



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

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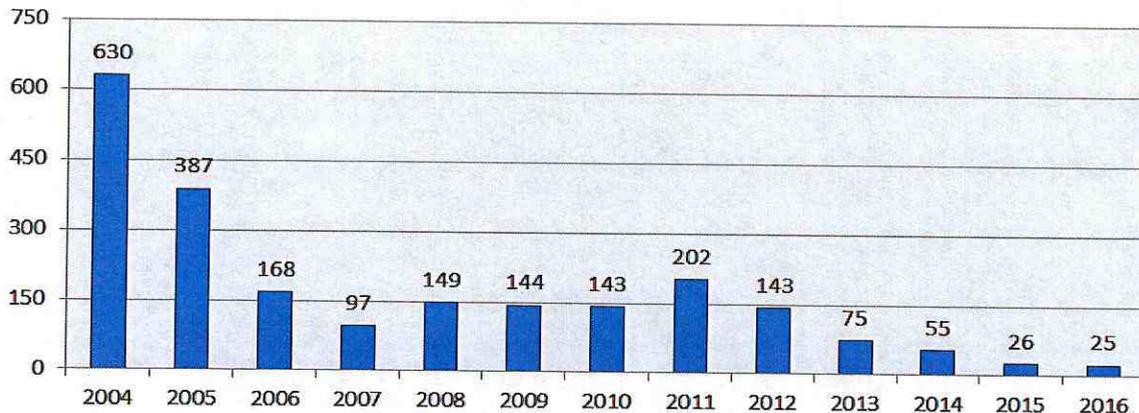
Methamphetamine Recommendation Report
Calendar Year 2016
February 1, 2017
(As required by K.S.A. 75-722)

In 2005, the Kansas Legislature passed S.B. 27, the Sheriff Matt Samuels Act, to restrict access to the precursor chemicals ephedrine and pseudoephedrine used to manufacture methamphetamine. Section 4 of the Act, now K.S.A. 75-722, requires the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) to gather information and consult with local law enforcement agencies regarding trends seen in the manufacture of methamphetamine; and, after consulting with the state board of pharmacy, develop recommendations concerning the control of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

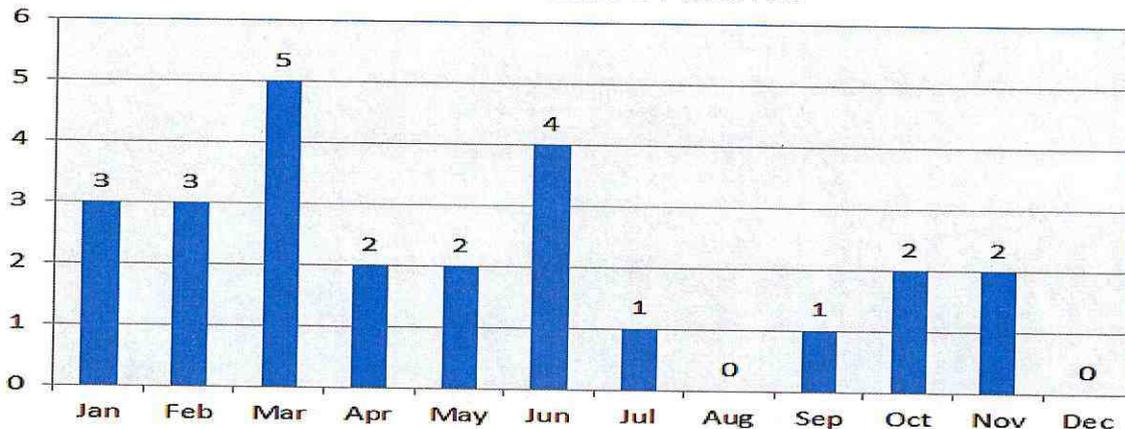
Methamphetamine in Kansas

As noted in the graph below, Kansas law enforcement reported 25 meth lab incidents in 2016. **This total represents a decrease of one lab incident over the reported meth lab seizures from 2015.**

YEARLY METHAMPHETAMINE LAB TOTALS

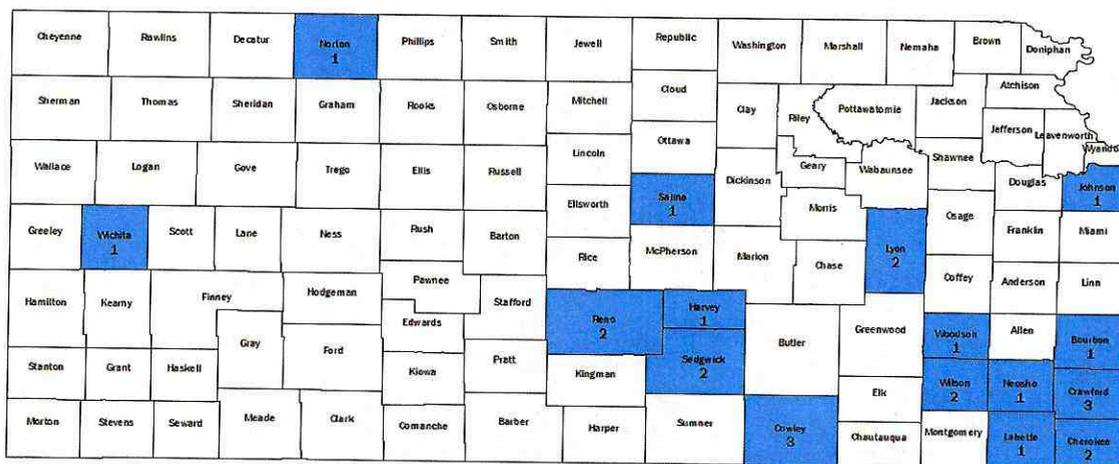


2016 SEIZURES BY MONTH



2016 Methamphetamine Seizures

Incidents Include: Chemical Only, Equipment Only, Dumpsites and Lab Seizures



25 Total Incidents

Criminal Intelligence Analyst Pamela Miller
January 10, 2017

Meth Lab Incidents

The primary method of production seen in Kansas in 2016 was the One Pot method. The one pot method of production converts pseudoephedrine to methamphetamine using ammonium nitrate, sodium hydroxide, water, petroleum distillates, and lithium metal. This method of manufacturing is typically completed in a small plastic bottle. This manufacturing method was utilized in 64% of the laboratories seized in Kansas. This trend is consistent with national trends for the manufacturing of methamphetamine. Labs operated using the Red Phosphorus/Iodine and Anhydrous Ammonia/Lithium method were also seized in Kansas, but the predominant method was the One Pot method.

Kansas continues to see decreases in small-scale methamphetamine laboratories similarly experienced in other parts of the country. One of the main reasons for this decrease is because currently the vast majority of all methamphetamine supplied to Kansas is imported from Mexico and Central America.

Unfortunately, even if local methamphetamine manufacturing were to be eradicated, methamphetamine supplied by Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations remains readily available.

Meth Precursor Electronic Logs

In April 2011, the Kansas Board of Pharmacy implemented the National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx) as the State's electronic precursor monitoring program. The KBI continues to be the State Administrator for Kansas law enforcement, serving as the liaison for training and law enforcement access. Kansas has 109 law enforcement officers across the state registered to access the electronic logbook.

The NPLEx system maintains a single database of all pseudoephedrine purchases, providing pharmacists with access to customer purchasing history before proceeding with a sale. A stop sale mechanism notifies the pharmacist if a customer attempts a purchase in excess of the legal limit. Information captured in the electronic system is made available to law enforcement agencies and can be used to generate investigative leads and support criminal prosecutions.

Allen County, Neosho County, Labette County, Bourbon County, Crawford County, Cherokee County and the City of Parsons have passed local laws requiring prescriptions for pseudoephedrine/ephedrine. As a result of these laws, the pharmacies in these areas no longer report purchases to the NPLEx system. These areas report to the Kansas Board of Pharmacy Kansas Tracking and Reporting of Controlled Substances (K-TRACS) system. Law enforcement can no longer check these areas for purchases without a court order.

NPLEx records show, during the calendar year of 2016, approximately 621,022 purchases of cold medication containing pseudoephedrine were made compared to 655,067 in 2015. This resulted in 1,421,629 total grams of pseudoephedrine purchased in 2016 compared to 1,502,079 grams sold in 2015. Pharmacists denied the sale of approximately 54,014 grams of cold medicine containing pseudoephedrine in 2016 compared to 59,830 grams in 2015. The number of purchases made and total number of grams of pseudoephedrine sold in 2016 decreased compared to 2015. The number of grams blocked in 2016 decreased from 2015.

Criminals continue to use the process of "smurfing" to purchase pseudoephedrine for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine. Smurfing is the practice of an individual or groups purchasing the legally allowable amount of cold medicine containing pseudoephedrine at one store, then continuing with successive purchases at other stores. Some "smurfers" are able to circumvent electronic tracking systems by purchasing legal limits under numerous identities.

Methamphetamine Waste Disposal Program (MWDP)

The KBI has fully implemented the DEA funded Authorized Central Storage (ACS) program. The KBI facilitated proper disposal of hazardous waste associated with methamphetamine laboratories for 100% of the labs reported to EPIC.

Through this program, approximately 554 pounds of regulated hazardous waste was properly disposed of. The DEA pays for the disposal of this waste.

The KBI provided training to 90 state, local, and federal police officers related to methamphetamine laboratories in 2016. The KBI also sent three special agents and one criminal intelligence analyst to the Clandestine Laboratory Investigator's Association annual conference for training.

The KBI does incur costs for agent's time, fuel, vehicle maintenance, utilities at each container site, and equipment costs to manage, train, and operate this program. The KBI requests continued funding for this valuable program.