Meth abuse in Hawaii is devastating with overburdened jails and prisons, reduced employee productivity, and increased foster care, healthcare, and treatment costs.

HAWAII STATS

- In 2013, 61 of Hawaii’s 120 drug related deaths were associated with methamphetamine.¹⁰
- Estimated cost of Meth abuse in Hawaii is \$500 million annually for incarceration, foster care, healthcare, lost employee productivity, and treatment.¹
- Hawaii ranks #1 in the nation for the percentage of drug-related treatment admissions that are Meth-related.⁹
- Hawaii 410% greater than the national average for positive methamphetamine workplace drug testing.⁶
- 90% of federally sentenced drug cases in Hawaii involve Meth.²
- In Hawaii 79.3% of drug related crimes were related to methamphetamine abuse.⁹
- Native Hawaiians and Native Americans are amongst the ethnicities with the highest prevalence of Meth use in the nation.³
- Meth poses the greatest drug threat to the Hawaii due to its association with violent crimes, theft and wide spread availability.⁴
- 4,545 Hawaii high school students reported to using methamphetamine in their lifetime – 2,416 females and 2,103 males.⁵
- 60% of juveniles rearrested admit to using hard drugs.⁷
- Annual cost for 1 bed at Hawaii Youth Correction Center (HYCF) \$199,320.⁸

NATIONAL STATS

- Nationally in 2012, 120,239 high school students received substance abuse treatment.⁹
- 2013 budget for Bureau of Prisons almost \$7 billion.¹⁰
- Average sentence for methamphetamine sentences are 97 months.¹⁰
- Average annual cost per offender \$3,400 probation, \$21,000 - \$34,000 inmate.¹⁰

¹ Estimate based on RAND, The Economic cost of Methamphetamine Use in the United States, 2005. Published in February 2009.

² United States Sentencing Commission, Statistical Information Packet, Fiscal Year 2009, District of Hawaii. 2009.

³ Center for Behavioral Health and Quality Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (TEDS data received through 10/17/13).

⁴ U.S. Department of Justice, National Drug Intelligence Center, Hawaii High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

⁵ Center for Disease Control Youth Online: High School YRBS Hawaii 2013 Results.

⁶ Quest Diagnostic Drug Testing Index 9/2/2011.

⁷ Department of Attorney General Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility Study 8/2012.

⁸ The PEW Charitable trust Hawaii 2014.

⁹ Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 2002 – 2012 National Admissions to Substance Abuse Treatment Services.

¹⁰ Urban Institute Justice Policy Center 12/2012; Growth & Increasing Cost of the Federal Prison System.