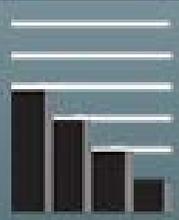


Felony Controlled Substance Crimes 2014



- ➔ 16,145 FELONY-LEVEL OFFENDERS WERE SENTENCED IN MINNESOTA IN 2014.
- ➔ 4,363 (27%) OF THOSE WERE FELONY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (OR "DRUG") OFFENSES UNDER MINN. STAT. CHAP. 152.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The number of drug offenders sentenced increased by 14% over 2013 and was the largest since 2005 (Figure 1). Compared to non-drug felons, felony drug offenders were:

- More likely to be white (66% vs. 56%);
- Less likely to be male (75% vs. 84%);
- More likely to be sentenced in Greater MN (58% vs. 47%) (Figure 2).

The percent sentenced in Greater MN decreased from the all-time high in 2013 (Fig. 2). The majority of offenders are convicted of 5th degree (Fig. 3).

INCARCERATION RATES

4,055 (93%) drug offenders were incarcerated:

- 1,107 (25%) were sentenced to state prison for an average 43 months; and
- 2,948 (68%) received confinement in a jail or workhouse as a condition of probation for an average 121 days.

Despite lower imprisonment rates in recent years, more drug offenders are sentenced to prison for longer periods of time than 20 years ago. The number receiving probation has increased 120% since 1991, while non-drug has increased by 47%.

DEPARTURE RATES

- 36% of offenders who, under the Guidelines, were presumed to go to prison, did not (mitigated dispositional departure rate);
- 28% of offenders who went to prison received less time than Guidelines recommended (mitigated durational departure rate).

The mitigated dispositional departure rate for 1st degree increased to 39% from 30% in 2013, which was lower than the rate had been in previous years (41% in 2012; and 47% in 2011).

Figure 1.

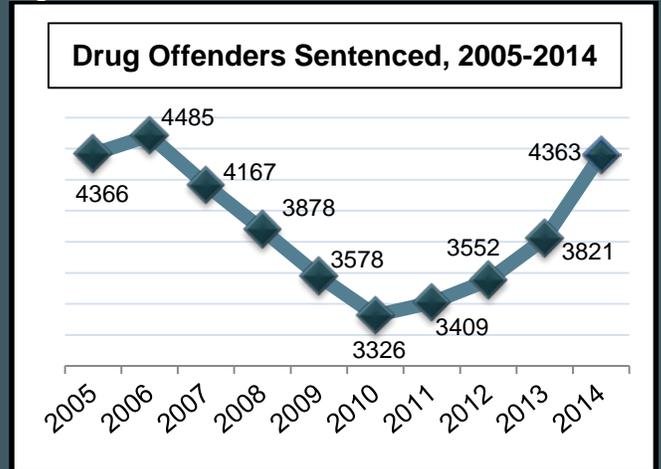


Figure 2.

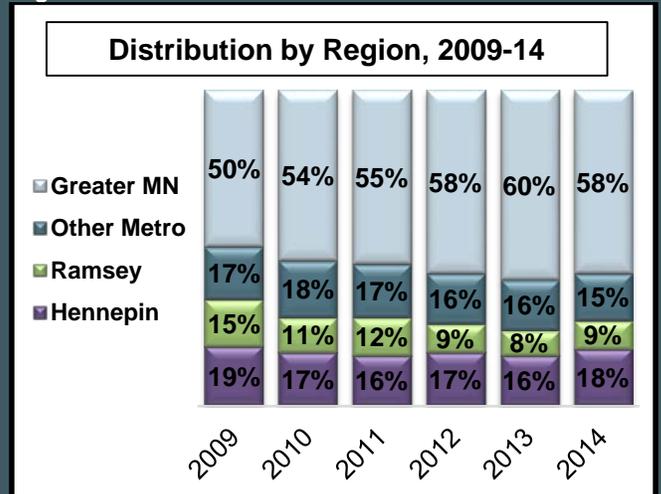
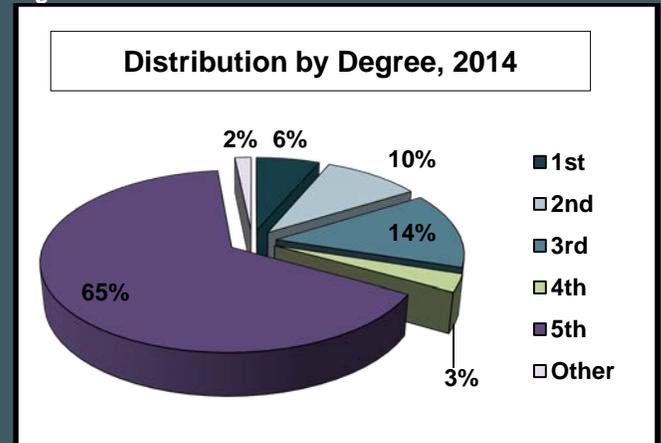
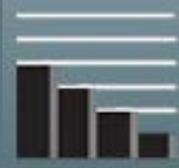


Figure 3.



A more detailed analysis of drug offenses can be found in the 2014 Controlled Substance Offenses Report.



DEPARTURES AND RACE/ETHNICITY

Departure rates for drug offenses vary by race and ethnicity.¹ The difference in departures may be related to criminal history scores (CHS) (Figure 4).

- White offenders received mitigated dispositional departures at a slightly higher rate than other offenders.
- Mitigated dispositional departure rates were lowest for American Indian offenders.
- At CHS 0, Asian offenders had the highest rate of mitigated dispositional departures.

When offenders with a CHS of 0 are isolated, every group other than Hispanic has a departure rate of 60% or more. Hispanics have the lowest departure rate at a CHS of 0 at only 36%.

DRUG TYPE TRENDS

Frequency:

- The number of methamphetamine (“meth”) offenders increased to a high of 2,383 in 2014, an increase of 23% from 2013 (Figure 5).
- The number of offenders sentenced for cocaine has steadily declined. 2014 saw the second lowest number of cases (588).
- “Other” drugs including hallucinogens (“LSD”), barbiturates (“Bar”), synthetic narcotics (“Syn Narc”) and heroin have steadily increased since 2002, reaching 886 cases in 2014.²
- Within the “other drug” category, heroin and synthetic narcotics had the largest number of cases (300 and 240, respectively) (Figure 6).

Demographics:

- 78% of meth offenders were white (Figure 7).
- 64% of cocaine offenders were black (Figure 7).
- 62% of marijuana (“MJ”) offenders sentenced were white (Figure 7).
- Cocaine was the most common drug type in Hennepin County (which includes the City of Minneapolis) while Meth was the most common drug type elsewhere in the state.

Figure 4.

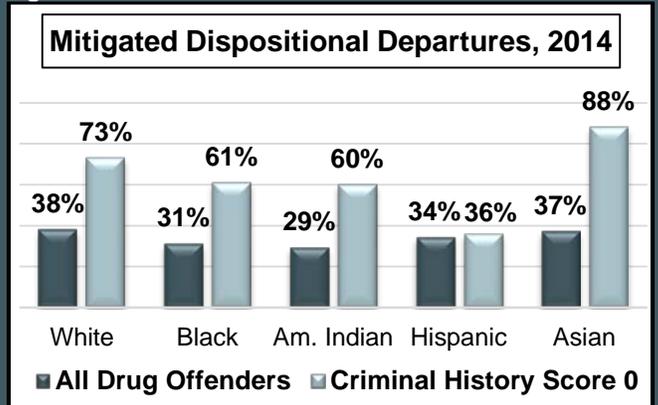


Figure 5.

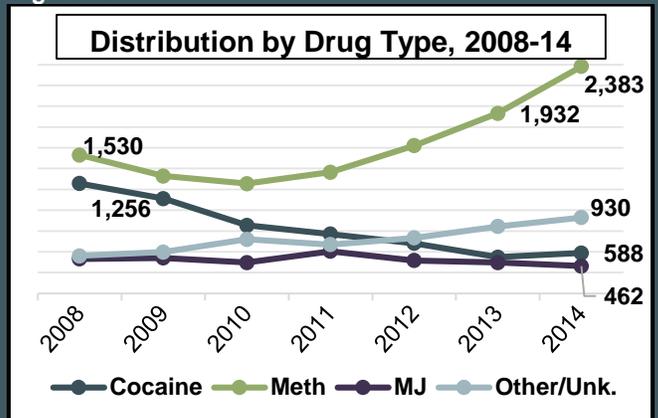


Figure 6.

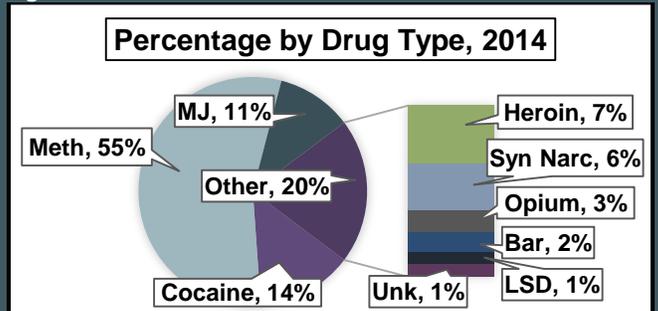
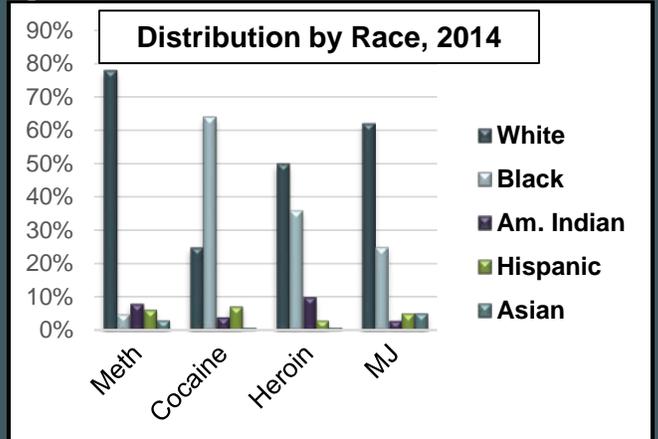


Figure 7.



¹ Eight Asian offenders had presumptive prison and CHS 0; 7 received mitigated dispositional departures (3 first-deg.; 3 second-deg.; and 1 subsequent third-deg.).

² There were 44 cases in which the drug type was unknown bringing the “Other/Unknown” total to 930 cases.