



2017

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 (DLEF). Task forces are eligible to apply under both programs. In CY 2017, 29 task forces received JAG funding totaling over \$1.1 million. The DLEF is based on the fiscal year, and from July 2016-June 2017, 40 task forces were awarded \$5.5 million. For the award period July 2017-June 2018, 40 task forces were awarded \$5.3 million. In addition to these grant programs, in October 2017 a special supplemental award of \$1.9 million was also awarded to 39 task forces. This grant award ends in September 2018.

As a requirement of the JAG and DLEF grants, task forces submit data highlighting their activities and accomplishments. Beginning in 2017, task forces moved from submitting data in paper format on a semi-annual basis to submitting data electronically on a regularly-occurring basis (e.g., monthly) through an online data collection system called the Drug Incident Summary Collection Overview, or DISCO.

Data collection using DISCO started in April 2017, and task forces were asked to retroactively submit case information back to January 1, 2017. All 41 task forces submitted data throughout the year, and almost all were able to submit data dating back to January 1. However, readers are cautioned from comparing data collected through DISCO to previous years' data due to the different reporting mechanisms and the frequency in which reporting occurred.

This report focuses on street (i.e., non-pharmaceutical) drug activity, pharmaceutical drug diversion, seizures, and other activities of the 41 task forces.

Street Drug Activity

New Cases

Ohio's drug task forces worked a total of 10,253 new cases in 2017. A case is defined as having a significant potential for prosecution. For this report, cases are based on individuals, not charges.

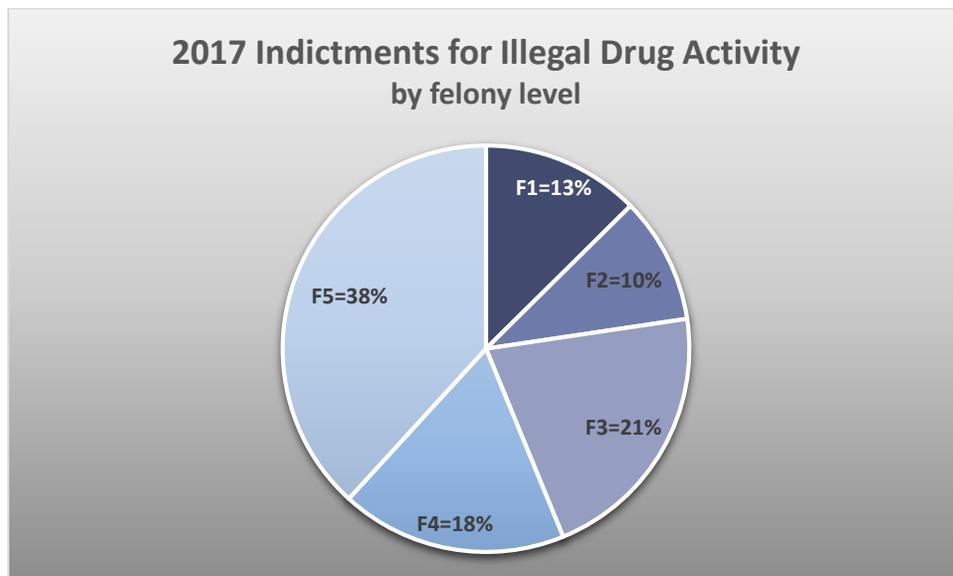
Search Warrants

The task forces executed a total of 3,694 search warrants. Search warrants include court ordered warrants, GPS attachments, cell phone analyses and searches completed on people, places and things based on probable cause and/or consent where drugs and additional contraband may be recovered during task force investigative activity.

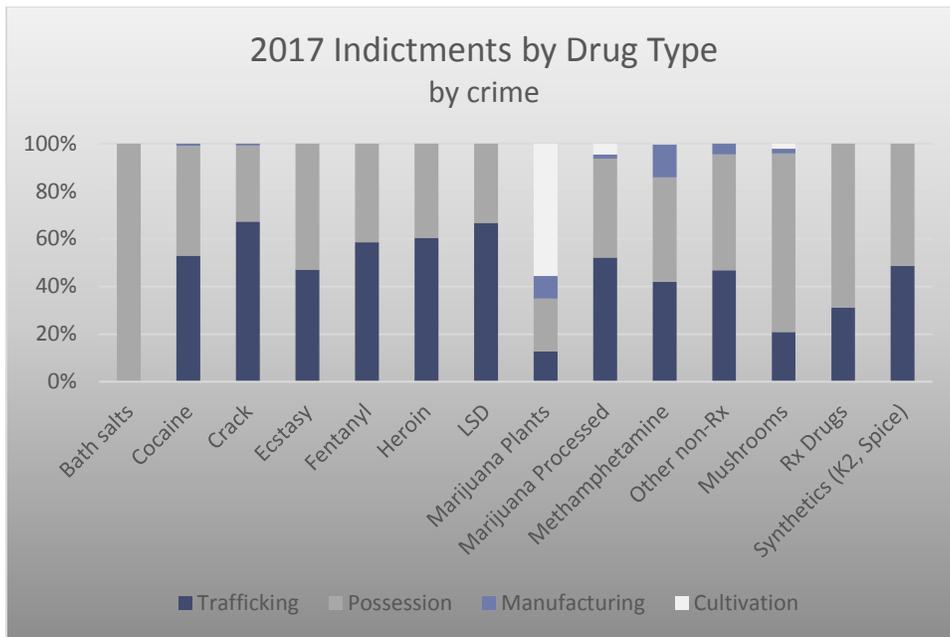
Indictments

The task forces indicted 4,335 individuals. Of these, 3,958 were non-federal indictments and 377 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, 44 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). Task forces were asked to report on all indictments, not just the highest charge. Fifty-three percent of all indictments were for trafficking (N=2,992), followed by possession (42%, N=2,392). Manufacturing/chemical assembly accounted for approximately four percent of illegal drug indictments (N=200), but was primarily for methamphetamine manufacturing (83%). One percent of indictments were for cultivation (N=68), which was primarily for cultivating marijuana (93%). With the exception of bath salts, marijuana plants, mushrooms, and prescription drugs, at least 40 percent of indictments for each drug type were for trafficking.



Drugs Removed by Task Force

Task forces reported on the total amount of drugs they took off the streets in 2017. The following table shows that significant quantities of marijuana (processed and plants), cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine were seized.

2017 Street Drugs Seized (in grams and pounds)		
Bath salts	124 g	0.3 lb
Cocaine	380,806 g	839.5 lb
Crack	4,784 g	10.5 lb
Ecstasy	8,017 g	17.7 lb
Fentanyl	29,405 g	64.8 lb
Heroin	129,768 g	286.1 lb
LSD	5,528 g	12.2 lb
Marijuana plants	39,933 plants	
Marijuana processed	3,778,752 g	8,331 lb
Methamphetamine	125,834 g	277.4 lb
Psilocybin mushrooms	7,887 g	17.4 lb
Synthetic hallucinogen (K2, spice)	2,326 g	5.1 lb

*for simplicity, 1 unit dose=1 gram

Other street drugs seized include carfentanyl, THC, and hashish in its various forms.

Clandestine Labs

Three hundred and forty-seven clandestine labs were discovered by the task forces during the year. Of these, they identified 187 labs as active one-pot meth labs. One hundred fifty-four were labeled 'other lab'.

2017 Clandestine Labs	
One-pot lab	187
Other lab	154
Anhydrous lab	1
Other meth	5
Total labs	347

Pharmaceutical Diversion

Diversion is defined as any criminal act involving a prescription drug.

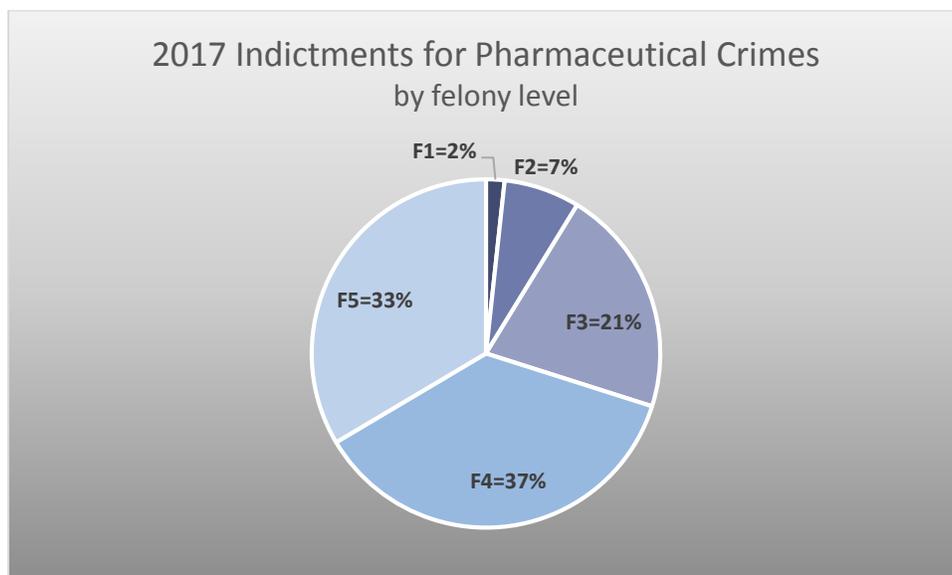
Investigations and Indictments

In 2017, there were a total of 630 pharmaceutical diversion cases initiated and 323 persons indicted.

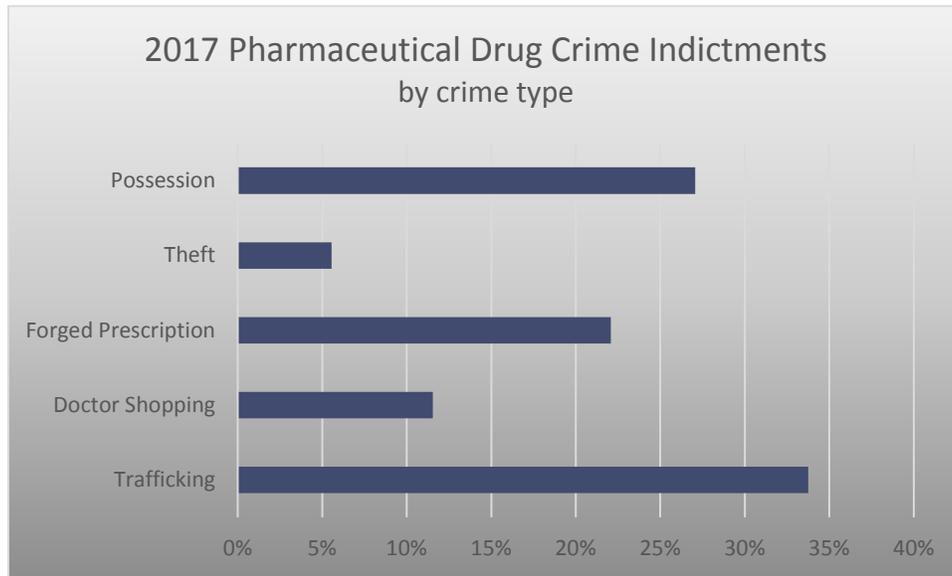
Task forces were asked to identify pharmaceutical cases by individual type. While most cases involved individuals not in the medical field, there were 126 pharmaceutical cases involving individuals in health care. Of these health care cases, 71 percent were physicians and 24 percent were nurses.

2017 Prescription Cases by Individual	
Dentists	2
Nurses	30
Pharmacists	1
Pharmacy Technicians	3
Physicians	89
Veterinarians	1
Other Non-Medical	408

Task forces reported on indictments by felony level. Thirty percent were Felony 1, Felony 2, or Felony 3 indictments.



Individuals were indicted for a variety of drug-related 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 2017, there were a total of 702 pharmaceutical drug crime indictments. Sixty-one percent of the indictments were for the trafficking or possession of prescription drugs. Another 22 percent of such indictments were for forged prescriptions.



Looking at indictments by crime type and drug type, the data shows that overall, oxycodone IR, hydrocodone, oxycodone ER, buprenorphine, and morphine were the drugs for which there were the most indictments in 2017. Across all indictments for prescription drug trafficking or possession, 26 percent were for the trafficking or possession of oxycodone IR.

2017 Indictments by Crime Type and Drug Type					
	Trafficking/Sale	Possession	Theft	Forgery	Doctor Shopping
Oxycodone IR	58	54	11	88	38
Hydrocodone	12	20	9	17	15
Oxycodone ER	30	22	7	6	3
Buprenorphine	37	19	0	0	0
Morphine	21	18	0	1	0

Drugs Removed

The following table identifies the reported drugs seized and the number of task forces reporting at least one seizure of the drug. Alprazolam, fentanyl, oxycodone IR and tramadol had the highest amounts of prescription drug seizures. Alprazolam, fentanyl, hydrocodone, oxycodone ER, buprenorphine, and oxycodone IR top the list for number of task forces reporting at least one seizure. Over 20 task forces reported seizing these drugs.

2017 Pharmaceutical Drugs Seized		
	Amount seized	# TF reporting a seizure
Alprazolam (Xanax)	31,268 UD	32
Amphetamine mixture (Adderall)	3,259 UD	17
Buprenorphine (Subutex, Suboxone)	882 UD	23
Carisprodol (Soma)	189 UD	4
Clonazepam (Klonopin)	1,020 UD	11
Codeine (Tylenol #3, Tylenol #4, cough syrup)	11,468 ml	13
Diazepam (Valium)	447 UD	14
Fentanyl, fentanyl citrate (duragesic patches, Actiq, Fentora)	29,703 UD	32
Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet)	5,587 UD	26
Hydrocodone Bitartrate (Zohydro ER)	103 UD	3
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	162 UD	6
Lorazepam (Ativan)	772 UD	10
Methadone (liquid/wafers/pills)	197 UD	3
Methylphenidate (Ritalin)	119 UD	5
Morphine (MS Contin, EMBEDA, Kadian)	377 UD + 60 ml	13
Oxycodone—ER (Oxycontin)	12,887 UD	25
Oxycodone—IR (Percocet, Percodan, Roxicet, Roxicodone)	21,571 UD	22
Oxymorphone (Opana)	611 UD	6
Phentermine (Adipex-P, Fastin, Ionamin)	8,672 UD	4
Tramadol (Ultram, Ultracet)	16,824 UD	16
Zolpidem Tartrate (Ambien)	120 UD	5
Total	134,770 UD + 11,528 ml	

In addition, drug task forces submitted information on other drugs they seized in their region that did not fall in the list of pre-identified prescription drugs. Significant seizures of steroids (7,530 ml plus 27,406 g) as well as gabapentin (3,376 UD plus 16 ml) were reported.

Nasal Naloxone Administration

Eleven task forces reported using nasal naloxone during 2017. Naloxone was administered 705 times, and 521 saves were reported.

Criminal Assets Seized

The following table identifies the type and number of criminal assets seized by drug task forces in 2017. 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.

2017 Criminal Assets Seized	
	Number seized
Vehicles	124
Real estate	6
Electronics	41
Other**	53
Total	687

**"Other" includes tools, drug equipment and paraphernalia, jewelry, other vehicles, camera/video equipment, ammunition, and other miscellaneous items

Other Task Force Activity

New Non-Drug Cases

In 2017, Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces engaged in 1,263 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:

- Felonious assault
- Arson
- Burglary
- Child abuse (physical and sexual)
- Child pornography
- Domestic violence
- Felony vandalism
- Gambling
- Gang investigation
- Hacking offenses
- Homicide
- Human trafficking
- Intimidation/menacing
- Involuntary manslaughter
- Kidnapping/hostage situation
- Liquor/tobacco violations
- Missing person
- Motor vehicle theft
- Officer-involved shooting
- Overdose death
- Prostitution and solicitation
- Rape
- Robbery
- Sex crimes (sexual imposition and voyeurism)
- Shoplifting
- Tampering with evidence
- Theft
- Vandalism
- Warrant service
- Weapons offenses
- White collar crimes

Firearms Confiscated

A total of 1,436 firearms were confiscated by the task forces in 2017.

Presentations and Trainings

Of the 41 task forces, 37 provided at least one presentation and/or training on drug-related issues, with a median of 17 presentations given per task force. A total of 982 presentations were given to 53,709 attendees, an average of 55 attendees per presentation.