

2015

# 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 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.

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. Task forces are eligible to apply under both programs. In CY 2015, 28 task forces received Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants totaling over \$1.2 million and 37 task forces received Drug Law Enforcement Fund Grants totaling over \$5.6 million.

As a requirement of the JAG and Drug Law Enforcement Fund grants, task forces submitted two semi-annual performance reports highlighting their activities and accomplishments for calendar year CY 2015. This report documents the activities and accomplishments of 41 task forces during CY 2015. All 41 task forces submitted at least one semi-annual report, and 40 task forces submitted two semi-annual reports. This report 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

### New Cases

Forty-one task forces worked a total of 10,929 new cases in 2015. A case is defined as having a significant potential for prosecution. For this report, cases are based on individuals, not charges.

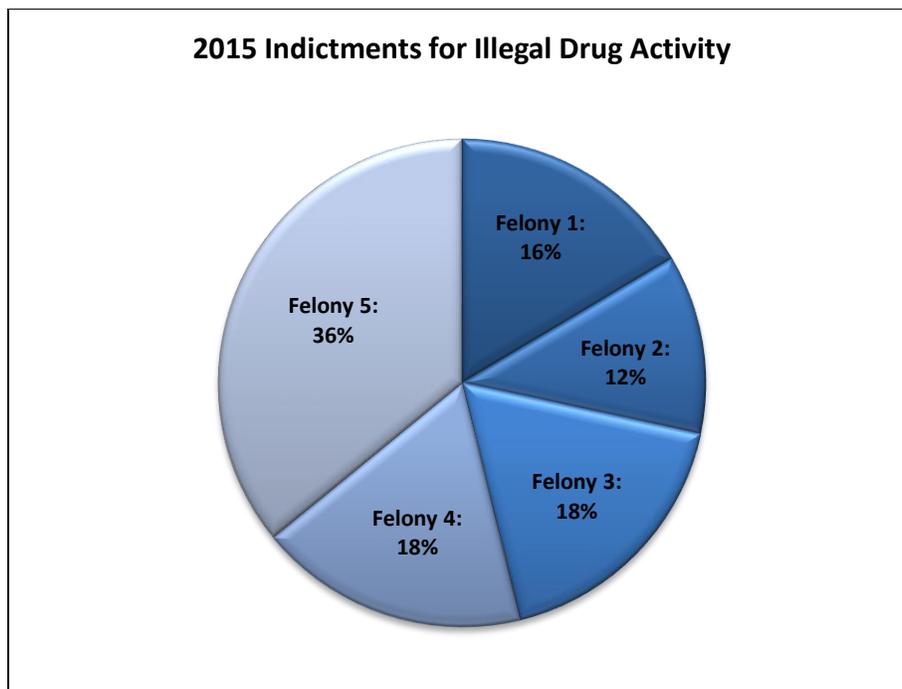
### Search Warrants

The task forces executed a total of 4,456 search warrants. Search warrants include court-authorized warrants for homes, cars, and wiretaps.

### Indictments

The task forces indicted 5,809 individuals. Of these, 5,402 were non-federal indictments and 407 were federal indictments.

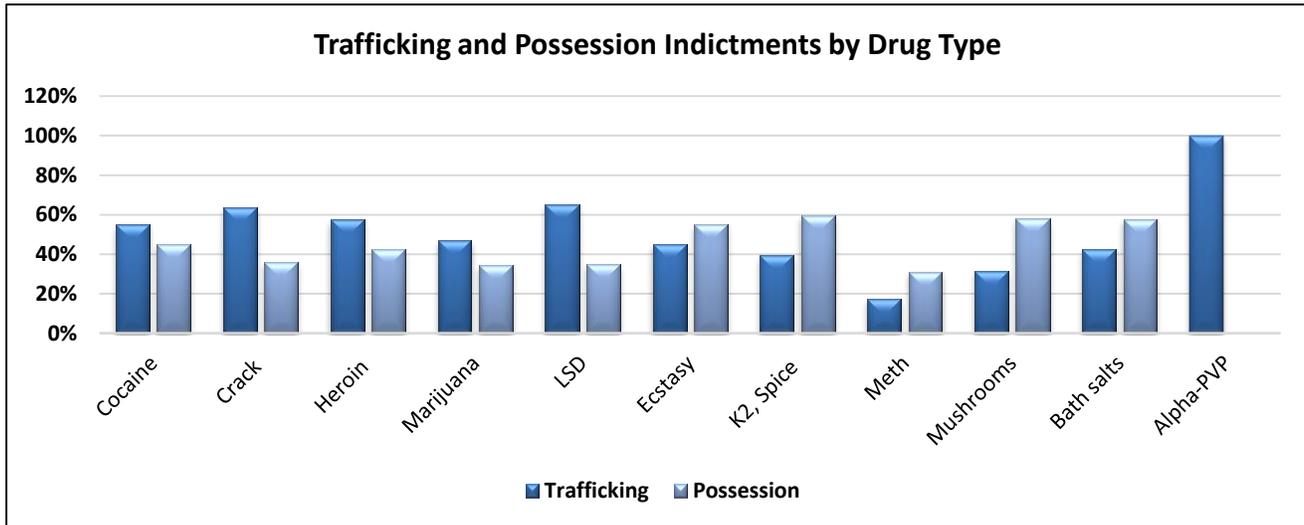
Indictments were also reported by felony level. The following chart shows a breakdown of the highest felony level for which persons were indicted. Across all indictments, 46 percent were Felony 1, Felony 2, or Felony 3 indictments.



Indictments were broken down by type of drug and type of drug crime (cultivation, manufacturing/chemical assembly, possession, trafficking). Lower-level charges are often part of building a case for more severe charges. Task forces were asked to report on all indictments, not just the highest charge. The majority of indictments were for trafficking (N=3,622), followed by possession (N=2,924). Manufacturing/chemical assembly accounted for approximately 10 percent of illegal drug indictments

(N=707), but was specific primarily to methamphetamine. Likewise, cultivation (N=151) was primarily tied to marijuana.

The following chart identifies the two main types of illegal drug indictments, trafficking and possession, by drug type. With the exception of hallucinogens, methamphetamine and mushrooms, trafficking made up between 50 percent and 70 percent of indictments across the remaining drugs.



### Drugs Removed by Task Force

Task forces reported on the total amount of drugs they took off the streets in 2015. The following table shows that the greatest quantity of drug seized was marijuana (processed and plants). This was followed by cocaine. In addition, there were 854 meth labs dismantled during the year.

Street Drugs Removed		
	Amount	Median Price per Unit
Cocaine	366,348 grams	\$100/gram
Crack	3,994 grams	\$100/gram
Heroin	128,701 grams	\$146/gram
Marijuana-processed	15,985 pounds	\$1,510/pound
Marijuana-plants	17,449 plants	\$1,000/plant
LSD	2,655 UD	\$10/UD
Ecstasy	7,525 UD	\$21/UD
Synthetic hallucinogen (K2,spice)	110,821 grams	\$18/gram
Methamphetamine	98,903 grams	\$100/gram
Psilocybin mushrooms	1,387 grams	\$25/gram
Bath salts	176 grams	\$64/gram
Alpha-PVP	52 grams	\$250/gram

## ***Pharmaceutical Diversion***

Diversion is defined as any criminal act involving a prescription drug. Twelve of the 41 task forces reported having a dedicated diversion unit or diversion officer(s) as of December 31, 2015. The median number of officers assigned full-time to a diversion unit was one.

Across all task forces, 12 task forces did not report initiating at least one diversion investigation during the year. During 2015, 1,208 pharmaceutical cases were initiated. Task forces with a dedicated diversion unit/officer worked 51% pharmaceutical investigations. The median number of cases for those with a dedicated diversion unit/officer was 17.5, whereas the median number of cases for those without a dedicated diversion unit/officer was 9.

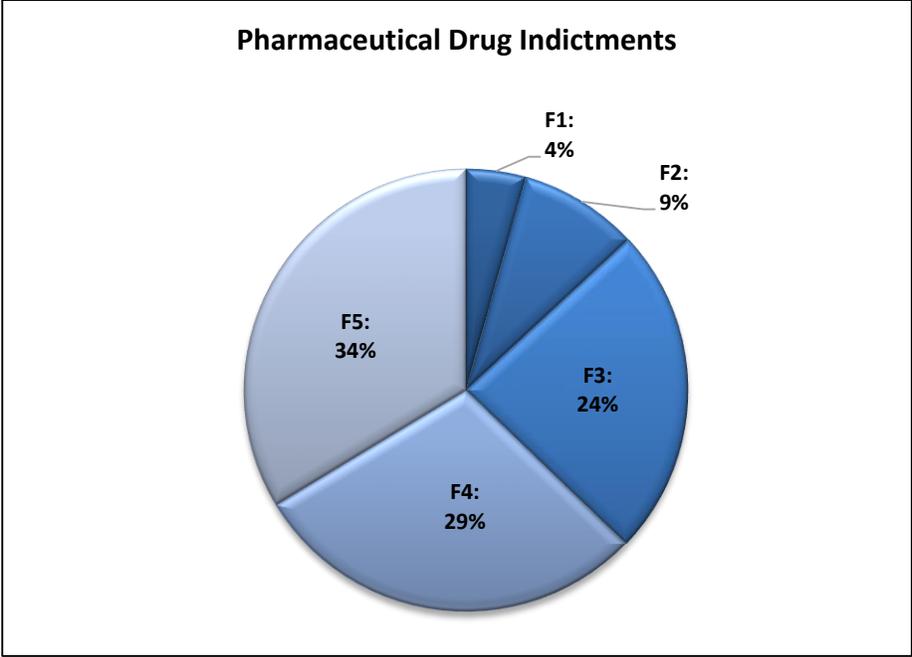
## ***Investigations and Indictments***

In 2015, there were a total of 1,208 pharmaceutical investigations initiated and 774 (64%) of those investigations lead to criminal indictments. Of the 1,208 pharmaceutical investigations, 22 were cases involving health care fraud. Of those cases involving health care fraud, there were 15 indictments.

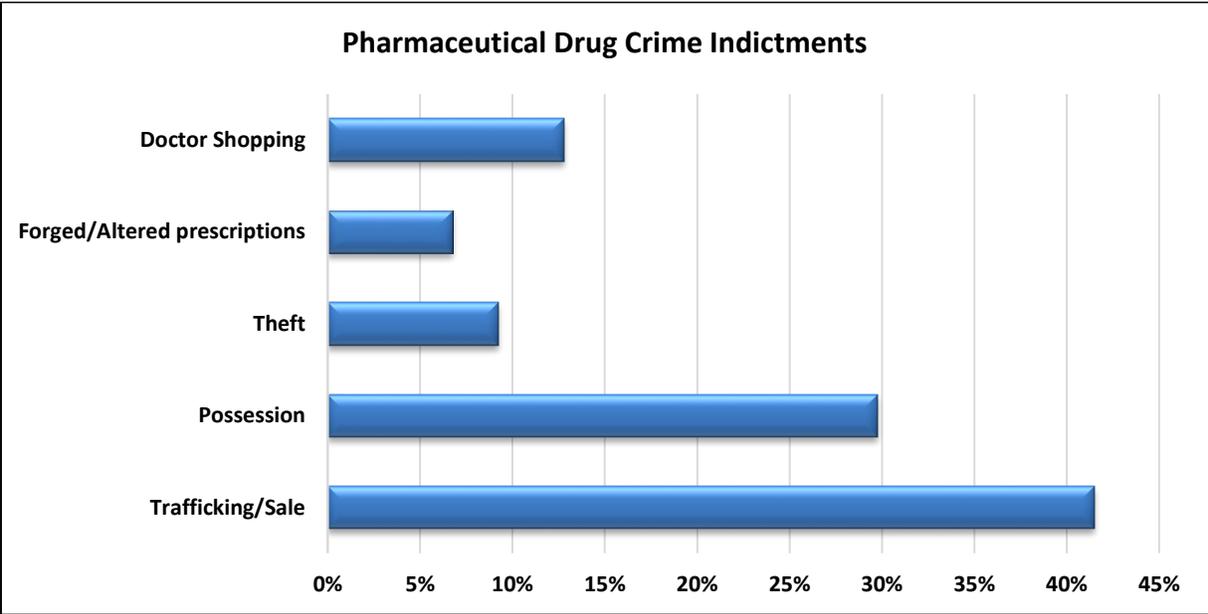
Task forces were also asked to identify different types of health care professionals investigated and indicted. During 2015, there were 110 identified health care professionals investigated and 77 health care professionals indicted for pharmaceutical crimes. Of the 77 health care professionals that were indicted for pharmaceutical crimes in 2015, 81% were nurses.

<b>Investigated and Indicted Health Care Professionals</b>		
	<b>Investigated</b>	<b>Indicted</b>
<b>Physicians</b>	20	4
<b>Physician Assistants</b>	6	1
<b>Pharmacists</b>	2	3
<b>Pharmacy Technicians</b>	6	5
<b>Nurses</b>	72	62
<b>Dentists</b>	3	2
<b>Veterinarians</b>	1	0

Task forces indicated indictments by felony level. Sixty-three percent were Felony 5 and Felony 4 indictments in 2015.



Individuals were indicted for a variety of crimes, including 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 2015, there were a total of 1,126 pharmaceutical drug crime indictments for the crimes listed above. Over 40% of indictments were for the trafficking or sale of prescription drugs.



Looking at indictments by crime type and drug type, the data shows that overall; Oxycodone-ER, Oxycodone-IR, Alprazolam, Hydrocodone and Buprenorphine were the five drugs for which there were the most indictments. In 2015, there were a total of 467 indictments for prescription drug trafficking or sale. Of those 467 indictments, 36% were for the trafficking or sale of Oxycodone-IR.

Indictments by Crime Type and Drug Type					
	Trafficking/Sale	Possession	Theft	Forgery	Doctor Shopping
Oxycodone-ER	29	24	1	9	8
Oxycodone-IR	166	104	17	25	23
Alprazolam	35	33	5	5	11
Hydrocodone	36	26	1	14	22
Buprenorphine	55	32	1	0	2

### Drugs Removed

The following table identifies the reported drugs removed upon indictment. Task forces distinguished between drugs seized and diverted. *Diverted* reflects the amount of prescription drugs that have been identified as diverted dosage units during an investigation, but never seized. Dosage units are reported, with the number of task forces reporting the amounts seized and diverted in parentheses. Alprazolam, Hydrocodone, Tramadol and Oxycodone-IR had the highest number of prescription drug seizures. Alprazolam, Amphetamine mixtures, Hydrocodone, Oxycodone-ER, Oxycodone-IR and Tramadol had the highest number of prescription drug diversions.

Prescription Drugs Seized and/or Diverted		
	Amount seized	Amount diverted
Alprazolam (Xanax)	9,444 (32)	14,634 (13)
Amphetamine mixture (Adderall)	351 (16)	12,176 (12)
Buprenorphine (Subutex, Suboxone)	1,073 (28)	3,393 (7)
Butorphanol Tartrate (Stadol NS)	10 (1)	0
Carisprodol (Soma)	3 (1)	1,050 (4)
Clonazepam (Klonopin)	532 (14)	4,125 (5)
Codeine (Tylenol #3, Tylenol #4, cough syrup)	2,486 (7)	6,464 (9)
Dextroamphetamine (Dextrostat, ProCentra, Dexedrine)	0	0
Diazepam (Valium)	745 (13)	5,569 (5)
Fentanyl, fentanyl citrate (duragesic patches, Actiq, Fentora)	101 (13)	366 (3)
Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet)	3,384 (27)	21,432 (20)
Hydrocodone Bitartrate (Zohydro ER)	175 (2)	175 (2)
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	499 (4)	719 (5)
Lorazepam (Ativan)	85 (7)	4850 (5)
Meperidine (Demerol)	91 (2)	23 (2)
Methadone (liquid/wafers/pills)	1,348 (13)	6,850 (2)

Methylphenidate (Ritalin)	570 (6)	696 (1)
Morphine (MS Contin, EMBEDA, Kadian)	1,423 (14)	5,258 (6)
Oxycodone—ER (Oxycontin)	3,438 (19)	56,645 (12)
Oxycodone—IR (Percocet, Percodan, Roxicet, Roxicodone)	25,786 (35)	1,058,047 (21)
Oxymorphone (Opana)	1,161 (12)	2,536 (5)
Phentermine (Adipex-P, Fastin, Ionamin)	0	0
Tramadol (Ultram, Ultracet)	5,919 (16)	22,758 (17)
Zolpidem Tartrate (Ambien)	40 (4)	940 (3)

In addition, drug task forces submitted information on other drugs they seized or diverted in their region. They include the following:

- Amlodipine
- Amoxicillin
- Benzylpiperazine
- Bupropion
- Dimethyltryptamine
- Fentanyl
- Flexeril
- Gabapentin
- Ketamine
- MDMA
- Oxymetholone
- Promethazine
- PSE
- Seroquel
- Steroids
- Suboxone
- Sudafed
- Tizanidine
- Versed
- Viagra
- Zolpidem

#### ***Nasal Naloxone Administration***

Nine task forces reported using nasal naloxone during CY 2015. A total of 108 administrations were provided. Additionally task forces were asked to provide the number of saves after the use of nasal naloxone. Out of 108 administrations during 2015, there were 97 saves reported.

## ***Criminal Assets Seized and Forfeited***

The following table identifies the type, number, and value of criminal assets seized and forfeited by drug task forces in 2015. Asset seizure generally refers to the seizure of drug-related assets that have been used to facilitate drug trafficking or are derived from drug trafficking. The estimated value of all assets seized was over \$23.4 million. Asset forfeiture refers to those seized assets proven in court to have been used to facilitate drug trafficking or derived from drug trafficking and are thus forfeited to government entities. The estimated value of all assets forfeited was nearly \$8.8 million.

<b>Task Force Seizures and Forfeitures</b>				
	<b>Number seized</b>	<b>Amount seized</b>	<b>Number forfeited</b>	<b>Amount forfeited</b>
<b>Vehicles</b>	322	\$2,014,135.75	183	\$936,680.01
<b>Currency</b>	*	\$18,619,285.07	*	\$6,986,817.78
<b>Real estate</b>	25	\$1,607,460.00	3	\$123,825.42
<b>Electronics</b>	320	\$57,195.00	136	\$36,848.58
<b>Other</b>	192	\$1,115,088.00	164	\$732,414.50

\*Some task forces only reported the total amount of currency seized and forfeited.

## ***Other Task Force Activity***

### ***New Non-Drug Cases***

Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces engaged in 1,367 investigations in which the focus was something other than drug-related crime. Examples of non-drug cases that task forces have either initiated or assisted with include:

- Aggravated robbery
- Bar fight
- Breaking and entering
- Burglary/B&E
- Cell phone forensics
- Child neglect/endangering
- Child pornography
- Computer crimes
- Credit card fraud
- Counterfeiting/forgery
- Craigslist investigation
- Fatal fire investigation
- Felonious assault
- Forgery
- Gambling
- Gang investigation
- Gasoline tampering
- Gunshots fired calls
- Home invasion
- Homicide
- Human trafficking
- Identity theft
- Internet prostitution
- Intimidation of witness
- Involuntary manslaughter
- Kidnapping
- Liquor/tobacco violations
- Missing person
- Money laundering
- Motor vehicle theft
- Murder for hire
- Probation violation
- Prostitution/Prostitution stings
- Receiving stolen property

- Robbery
- School shooting
- Sex crimes
- Solicitation
- Street racing/gang affiliation
- Suicide
- Surveillance
- Theft
- Underage alcohol sales
- Unsolved homicide
- Violent fugitive apprehension
- Warrant service
- Weapons under disability

### ***Firearms Confiscated***

A total of 1,592 firearms were confiscated by the task forces in 2015.

### ***Presentations and Trainings***

All forty-one task forces reported providing presentations and/or trainings on drug-related issues. A total of 966 presentations were given to approximately 47,079 attendees, with an average of 49 attendees per presentation.