



2019

Ohio Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force Report

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Overview of Ohio's Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces

The Office of Criminal Justice Services provides federal and state grant funds to Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces. Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces generally consist of representatives from local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and prosecutors. They target all drug dealers in the community, with a focus on mid- to upper-level drug trafficking and organized criminal activity for which it would be difficult for any one jurisdiction to build a case. In this way, they are not duplicative of individual agencies, but are seen as a crucial addition to local law enforcement.

Funding for multi-jurisdictional task forces is available through OCJS from two primary sources—the federal Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and the state Drug Law Enforcement Fund (DLEF). Task forces are eligible to apply under both programs. In CY 2019, 31 task forces received JAG funding totaling over \$1.4 million. The DLEF is based on the fiscal year, and from July 2018-June 2019, 39 task forces were awarded \$4.4 million. For the award period July 2019-2020, 42 task forces were awarded \$3.7 million. In addition to these grant programs, in January 2019 a special supplemental award of \$1.0 million was also awarded to 40 task forces. This grant award ended in December 2019.

As a requirement of the JAG and DLEF grants, task forces submit data highlighting their activities and accomplishments. Beginning in 2017, task forces moved from submitting data in paper format on a semi-annual basis to submitting data electronically on a regularly-occurring basis (e.g., monthly) through an online data collection system called the Drug Incident Summary Collection Overview, or DISCO.

This annual report summarizes the activities of the task forces for calendar year 2019. Forty-three task forces representing 68 counties submitted data throughout 2019. A total of 9,079 non-pharmaceutical (i.e., street drug) cases and 490 pharmaceutical cases were reported to DISCO and are described in the following pages.

Non-Pharmaceutical (Street Drug) Activity

New Cases

Ohio's drug task forces worked 9,079 new cases in 2019. A case is defined as having a significant potential for prosecution. For this report, cases are based on individuals, not charges.

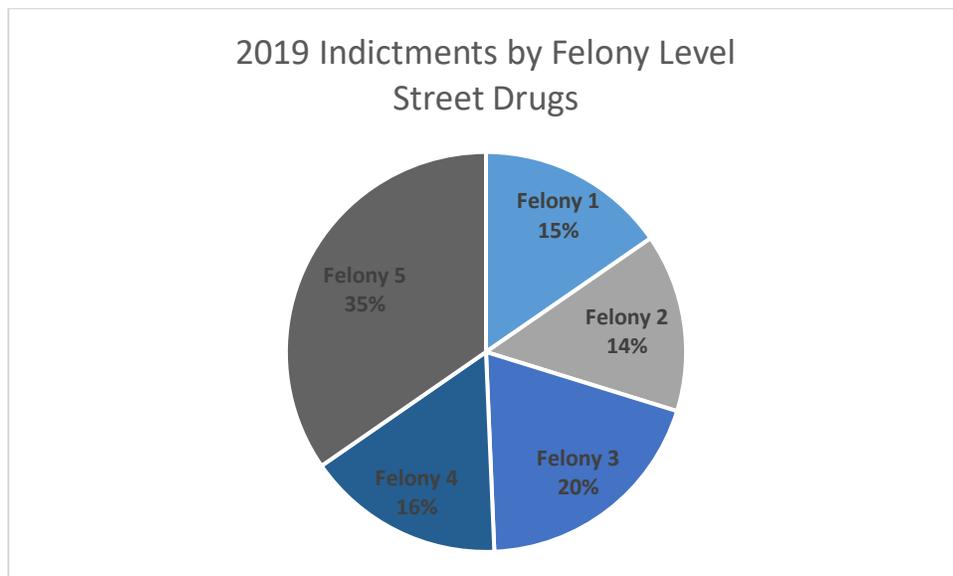
Search Warrants

The task forces executed 3,889 search warrants. Search warrants include court ordered warrants, GPS attachments, cell phone analyses and searches completed on people, places and things based on probable cause and/or consent where drugs and additional contraband may be recovered during task force investigative activity.

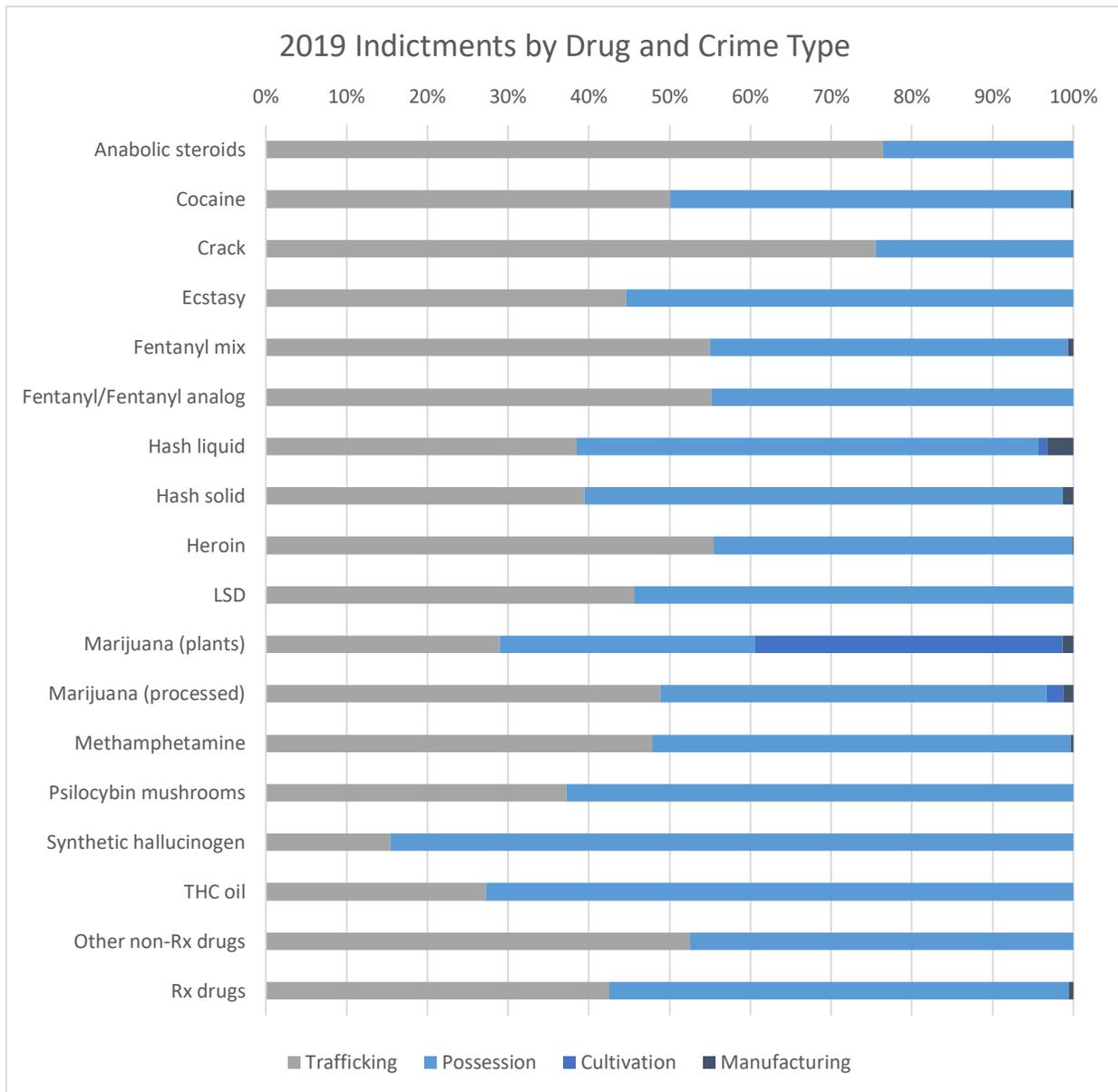
Indictments

The task forces indicted 5,254 individuals. Of these, 4,579 were non-federal indictments and 675 were federal indictments.

Indictments were also reported by felony level. The following chart shows a breakdown of the highest felony level for which persons were indicted. Across all indictments, nearly half (49%) percent were Felony 1, Felony 2, or Felony 3 indictments.



Indictments were broken down by type of drug and type of drug crime (trafficking, possession, cultivation, manufacturing). Task forces were asked to report on all indictments, not just the highest charge. Fifty percent of all indictments were for trafficking (N=4,758), followed by possession (49%, N=4,574). Cultivation and manufacturing/chemical assembly accounted for less than one percent of illegal drug indictments. Nearly all cultivation indictments were for marijuana, and most manufacturing indictments were for methamphetamine and processed marijuana. With a few exceptions, trafficking and possession each accounted for at least 40 percent of indictments.



Drugs Removed by Task Force

Task forces reported on the total amount of drugs they took off the streets in 2019. The following table shows that significant quantities of marijuana (processed and plants), cocaine, methamphetamine, and steroids were seized.

2019 Street Drugs Seized	
	Amount reported
Alpha-PVP	<.1 pound
Anabolic steroids	287 pounds 20,750 milliliters 200 unit dose
Cocaine	695 pounds
Crack	22 pounds
Ecstasy	5,732 unit dose
Fentanyl mix	22 pounds
Fentanyl/Fentanyl analog	120 pounds 10,319 unit dose
Hash (liquid, solid)	67,251 milliliters 278 pounds
Heroin	141 pounds
LSD	21,270 unit dose
Marijuana plants	4,409 plants
Marijuana processed	4,987 pounds
Methamphetamine	482 pounds
Psilocybin mushrooms	8 pounds
Synthetic hallucinogen (K2, spice)	<.1 pound 7 unit dose
THC oil	2 pounds 172,424 milliliters

Clandestine Labs

Task forces discovered 68 clandestine labs in 2019. Of these, 57% were marijuana grow operations

2019 Clandestine Labs	
One-pot	24
Marijuana grow operation	39
THC extraction	2
Other lab	3
Total	68

Pharmaceutical Diversion

Diversion is defined as any criminal act involving a prescription drug.

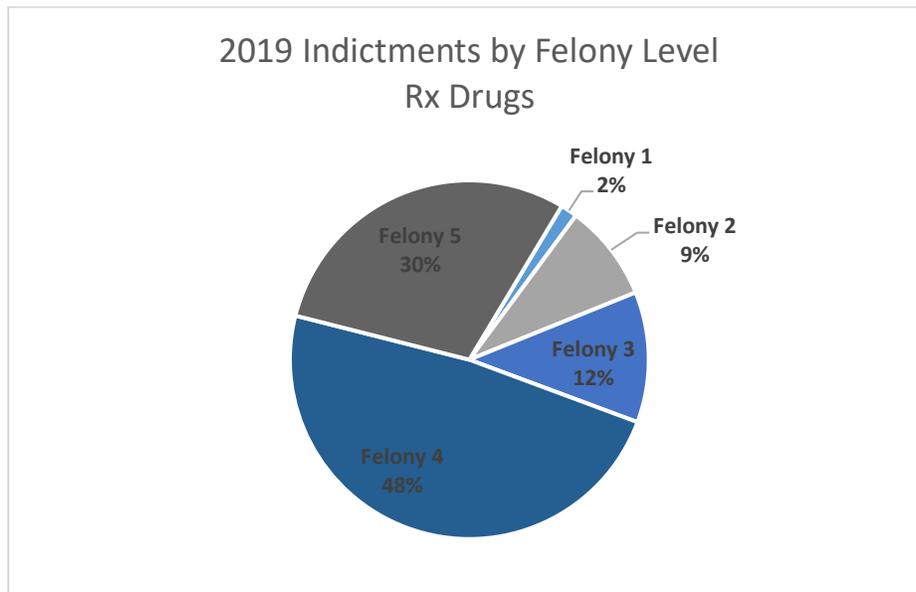
Investigations and Indictments

In 2019, there were a total of 490 pharmaceutical diversion cases initiated and 168 persons indicted.

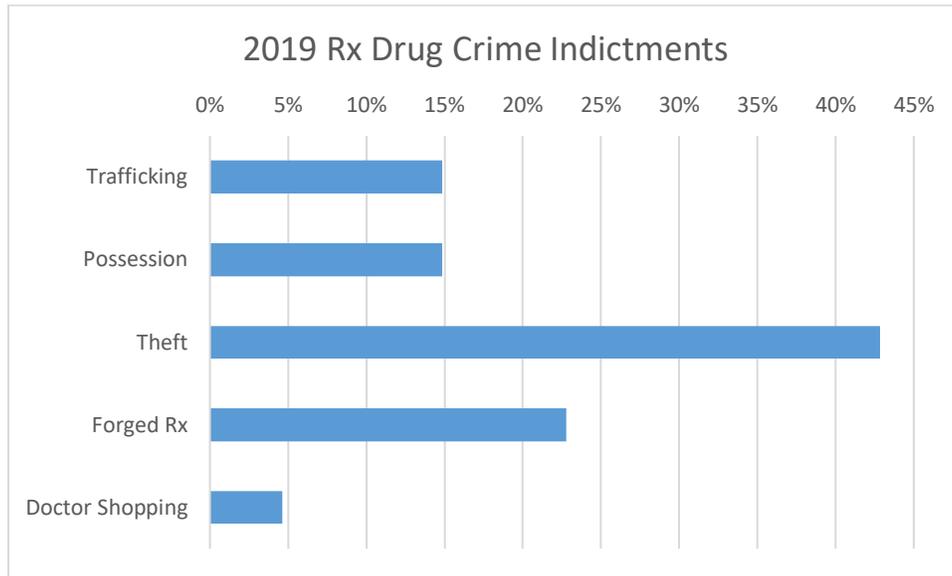
Task forces were asked to identify pharmaceutical cases by individual type. Most cases involved individuals not in the medical field. Of the cases involving those in the medical field, 78 percent were nurses.

2019 Prescription Cases by Individual	
Physicians	4
Physician assistants	2
Nurses	44
Pharmacists	3
Pharmacy technicians	2
Dentists	1
Other non-medical	356
Total	412

Task forces reported on indictments by felony level. Twenty-three percent were Felony 1, Felony 2, or Felony 3 indictments.



Individuals were indicted for a variety of drug-related crimes: possession, trafficking or sale, theft, forged or altered prescriptions, and doctor shopping. All crimes (not just the most serious crime) in which the individual was indicted were reported. In 2019, there were 733 pharmaceutical drug crime indictments. Forty-three percent of the indictments were for theft, 23 percent for forged prescriptions, and 15 percent each for trafficking and possession.



Looking at indictments by crime type and drug type, the data shows that overall, codeine, amphetamine mixture, oxycodone-IR, Percocet, and buprenorphine were the drugs for which there were the most indictments in 2019.

2019 Indictments by Crime Type and Drug Type					
	Trafficking/Sale	Possession	Theft	Forgery	Doctor Shopping
Codeine	0	6	140	23	3
Amphetamines	2	3	136	6	0
Oxycodone-IR	21	13	13	29	8
Percocet	21	3	0	56	4
Buprenorphine	11	20	0	9	2

Drugs Removed

The following table identifies the reported drugs seized and the number of task forces reporting at least one seizure of the drug. Alprazolam had the highest amounts of prescription drug seizures, and it, along with buprenorphine, top the list for number of task forces reporting at least one seizure.

2019 Pharmaceutical Drugs Seized		
	Amount seized	# TF reporting a seizure
Alprazolam (Xanax)	16,692 UD	14
Amphetamine mixture (Adderall)	673 UD	8
Androgens/Anabolic Steroids	400 UD	1
Buprenorphine (Subutex, Suboxone)	1002 UD + 10 ml	16
Carisprodol (Soma)	90 UD	1
Clonazepam (Klonopin)	227 UD	7
Codeine (Tylenol #3, Tylenol #4, cough syrup)	5,480 ml	2
Dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine)	215 UD	2
Diazepam (Valium)	157 UD	5
Fentanyl, fentanyl citrate (duragesic patches, Actiq, Fentora)	1,794 UD + 50 ml	2
Gabapentin (Neurontin)	384 UD	6
Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet)	4,968 UD + 796 ml	11
Hydrocodone Bitartrate (Zohydro ER)	102 UD	2
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid, Exalgo)	46 UD + 25 ml	3
Lorazepam (Ativan)	529 UD	5
Methylphenidate (Ritalin)	267 UD	4
Morphine (MS Contin, EMBEDA, Kadian)	49 UD + 10 ml	4
Oxycodone—ER (Oxycontin)	1,949 UD + 38 ml	13
Oxycodone—IR (Percocet, Percodan, Roxicet, Roxicodone)	4,950 UD	12
Percocet	2,410 UD	8
Tramadol (Ultram, Ultracet)	291 UD	8
Other Rx drug	4,093 UD + 9,993 ml	12
Total	41,288 UD + 16,402 ml	

Nasal Naloxone Administration

Eight task forces reported administering nasal naloxone during 2019. Naloxone was administered 561 times, and 518 saves were reported.

Other Task Force Activity

New Non-Drug Cases

In 2019, Ohio’s multi-jurisdictional task forces engaged in 2,230 investigations in which the focus was something other than the drug-related crimes previously discussed. Examples of non-drug cases that task forces have either initiated or assisted with include:

- Arson and related offenses
- Conspiracy, attempt, & complicity; weapons control; corrupt activity
- Drug offenses (other)
- Homicide and assault
- Kidnapping and extortion
- Offenses against justice and public administration
- Offenses against the family
- Offenses against the public peace
- Robbery, burglary, trespassing, & safecracking
- Sex offenses
- Theft and fraud
- Miscellaneous offenses

Drug Drop Boxes

Sixteen task forces collected 45,589 pounds of drugs in 2019. This primarily happened through coordinated community drug take-back events and through existing drug drop boxes.

Confiscated Firearms

Thirty-three task forces seized 11,230 firearms in 2019.

Presentations and Trainings

Of the 43 task forces, 38 provided at least one presentation and/or training on drug-related issues, with a median of 16 presentations given per task force. A total of 964 presentations were given to 48,903 attendees, an average of 51 attendees per presentation.

2019 Training Attendees	
First responders/law enforcement	7%
General community/civic organizations	31%
Healthcare professionals	3%
Local/state/federal government	3%
Schools	56%
Total	100%