



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPS PR# 18-37

Contact: Jonathon Taylor, Communications Director – 907-269-5654
 Megan Peters, Public Information Officer – 907-269-5413

State Troopers Release 2017 Annual Drug Report

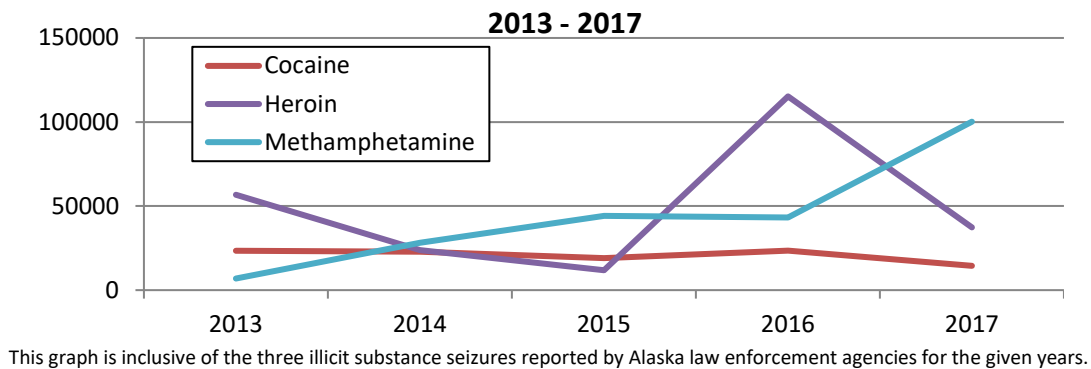
Partnerships between local, state, federal law enforcement fuel drug interdiction efforts

September 5, 2018 ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska State Troopers’ Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit has released the [annual drug report for the 2017 calendar year](#). The report highlights major partnerships and initiatives – including the recent High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Designation – drug seizure trends, and ongoing efforts to prevent illicit drug use and drug trafficking in the Last Frontier. AST SDEU Captain Michael Duxbury will address the report at a press conference today at 10:30 a.m. at the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory.

“In 2017, SDEU built on its existing collaborations with other local, state, and federal agencies to stop the trafficking of alcohol and illicit drugs, and we look forward to continuing those partnerships,” Department of Public Safety Commissioner Walt Monegan said. “Traffickers should be on notice: Alaska law enforcement is hard at work to prevent drugs and illegal alcohol from being distributed across the state.”

SDEU K9 Teams also played major roles in 2017 drug seizures. In 2017, the SDEU K9 Teams were directly involved in 89 felony and 23 misdemeanor arrests, the seizure of 7,824.19 grams of heroin, 4,757.35 grams of cocaine, 17,766.35 grams of methamphetamine, and \$330,918.00 cash from drug proceeds.

Alaska Drug Seizures (grams)



Data from 2017 indicates that statewide seizures of heroin fell sharply, while cocaine seizures fell modestly, and seizures of methamphetamine rose significantly.

###