

2022 Annual Drug Report

JANUARY 2023

Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit (SDEU)
Alaska Department of Public Safety

AS 18.65.085. NARCOTIC DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT

(b) The commissioner of public safety shall prepare a report concerning the activities of the narcotic drugs and alcohol enforcement unit. The commissioner shall notify the legislature on the first day of each regular session that the report is available. The report must include, but is not limited to, the number of arrests made, the kind, amount, and value of narcotic drugs and alcoholic beverages seized, the sentences received by narcotic drug and alcohol offenders, and an overall view of the narcotic drug and illicit alcohol problem in the state.

Report includes:

- Number of arrests made
- Kind, amount, and value of narcotic drugs and alcoholic beverages seized
- Drug and alcohol prices
- Sentences received by narcotic drug and alcohol offenders
- Overall view of the narcotic drug and illicit alcohol problem in the state

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NUMBER OF ARRESTS MADE

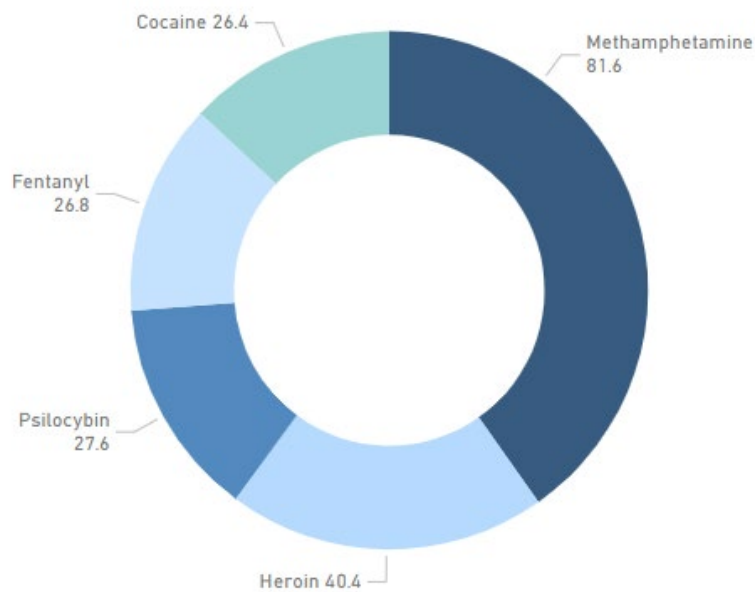
Seizure amounts determine if a charge will be tried in state or federal court. The cases that meet federal thresholds (Appendix C) are forwarded to the US Attorney's Office for prosecution. Defendants convicted in federal court typically receive longer sentences than when prosecuted in state court. The number of cases that are tried in federal court are not tracked; thus, the total number of charges, incidents, and individuals arrested by SDEU are not fully represented.

- 102 unique drug and alcohol arrests¹

¹ Data provided by Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) as of January 3, 2022. Arrest data is not solely SDEU data, as APSIN is not able to break the data up by units within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). These data represent all alcohol and drug-related arrests for all units within DPS. Arrest data is based on information submitted to the repository, either by the arresting agency directly entering the data into APSIN or when an arrest fingerprint card is received by the criminal records staff. A unique arrest represents an Arrest Tracking Number (ATN); thus, one ATN represents an arrest for one person, but the ATN may have any number of charges listed on it.

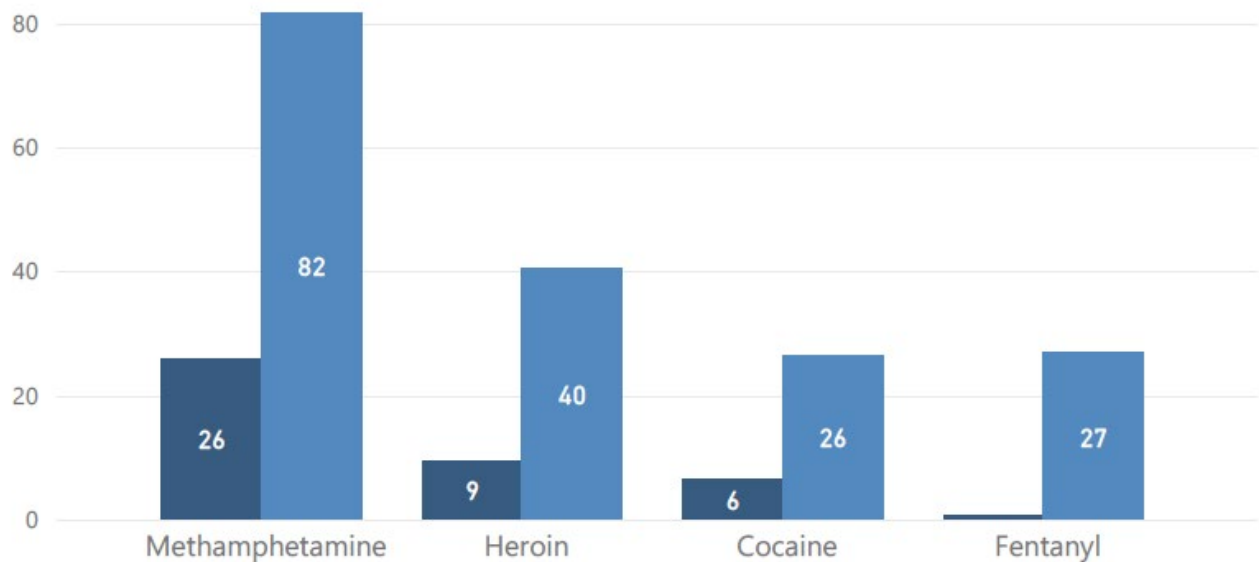
KIND, AMOUNT, AND VALUE OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SEIZED²

2022 Top Drug Seizures in Kilograms



2022 and 2021 Drug Seizures in Kilograms

● 2021 ● 2022



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2022 Drug Seizures in Kilograms

Drug	Kilograms
Methamphetamine	81.57
Marijuana	53.20
Heroin	40.36
Psilocybin	27.63
Fentanyl	26.85
Cocaine	26.41
Marijuana Edibles	17.04
THC Liquid	13.31
Marijuana BC Bud	10.30
THC Resin	3.59
Synthetic Marijuana	2.17
Oxycodone	0.31
Viagra	0.13
Crack	0.07
Testosterone	0.06
Methadone	0.05
Amphetamine	0.03
Hydrocodone	0.02
Ketamine	0.01
Alprazolam	0.01
MDMA	0.00
Morphine	0.00
LSD	0.00
Buprenorphine	0.00
Total	303.10

2022 Drug Seizures in Dosage Units

Drug	Dosage Units (D.U.)
Tapentadol	10,540.00
Fentanyl	5,005.50
THC Liquid	1,647.00
Buprenorphine	488.50
Oxycodone	389.00
LSD	169.00
Tramadol	92.00
Alprazolam	75.00
Methamphetamine	43.00
Psilocybin	43.00
Cyclobenzaprine	42.00
Amphetamine	26.00
Clonazepam	23.00
Marijuana Edibles	22.00
Marijuana	18.00
Methadone	16.00
Hydrocodone	12.00
Hydroxyzine Hydrochloride	12.00
Benzodiazepine	9.00
Gabapentin	9.00
Codeine	4.00
Hydromorphone	3.00
Lorazepam	3.00
MDMA	2.00
Total	18,693.00

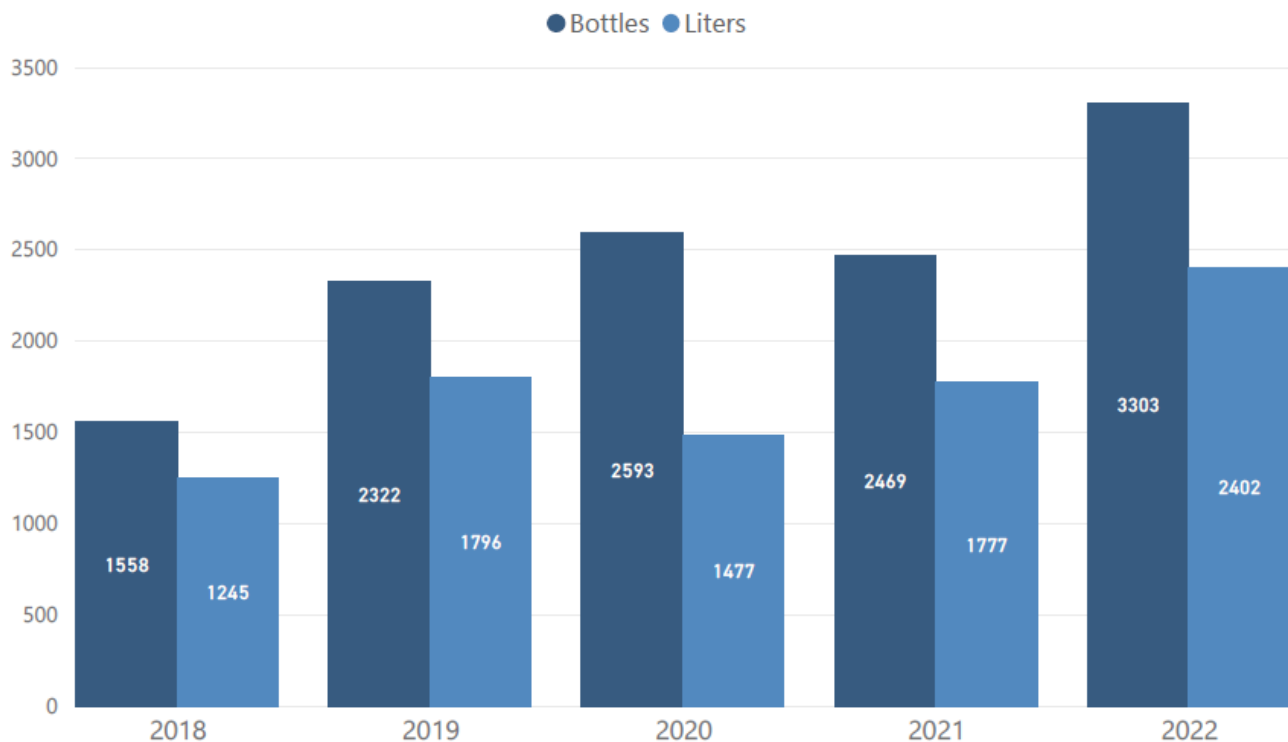
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2022 Alcohol Seizures

Alcohol Description	Bottles Seized	Liters
Distilled Spirits	3,164	2,302.91
Malted Beverage	105	38.28
Wine	34	60.50
Total	3,303	2,401.70

2018 - 2022 Alcohol Seizures



³ Dosage Unit (D.U.) is the number of pills seized

⁴ As little as two milligrams of fentanyl can be lethal. United States Drug Enforcement Administration (July 2, 2018). *Fentanyl*. Accessed January 26, 2020, <https://www.dea.gov/galleries/drug-images/fentanyl>.

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DRUG AND ALCOHOL PRICES⁵

The disparity between prices in the contiguous United States and Alaska presents an incentive for drug trafficking organizations to import and distribute drugs into and throughout the state. Moreover, there is a strong correlation between distance from a regional hub and price – the farther a drug or alcohol is trafficked from a regional hub the greater the retail price.

2022 Drug Prices

Type	Price	Quantity	Measurement	Community
Alprazolam	\$100	10.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Anchorage
Cocaine	\$100	0.40	Grams (g)	Kotzebue
Cocaine	\$100	1.00	Grams (g)	Fairbanks
Cocaine	\$200	2.00	Grams (g)	Fairbanks
Cocaine	\$300	1.00	Grams (g)	Kodiak
Cocaine	\$400	8.20	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Cocaine	\$780	13.00	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Cocaine	\$2,000	2.00	Ounces (oz)	Kenai
Cocaine	\$8,000	112.00	Grams (g)	Kenai
Crack	\$40	0.50	Grams (g)	Barrow
Crack	\$200	1.90	Grams (g)	Fairbanks
Crack	\$300	1.00	Grams (g)	Bethel
Fentanyl	\$15	1.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Anchorage
Fentanyl	\$40	1.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Barrow
Fentanyl	\$60	0.30	Grams (g)	Fairbanks
Fentanyl	\$60	2.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Kodiak
Fentanyl	\$80	1.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Kodiak
Fentanyl	\$100	1.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Bethel
Fentanyl	\$100	1.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Kodiak
Fentanyl	\$160	3.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Ketchikan
Fentanyl	\$400	3.80	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Fentanyl	\$480	6.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Ketchikan
Fentanyl	\$500	50.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Anchorage
Fentanyl	\$600	10.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Ketchikan

2022 Drug Prices

Type	Price	Quantity	Measurement	Community
Heroin	\$50	0.46	Grams (g)	Wasilla
Heroin	\$140	0.20	Grams (g)	Ketchikan
Heroin	\$150	0.30	Grams (g)	Ketchikan
Heroin	\$200	0.10	Grams (g)	Barrow
Heroin	\$500	2.00	Grams (g)	Kodiak
LSD	\$250	0.80	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$60	1.70	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$100	3.50	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$150	1.20	Grams (g)	Klawock
Methamphetamine	\$150	1.20	Grams (g)	Klawock
Methamphetamine	\$180	4.00	Grams (g)	Kenai
Methamphetamine	\$200	9.00	Grams (g)	Sterling
Methamphetamine	\$250	1.00	Grams (g)	Kodiak
Methamphetamine	\$300	2.10	Grams (g)	Klawock
Methamphetamine	\$300	3.50	Grams (g)	Kodiak
Methamphetamine	\$320	15.00	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$400	1.00	Grams (g)	Barrow
Methamphetamine	\$450	1.00	Ounces (oz)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$500	1.00	Ounces (oz)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$500	30.00	Grams (g)	Anchorage
Methamphetamine	\$600	26.00	Grams (g)	Wasilla
Methamphetamine	\$900	29.00	Grams (g)	Fairbanks
Oxycodone	\$120	3.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Anchorage
Oxycodone	\$200	20.00	Dosage Units (D.U.)	Anchorage

⁵ Drug price data provided by Alaska HIDTA monthly reports

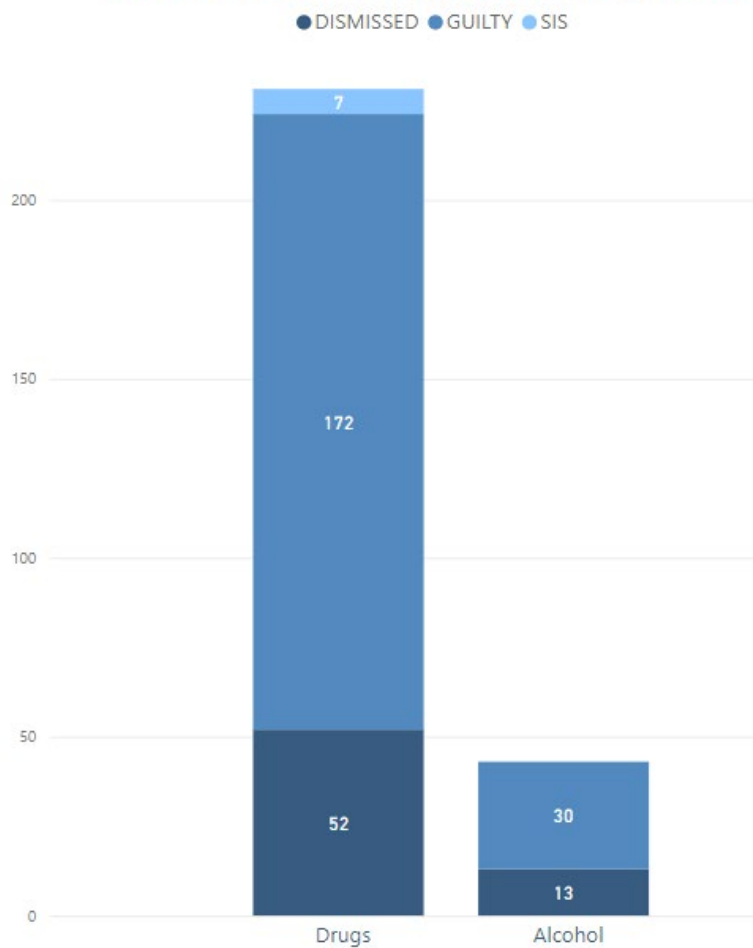
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SENTENCES RECEIVED BY NARCOTIC DRUG AND ALCOHOL OFFENDERS⁶

In 2022, of the 43 alcohol-related offenses, there were 30 guilty and 13 dismissed alcohol-related offenses. Of the 231 drug-related offenses, there were 172 guilty, 52 dismissed, and 7 suspended impositions of sentencing (SIS) drug-related dispositions.

2022 Alcohol and Drug Offense Dispositions



⁶ Data provided by Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) as of January 3, 2022. Arrest data is not solely SDEU data, as APSIN is not able to break the data up by units within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). These data represent all alcohol and drug-related arrests for all units within DPS.

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The following charts depict 2022 offense dispositions, offense sentences in fine amounts, and sentencing by average number of days and years for all alcohol and drug-related offenses within the Department of Public Safety. A charge may be initially presented in state court and later adopted in federal court; these dispositions would show as a dismissal. The following charts only represent state court sentences and dispositions.

2022 Alcohol and Drug Offense Sentences and Fine Amounts

Category	Disposition	Sentence	Fine Amount	Average Number of Days	Average Number of Years
Alcohol	GUILTY	FINE	\$20,500		
Drugs	GUILTY	FINE	\$2,500		
Alcohol	GUILTY	FINE SUSPENDED	\$7,000		
Drugs	GUILTY	FINE SUSPENDED	\$950		
Alcohol	GUILTY	JAIL		24.57	
Drugs	GUILTY	JAIL		144.15	2.08
Alcohol	GUILTY	JAIL SUSPENDED		60.00	
Drugs	GUILTY	JAIL SUSPENDED		139.83	1.63
Drugs	GUILTY	LIC RST/SU		135.00	
Alcohol	GUILTY	PROBATION			1.00
Drugs	GUILTY	PROBATION		180.00	2.07
Drugs	GUILTY	RESTITUTION	\$100,000		
Drugs	SIS	FINE	\$750		
Drugs	SIS	JAIL			1.00
Drugs	SIS	PROBATION			2.00

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OVERALL VIEW OF THE NARCOTIC DRUG AND ILLICIT ALCOHOL PROBLEM IN THE STATE SENTENCES RECEIVED BY NARCOTIC DRUG AND ALCOHOL OFFENDERS

International drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) continue to gravitate towards Alaska's lucrative drug market. DTOs look to exploit Alaska's:

- Hub locations to access remote areas
- High demand
- Limited law enforcement resources in remote areas

Unorganized individuals continue to import illegal alcoholic beverages into one of the 108 local option communities in Alaska that either ban the sale of alcohol, sale by specific type of license only, sale by municipality operated license only, ban sale and importation, or ban the sale, importation, and possession of alcohol.⁷

Methamphetamine, opioids, synthetic opioids (e.g., fentanyl), and cocaine pose the greatest drug threats in Alaska. The high rate of return for drug and alcohol traffickers greatly incentivizes supply into and throughout Alaska. Illegal drugs are predominantly imported and then distributed throughout the state. Alaska is not known to produce illegal drugs. Illegal alcohol, however, is purchased in the hub cities or other legal locations and then distributed to local option communities.

In 2022, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) issued a Public Service Alert notifying the public that they found that six out of ten fentanyl-laced fake prescription pills analyzed contained a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl. This is an increase from four out of ten in 2021⁸. The DEA also declared fentanyl to be the deadliest drug threat facing the country⁹. SDEU cautions comparing 2022 to 2021 kilogram and DU

⁷ Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office. *Current list of local option communities – 10/15/2020*. Accessed January 15, 2021.

1) Drug Enforcement Agency. *PUBLIC SAFETY ALERT: DEA Laboratory Testing Reveals that 6 out of 10 Fentanyl-Laced Fake Prescription Pills Now Contain a Potentially Lethal Dose of Fentanyl*. Accessed January 10, 2023. <https://www.dea.gov/alert/dea-laboratory-testing-reveals-6-out-10-fentanyl-laced-fake-prescription-pills-now-contain>

2) Drug Enforcement Agency. *Press Release: Drug Enforcement Administration Announces the Seizure of Over 379 million*

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seizures for fentanyl since fentanyl was reported in both forms. Moving forward, SDEU will only report fentanyl seizures in kilograms.

SDEU remains steadfast in its commitment to the Alaska High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program and its focus on better coordination, cooperation, efficiency, and effectiveness. Following the state's judicial district boundaries, the SDEU teams align with the Alaska HIDTA enforcement initiatives. The Alaska HIDTA program was designated on May 1, 2018, and the Alaska HIDTA executive board authorized funding and the creation of initiatives on October 1, 2018.

Deadly Doses of Fentanyl in 2022 (December 20, 2022). Accessed January 10, 2023. <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2022/12/20/drug-enforcement-administration-announces-seizure-over-379-million-deadly#:~:text=DEA%20laboratory%20testing%20in%202022,contain%20a%20potentially%20deadly%20dose>.

APPENDIX A

AS 18.65.085 Narcotic Drugs and Alcohol Enforcement

- (a) There is established in the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska State Troopers, a narcotic drugs and alcohol enforcement unit for the purpose of investigating and combating the illicit sale and distribution of narcotic drugs and alcoholic beverages in the state. Enforcement of the alcoholic beverage control laws shall focus primarily on the investigation, apprehension, and conviction of persons who violate AS 04.11.010 by selling, importing, or possessing alcoholic beverages in violation of a local option adopted by a municipality or established village under AS 04.11.491.
- (b) The commissioner of public safety shall prepare a report concerning the activities of the narcotic drugs and alcohol enforcement unit. The commissioner shall notify the legislature on the first day of each regular session that the report is available. The report must include, but is not limited to, the number of arrests made, the kind, amount, and value of narcotic drugs and alcoholic beverages seized, the sentences received by narcotic drug and alcohol offenders, and an overall view of the narcotic drug and illicit alcohol problem in the state.
- (c) The Department of Public Safety may establish and administer a reward program, and provide grants to municipalities, established villages, and, at the request of a municipality or established village, to a nonprofit association that administers a village public safety officer program, for reward programs leading to the apprehension and conviction of persons who violate AS 04.11.010 by selling, importing, or possessing alcoholic beverages in violation of a local option adopted by a municipality or established village under AS 04.11.491.

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APPENDIX B

SDEU Teams

- **Fairbanks Areawide Narcotics Team (FANT)** focuses on drug interdictions and investigations in the Interior Region, Utqiagvik, and east to Canada. FANT is comprised of Alaska State Troopers (AST), Fairbanks Police Department, North Slope Borough Police Department, North Pole Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), and DEA. FANT works closely with the United States Marshals Service (USMS); Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE); and local, state, and military agencies within the region.
- **Southcentral Areawide Narcotics Team (SCAN)** focuses on drug interdictions and investigations throughout the Southcentral Region, to include the Mat-Su Valley, Anchorage, Kenia Peninsula, and Kodiak Island. SCAN is comprised of AST, Kenai Police Department, Anchorage Police Department, North Slope Borough Police Department, Sand Point Police Department, Anchorage Airport Police and Fire Department, and works closely with the United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), Department of Homeland Security Investigations, United States Coast Guard Investigative Service (CGIS), DEA, Internal Revenue Service, and BATFE.
- **Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs (SEACAD)** focuses on drug interdictions and investigations in Southeast Alaska. SEACAD is comprised of AST, Juneau Policed Department, Petersburg Police Department, Ketchikan Police Department, DEA, FBI, USPIS, and CGIS. SEACAD also provides investigative support to Wrangell, Craig, Klawock, Yakutat, Hoonah, Sitka, Haines, Skagway, and Cordova police departments. SEACAD is comprised of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and works closely with law enforcement agencies in the lower 48 and Canada.
- **Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team (WAANT)** focuses predominately on alcohol enforcement in Western Alaska, as well as drug interdictions and investigations. WAANT is comprised of AST and the Bethel Police Department and works closely with USPIS and other federal partners.

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APPENDIX C

FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES—MARIJUANA

DRUG	QUANTITY	1st OFFENSE	2nd OFFENSE *
Marijuana (Schedule I)	1,000 kg or more marijuana mixture; or 1,000 or more marijuana plants	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs., or more than life. Fine not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	100 kg to 999 kg marijuana mixture; or 100 to 999 marijuana plants	Not less than 5 yrs. or more than 40 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	More than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg marijuana mixture More than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 marijuana plants	Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	Less than 50 kilograms marijuana (but does not include 50 or more marijuana plants regardless of weight) 1 to 49 marijuana plants;	Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 10 yrs. Fine \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than individual.
Hashish (Schedule I)	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil (Schedule I)	1 kg or less		

*The minimum sentence for a violation after two or more prior convictions for a felony drug offense have become final is a mandatory term of life imprisonment without release and a fine up to \$20 million if an individual and \$75 million if other than an individual.

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FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES¹⁰

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500–4999 grams mixture	First Offense: Not less than 5 yrs, and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not less than 10 yrs., and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.	5 kgs or more mixture	First Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual. 2 or More Prior Offenses: Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	28–279 grams mixture		280 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40–399 grams mixture		400 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10–99 grams mixture		100 grams or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100–999 grams mixture		1 kg or more mixture	
LSD (Schedule I)	1–9 grams mixture		10 grams or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5–49 grams pure or 50–499 grams mixture		50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10–99 grams pure or 100–999 grams mixture	100 gm or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture		
PENALTIES				
Other Schedule I & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs., or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gram			
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 10 years. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2.5 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not more than 30 yrs. Fine not more than \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual.		
All other Schedule IV drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Other than 1 gram or more			
All Schedule V drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 1 yr. Fine not more than \$100,000 if an individual, \$250,000 if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 4 yrs. Fine not more than \$200,000 if an individual, \$500,000 if not an individual.		

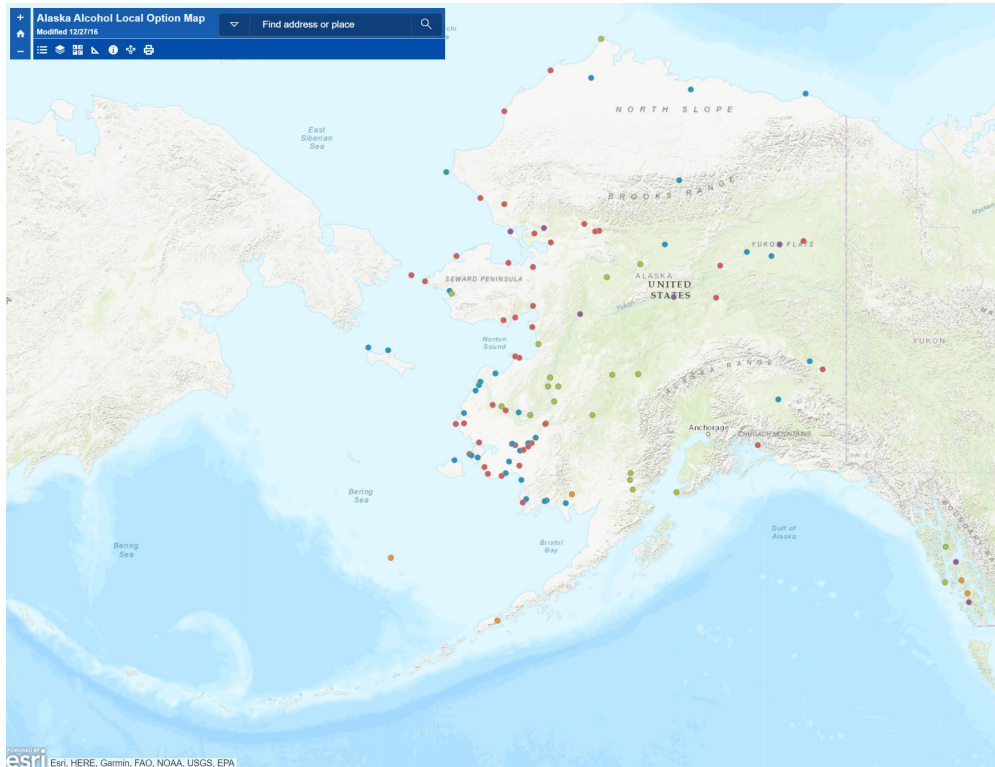
¹⁰ U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration. (2017). *Drugs of Abuse* [PDF]. Accessed January 21, 2020.

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APPENDIX D

Alaska Local Option Map¹¹



Legend

Alcohol Option Map

- Ban sale and importation
- Ban sale, importation & possession
- Sale by specific type of license only
- Ban sale
- Sale by municipality operated license only
- others

¹¹ Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office. *Current Map of local option communities*. Accessed January 3, 2022.