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SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST:

The Ohio Data Dashboard is now available on the OCJS website. The Dashboard is an interactive map which combines various statistics grouped by county to better aid in data visualization and engage users. A link to the online tool is provided below.

<http://ocjs.ohio.gov/data-dashboard/atlas.html>



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OCJS Research Brief

2013 Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force Annual Report Summary

Anjolie Gordon, M.S.

Alan Wedd, M.S.

Katherine Bubeleva, B.S.

OCJS

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 tend to target 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.

During calendar year 2013, 38 task forces were funded in part by OCJS. The following summary of data collected by these task forces focuses on street (i.e., non-pharmaceutical) drug activity, pharmaceutical drug diversion, seizures and forfeitures, and other non-drug task force activities.

Street Drug Activity

Thirty-eight task forces worked a total of 10,682 new drug cases in 2013. Approximately 89% (9,481) were for street drug activity. The task forces indicted 5,332 individuals for street drug activity. The majority of indictments were for trafficking (N=2,741) and possession (N=1,789). Compared to 2012, the total number of trafficking indictments increased by approximately 21% in 2013. This increase was driven by a nearly 71% increase in indictments for heroin trafficking.

The greatest quantity of drug seized in 2013 was marijuana. Compared to 2012, 2013 saw increases in the total amount of drugs taken off the streets for all drugs except for cocaine, heroin, and marijuana. Ecstasy saw the greatest increase, with the amount of unit doses (UD) seized rising from 1,606 UD in 2012 to 12,012 UD in 2013.

Street Drugs Removed in 2013

	Amount	Median Price per Unit
Cocaine	189,481 grams	\$100/gram
Crack	12,244 grams	\$100/gram
Heroin	80,139 grams	\$150/gram
	221 UD	
	540 hits	
Marijuana-processed	20,648 pounds	\$1,407/pound
Marijuana-plants	13,079 plants	\$1,000/plant
LSD	2,814 UD	\$10/UD
Ecstasy	12,012 UD	\$15/UD
Methamphetamine	38,233 grams	\$100/gram
Psilocybin mushrooms	231,352 grams	\$15/gram
Bath salts	71,679 grams	\$40/gram
Synthetic hallucinogen (K2,spice)	433,518 grams	\$15/gram
		\$75.00/packet

Pharmaceutical Diversion

During 2013, 1,201 pharmaceutical cases were initiated. Of these, 672 (56%) led to criminal indictments. Nearly half of these were for trafficking or sale of prescription drugs. Cases of trafficking or sale, and forged or altered prescriptions increased in 2013 from

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— Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force, continued from previous page. 2012, while cases of doctor shopping decreased. Overall, Oxycodone-ER, Oxycodone-IR, Alprazolam, and Hydrocodone were the four drugs for which there were the most indictments.

The following table identifies the most commonly reported drugs seized and/or diverted. Diverted drugs are those drugs that have been identified as diverted dosage units during an investigation, but were never seized. Dosage units are reported, with the number of task forces reporting the amounts seized in diverted in parentheses.

Prescription Drugs Seized and/or Diverted

	Amount seized	Amount diverted
Alprazolam (Xanax)	2,487 (26)	26,961 (14)
Amphetamine mixture (Adderall)	800 (12)	8,291 (8)
Buprenorphine (Subutex, Suboxone)	953(29)	4,445 (8)
Butorphanol Tartrate (Stadol NS)	0	0
Carisoprodol (Soma)	130 (2)	2,680 (2)
Clonazepam (Klonopin)	335 (12)	2,052 (5)
Dextroamphetamine	6 (1)	0
Codeine (Tylenol #3, Tylenol #4, cough syrup)	191 (3)	10,616 (8)
Diazepam (Valium)	847 (13)	6,956 (6)
Fentanyl, fentanyl citrate (duragesic patches, Actiq, Fentora)	116 (8)	457 (6)
Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet)	13,709 (25)	182,433 (17)
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	389 (8)	3,721 (4)
Lorazepam (Ativan)	176 (5)	5,486 (3)
Meperidine (Demerol)	0	34 (1)
Methadone (liquid/wafers/pills)	185 (8)	3,150 (3)
Methylphenidate (Ritalin)	57 (4)	2,422 (2)
Morphine (MS Contin, EMBEDA, Kadian)	305 (15)	1,713 (8)
Oxycodone—ER (Oxycontin)	2,909 (17)	9,895 (9)
Oxycodone—IR (Percocet, Percodan, Roxicet, Roxicodone)	11,824 (33)	424,710 (16)
Oxymorphone (Opana)	258 (9)	1,961 (4)
Pheneratamine (Adipex-P, Fastin, Ionamin)	109 (2)	225 (1)
Tramadol (Ultram, Ultracet)	314 (10)	36,588 (10)
Zolpidem Tartrate (Ambien)	36 (2)	7,092 (5)

Criminal Asset Seizures and Forfeitures

The estimated value of all assets seized in 2013 was over \$18.3 million, an increase of almost 76% from 2012. The estimated value of all assets forfeited in 2013 was nearly \$4.7 million, which was down from over \$5.2 million in 2012. Ohio’s multi-jurisdictional

task forces engaged in 1,726 investigations in which the focus was something other than drug-related crime.

Other Task Force Activity

A total of 1,607 firearms were confiscated by the task forces in 2013.

Thirty-four of the thirty-eight task forces reports providing presentations and/or training on drug-related issues. A total of 723 presentations were given to 30,943 attendees (double the amount of attendees in 2010), with an average of nearly 43 attendees per presentation.

Analysis of Opiate-Related Deaths in Lorain, Stark, and Montgomery Counties, 2012-2013

Alan Wedd, M.S.

OCJS

Researchers from OCJS recently analyzed death certificate data from Lorain, Stark, and Montgomery counties to obtain in-depth information about the growing opiate problem in Ohio. Information from the death certificates was collected, coded, and analyzed based on the drug(s) present in the body at the time of death. Though the initial focus of this investigation was only on opiate-related deaths, additional analyses were conducted when it was revealed that heroin was associated¹ with 59% of all opiate-related deaths.

The first section of this article describes cases where coroners found evidence of at least one opiate in the body at the time of death, while the second section only includes instances where heroin was detected. Figures in each section reflect combined data from all three counties. To see figures for each individual county, please [click here](#).

Opiate-Related Deaths

Summary

- 85% of all drug-related deaths involved opiates.
- The total number of opiate-related deaths increased 24% between 2012 and 2013.

Demographics

- Males accounted for 64% of opiate-related deaths.
- The average age of death was 41. The average death age for males was 40, while the average death age for females was 43.
- The majority of opiate-related death victims were white (88%).
- Single people accounted for 45% of opiate-related deaths,

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— Analysis of Opiate-Related Deaths, continued from previous page.

while 30% of victims were divorced, and 21% were married.

- A total of 40% of victims did not complete high school or obtain a GED. Approximately 59% of victims had either a high school degree or a GED.

Geography

- 76% of victims were born in Ohio; 98% were Ohio residents.
- 83% of overdoses took place within the city limits.

Heroin-Related Deaths

Summary

- 59% of all opiate-related deaths involved heroin.
- The total number of heroin-related deaths increased 42% between 2012 and 2013.

Demographics

- Males accounted for 74% of heroin-related deaths.
- The average age of death was 39 for both males and females.
- The majority of heroin-related death victims were white (90%).
- 53% of victims were single, 27% were divorced, and 17% were remarried.
- 24% of victims had less than a high school degree, and 66% of victims had a high school degree or GED. Approximately 10% of victims had had at least a college degree.

Geography

- 77% of victims were born in Ohio; 97% were Ohio residents.
- 82% of overdoses took place within city limits.

¹ An opiate overdose cannot be determined as the cause of death from the information provided to OCJS; therefore, this article describes cases where an opiate was present in the body at the time of death.

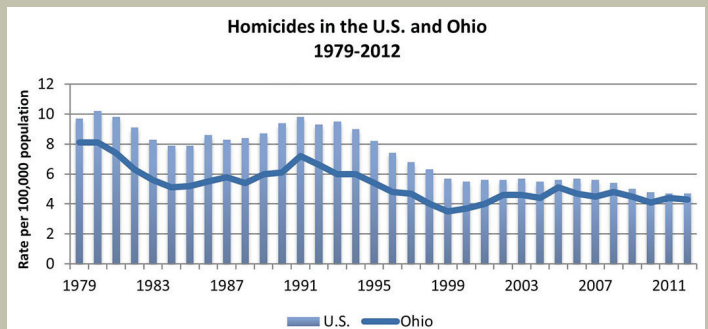
Homicides in Ohio 2012

Anjolie Gordon, M.S.
OCJS

Since 1930, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has annually collected data on crime in the United States through its Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR Program collects only those data that come to the attention of law enforcement through victim reports or observation. Reporting is voluntary and, in 2012, law enforcement agencies active in the UCR Program represented 98.1 percent of the total population.

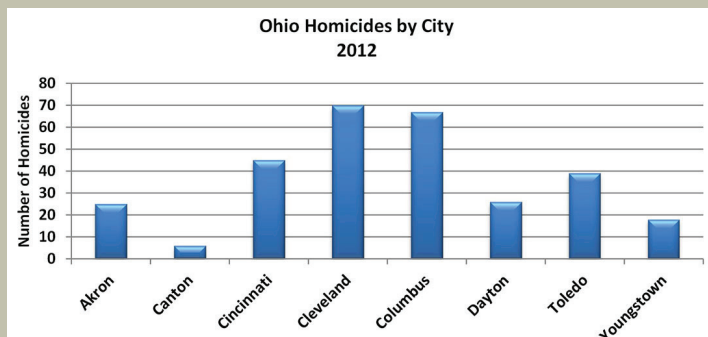
Data are collected on the eight Index offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. In addition to collecting summary data on the eight Index crimes, the FBI collects detailed data on homicides. Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) provide incident-based information on criminal homicides, including information describing the victim(s), the offender(s), the relationship between victim and offender, when the incident occurred, the weapon used, and the circumstances leading to the homicide incident. Law enforcement agencies in Ohio voluntarily report SHR data directly to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as part of the UCR Program. The following report is based on Ohio homicides reported by law enforcement to the FBI for 2012. Unless otherwise stated, data come from SHR.

Homicides in Ohio occur at a rate of approximately four per 100,000 population. A comparison of Ohio's homicide rate to that of the U.S. suggests that Ohio is not unique with regard to this crime. Ohio's homicide rate patterns vary similarly to that of the U.S., although at a lower rate. The rates do show a convergence, however.



Source: FBI's Crime in the United States, 1979-2012.

Number of homicides. There were 435 homicide incidents reported in SHR in Ohio in 2012, resulting in 475 victims. Of the 435 occurrences, 93 percent resulted in the murder of a single victim and seven percent resulted in the murder of multiple victims.



In the FBI's Supplemental Homicide Report (SHR), 475 homicides were reported. Ohio's three largest police departments—Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus—reported 42 percent (182) of Ohio's 2012 homicide incidents.

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— Homicides in Ohio 2012, continued from previous page.

Age. Certain age groups appeared to be more frequent targets of homicide. Overall, the median age of homicide victims was 29 years (mean = 33 years). Males had a median homicide age of 29 years (mean = 32 years), and females had a median homicide age of 32 years (mean = 35 years).

Race. Sixty-two percent of all homicide victims were Black and 36 percent were White. Black males made up 70 percent of male homicide victims and 51 percent of all homicide victims. White males made up 28 percent of male homicide victims and 21 percent of all homicide victims. In contrast, Black female victims made up 40 percent of female homicide victims and 11 percent of all homicide victims, whereas White females made up 57 percent of female homicide victims and 15 percent of all victims.

Gender. Across nearly all age groups, males were more frequently victims of homicide. Approximately 73 percent of all homicide vic-

tims were male. There were nearly 3 times as many male victims of homicides as female victims of homicides.

Single victim-single offender incidents. Ninety-three percent of homicide incidents involved a single victim. Of all incidents in which there was a single victim, 55 percent were committed by a single offender, 19 percent were committed by multiple offenders, and 26 percent were committed by an unknown number of offenders. For 65 percent of homicides the victim knew the offender, and often the perpetrator was a non-family member or intimate/former intimate partner.

Weapons used in homicides. Firearms were the leading weapon identified in homicide incidents, making up 66 percent of all identified weapons. Eight percent of homicides involved knives/cutting instruments.

[Click here](#) for the full report.