



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Kirk D. Thompson
Director

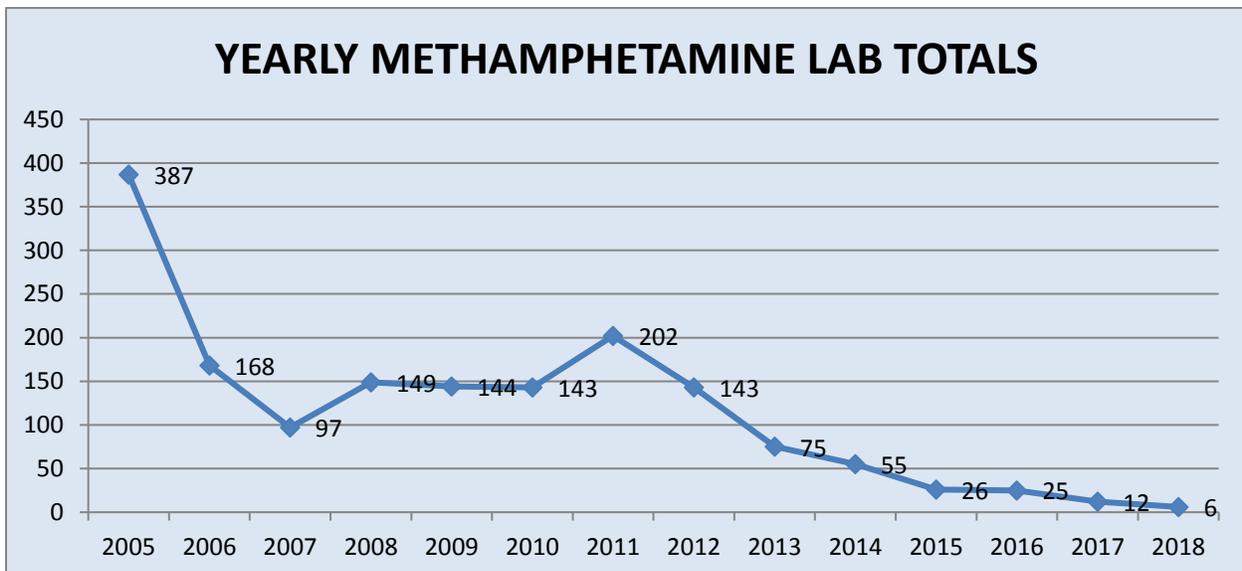
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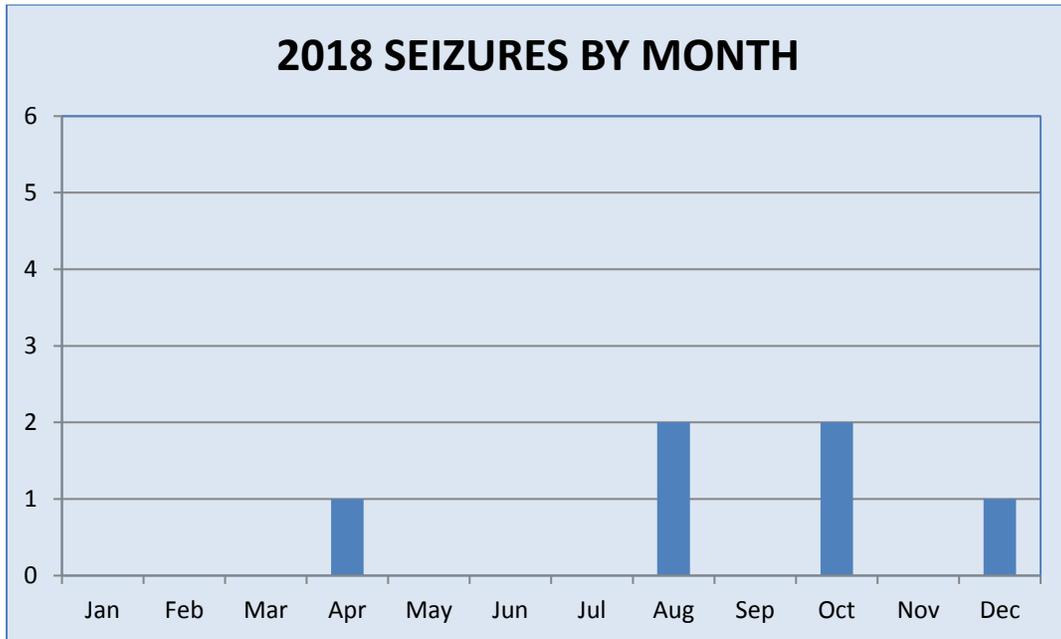
Methamphetamine Recommendation Report
Calendar Year 2018
January 31, 2019
(As required by K.S.A. 75-722)

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

Kansas law enforcement reported six methamphetamine lab incidents in calendar year 2018, six fewer than in 2017.





2018 Methamphetamine Seizures Incidents Include Chemical Only, Equipment Only, Dumpsites and Lab Seizures

Cheyenne	Rawlins	Decatur	Norton	Phillips	Smith	Jewell	Republic	Washington	Marshall	Nemaha	Brown	Doniphan	
Sherman	Thomas	Sheridan	Graham	Rooks	Osborne	Mitchell	Cloud	Clay	Riley	Pottawatomie	Jackson	Atchison	
Wallace	Logan	Gove	Trego	Ellis	Russell	Lincoln	Ottawa	Dickinson	Geary	Wabaunsee	Shawnee	Jefferson	Wyandotte
Greeley	Wichita	Scott	Lane	Ness	Rush	Barton	Ellsworth	Saline	Morris	Lyon	Osage	Douglas	Johnson
Hamilton	Kearny	Finney	Hodgeman	Pawnee	Stafford	Reno	Harvey	McPherson	Marion	Chase	Coffey	Anderson 1	Linn
Stanton	Grant	Haskell	Gray	Ford	Kiowa	Pratt	Kingman	Sedgwick	Butler	Greenwood	Woodson	Allen	Bourbon 2
Morton	Stevens	Seward	Meade	Clark	Comanche	Barber	Harper	Sumner	Cowley	Elk	Wilson	Neosho	Crawford 1
										Chautauqua	Montgomery	Labette	Cherokee 2

6 Total Incidents

Methamphetamine Lab Incidents

Of the six labs seized in Kansas in 2018, two are categorized as one-pot methamphetamine laboratories. 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, typically completed in a small plastic bottle, is portable and can easily be concealed. Three red phosphorus/iodine labs were seized in Kansas in 2018, compared to one in 2017. One lab seized in 2018 was of an unknown variety. Information reported by law enforcement agencies to the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) indicates most of the methamphetamine laboratories seized throughout the United States in 2018 were one-pot laboratories.

The number of methamphetamine lab seizures in Kansas as well as the United States continues to decline. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports that the number of domestic methamphetamine clandestine lab incidents (including laboratories, dumpsites and chemical/equipment seizures) in the U.S. has decreased from 13,657 in 2012 to 3,036 in 2017 (most recent data available). According to the DEA most of the methamphetamine available in the U.S. is produced in Mexico by drug trafficking organizations and smuggled across the border. This methamphetamine is produced in large quantities at high purity levels. Should domestic production of methamphetamine continue to decline, it is likely that it will still be readily available due to this low-cost, high-purity alternative originating in Mexico.

Methamphetamine 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 59 active 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 2018, approximately 501,672 purchases of cold medication containing pseudoephedrine were made compared to 607,629 in 2017. This resulted in 1,155,287 total grams of pseudoephedrine purchased in 2018 compared to 1,385,464 grams sold in 2017. Pharmacists denied the sale of approximately 44,392 grams of cold medicine containing pseudoephedrine in 2018 compared to 46,017 grams in 2017. The number of purchases made, the total number of grams of pseudoephedrine sold as well as the number of grams blocked all decreased in 2018 compared to 2017.

Methamphetamine Prices in Kansas

The price for purchasing methamphetamine on the street has drastically dropped over the past five years due to the increased production and importation of Mexican methamphetamine. Due to this increased availability of imported methamphetamine the demand for domestically produced methamphetamine has declined as has the number of lab seizures.

	KBI Northeast Region	KBI Southeast Region	KBI West Region
2018	\$250 per ounce \$3,500 - \$4,000 per pound	\$450 per ounce \$4,000 - \$5,000 per pound	\$500 per ounce \$5,000 per pound
2014 Price	\$800 - \$850 per ounce \$13,000 per pound	\$1,200 per ounce \$15,000 per pound	\$1,200 per ounce \$15,000 per pound

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, 43 pounds of regulated hazardous waste was properly disposed of in 2018. The DEA pays for the disposal of this waste.

The KBI provided training to approximately 70 local, state and federal police officers related to methamphetamine laboratories in 2018.

The KBI does incur costs for agents’ 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.