

Maine SAC & MDPS CHRIS Capacity Building Project: Findings to Date

October 17, 2008

Muskie School of Public Service

George Shaler, Research Associate
Ruth Lunn, Consultant
Carmen Dorsey, Director
Becky Noréus, Research Analyst
Mark Rubin, Research Associate
Tina Aubut, Project Assistant



PROJECT OVERVIEW

October 2007 - Maine Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) & Maine Department of Public Safety (DPS) awarded a grant from the Justice Research & Statistics Association (JRSA)

Purpose - develop capacity to analyze CHR data on statewide basis in Maine

Specific focus on characteristics of drug offenders (profile)

ME - one of six states to receive awards (GA, IA, OH, SC, & UT)



2006 DRUG OFFENSE DATA EXTRACT

Developed Model Extract

SAC worked with DPS Senior Programmer Analyst Shawn Hoyle to build the drug offense extract from the Criminal History Record Information System (CHRI)

Adapted the audit extract developed in first MDPS-SAC project



DRUG OFFENSE ANALYSIS

- Received data extract from DPS in March
- Examined Individuals with a drug offense in 2006
 - Arrests, Charges & Dispositions
 - Age, Gender & # of offenses
 - Type & Class of offense
 - Non-drug charges leveled at time of the drug arrest
 - Drug arrests by law enforcement agency (LEA)



METHODS – CAPACITY ISSUES

Identifying missing data in the CHRI

- State Identification Number (SID)
 - Missing SIDs by Law Enforcement Agency (LEA)
- FBI #
- Arrest Case #
- Dispositions
 - % of arrests/ATNs with a disposition



DRUG OFFENDER COHORT – DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW (2006)

# of Individuals Arrested for a Drug Offense	3,298
Gender	51.6% Male, 19.1% Female, 29.3% Missing
Number of Arrests	3,760
Age at Arrest (Mean)	30.8
Age at Arrest (Median)	27.7
Age at Arrest - Range	12.9 to 80.2
# of Charges (Drug & non-Drug) per arrest/arrest tracking number (ATN) – Range	1 to 33

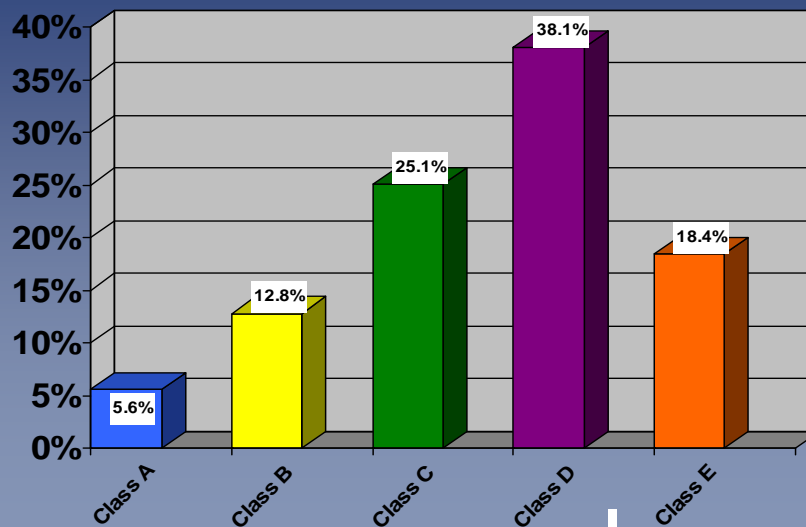


DRUG ARRESTS & CHARGES (2006)

# of Individuals Arrested for a Drug Offense	3,298
# of Drug Arrests	3,760
Arrests/Individual	1.14
% of Individuals arrested just once	88%
# of Arrests per Individual - Range	1 to 7
# of Charges (Drug & non-Drug) at Arrest	7,403
% of Drug Arrests with just one Charge	47.5%
# of Charges (Drug & non-Drug) per arrest/arrest tracking number (ATN) - Range	1 to 33
# of Charges (Drug only) per arrest/ATN - Range	1 to 9



DRUG CHARGES BY CLASS IN 2006 (N=5,461)



DRUG CHARGES BY STATUTE IN 2006 (N=5,461)

Top 5 Drug Charges	Number & Frequency	Class
1. Unlawful Possession of Scheduled Drug	2,556 (46.8%)	85.9% (D & E)
2. Unlawful Trafficking in Scheduled Drugs	798 (14.6%)	80.0% (B & C)
3. Unlawful Furnishing Scheduled Drug	315 (5.8%)	70.1% (D)
4. Aggravated Trafficking of Scheduled Drugs	260 (4.8%)	87.3% (A & B)
5. Unlawful Possession of Oxycodone	217 (4.0%)	100% (C)
5. Cultivating Marijuana	217 (4.0%)	94.0% (D & E)

* These charges account for 79.9% of all drug charges in 2006.



TRAFFICKING CHARGES

Among the trafficking and furnishing drug charges (N=1,747):

- 1,148 individuals arrested with at least one of these offenses
- 1,256 arrests for trafficking and/or furnishing – 1.09 arrests.
- 1.39 trafficking and/or furnishing charges per arrest.
- By LEA:
 1. Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA)-Bangor (8.9%)
 2. Androscoggin County DA (4.2%)
 3. MDEA-Portland (3.7%)
 4. Lewiston PD (3.7%)
 5. MDEA-Houlton (3.7%)

These 5 agencies accounted for 24% of all trafficking/furnishing arrests in 2006



NON-DRUG CHARGES LEVELED AT DRUG ARREST IN 2006 (N=1,942)

Top 5 Non- Drug Charges	Number & Frequency	Class
1. Violating Conditions of Release	581 (29.9%)	93.8% (E)
2. Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer	193 (9.9%)	71.5% (E)
3. Operating Under the Influence	139 (7.2%)	100% (D)
4. Burglary	89 (4.5%)	100% (B & C)
5. Assault	70 (3.6%)	97.1% (D)

* 55.2% of all non-drug charges leveled during a drug arrest in 2006.



DRUG ARRESTS BY LEA IN 2006 (N=3,760)

Top 5 LEAs	Frequency
1. Lewiston Police Department (PD)	4.9%
2. Portland PD	4.6%
3. Bangor PD	3.9%
4. MDEA – Bangor	3.8%
5. Waterville PD	2.9%



DISPOSITIONS (2006)

- Of 3,298 individuals arrested for a drug crime:
 - 1,452 (44.0%) had some type of disposition recorded for at least one arrest
- Of 3,760 drug crime arrests/ATN:
 - 1,592 (42.3%) had at least one disposition recorded in the CHRIS
- Of the 1,592 ATNs with at least one drug charge disposition:
 - there was a total of 2,380 dispositions



DRUG ARREST DISPOSITIONS FOR DRUG CHARGES ONLY IN 2006 (N=2,380)

Guilty	1,212 (50.9%)
Dismissed by District Attorney (DA)/ Attorney General (AG) – Pled Other Charge	543 (22.8%)
Transfer for Jury Trial	212 (8.9%)
Amended	100 (4.2%)
Dismissed by DA/AG - Other	75 (3.2%)
Probation Violated	41 (1.7%)
No Complaint	38 (1.6%)
Permanent Transfer	33 (1.4%)
Dismissed by DA/AG - Insufficient Evidence	28 (1.2%)
Dismissed by Court	21 (.9%)
All Others	77 (3.2%)



DRUG ARREST DISPOSITIONS FOR DRUG CHARGES ONLY BY CLASS IN 2006 (N=2,380)

	Number and Percentage	Most Frequent Class
Guilty	1,212 (50.9%)	584 (48%) – D
Dismissed by DA/AG – Pled Other Charge	543 (22.8%)	166 (31%) – D
Transfer for Jury Trial	212 (8.9%)	153 (72%) – D
Amended	100 (4.2%)	48 (48%) – C
Dismissed by DA/AG - Other	75 (3.2%)	28 (37%) – D

These 5 dispositions types account for 90% of all drug charge dispositions



ANALYSIS - MISSING DATA IN THE CHRI IN 2006 (N=7,403)

•SID

-1,406 (19.0%) charges

-By LEA

•FBI Number

-2,728 (36.8%) charges.

-these charges were not fingerprint supported

•Arrest Case Number

-1,705 (23.0%) charges



ARRESTS WITH A MISSING SID BY LEA IN 2006 (N=846)*

Top 5 LEAs	% of Statewide Total
1. Rockland PD	80 (9.5%)
2. Scarborough PD	62 (7.3%)
3. Waterville PD	52 (6.1%)
4. South Portland PD	40 (4.7%)
4. Westbrook PD	40 (4.7%)

* These 5 agencies accounted for 32.4% of the drug arrests in 2006 in which there was a missing SID



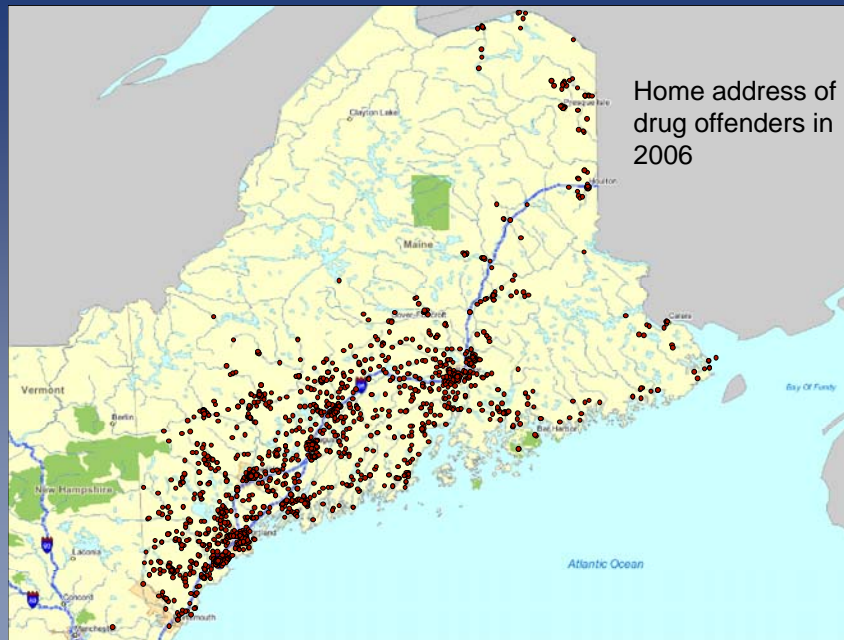
ARRESTS & CHARGES (2003-05)

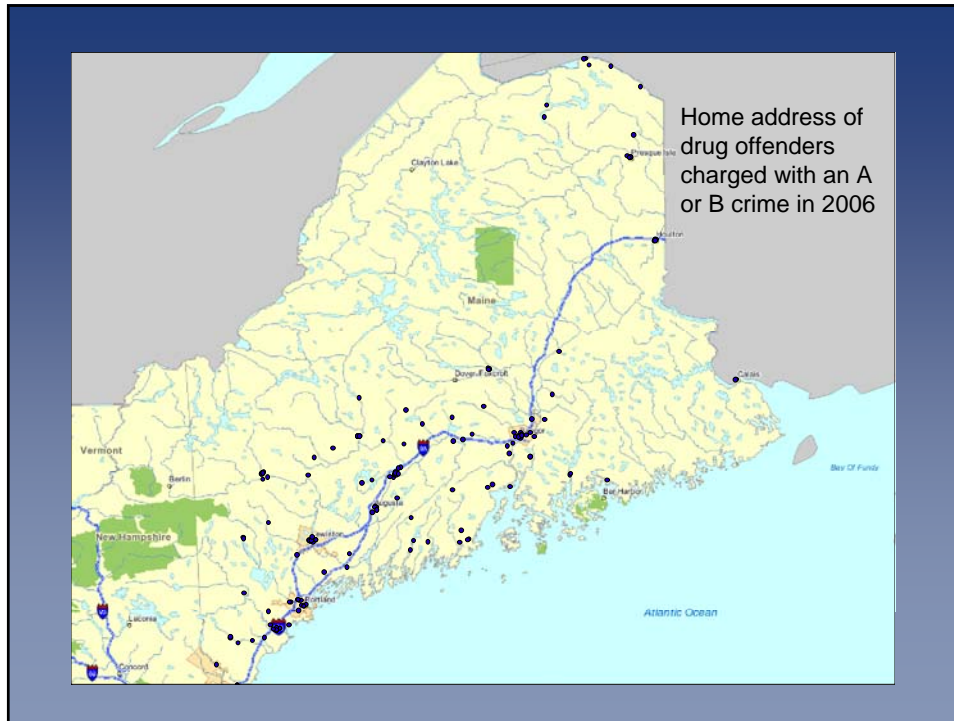
# of Individuals Arrested for a Drug Offense in 2006 who were arrested for any type of offense during 2003-05	1,143
Individuals arrested in 2003-05 for any offense/ arrested for a drug offense in 2006	34.7%
# of Arrests (2003-05)	2,453
# of Arrests per Individual - Range	1 to 34
# of Charges (Drug & non-Drug) at Arrest	4,246
% of Individuals arrested (03-05) with a Drug Charge	28.1%
% of Arrests (03-05) with a Drug Charge	15.8%
# of Drug Arrests per Individual - Range	1 to 10



ARRESTS & CHARGES – 2006 COHORT (2003-05 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY)

# of Individuals arrested for a Drug Offense (A-C) in 2006	1,634 (49.5%)
# of Arrests for a Drug Offense (A-C) in 2006	1,981 (52.7%)
# of Individuals arrested for a Drug Offense (A-C) in 2006 who were arrested for any type of offense in 2003-05	600 (36.7%)
# of Individuals arrested for a Drug Offense (A-C) in 2006 who were arrested for any type of offense in 2003-05 – # of arrests	1,347
# of Individuals arrested for a Drug Offense (A-C) in 2006 who were arrested for a drug offense in 2003-05	193
# of Individuals arrested for a Drug Offense (A-C) in 2006 who were arrested for a drug offense in 2003-05 – # of arrests	238





CHR DATA ISSUES

- **ATN**

- Suggestions:

- Require all IT systems submitting to CHRI to define field length and acceptable values as defined by CHRI ATN/ctn field value
 - This change will enable system recognition when value is not met
 - Lets operator know a problem exists before finalizing data entry for submission

CHR DATA ISSUES

•ATN

- Requiring ATN to be included on initial criminal complaint is time consuming
 - LEAs obtain them in timely manner, but considerable variation between original charge(s) and those that actually end up in court
- ATNs routinely drawn prior to court filings
 - Sometimes, ATN & court filing occurs same day
- Suggestions:
 - Mandate ATN/CTNs be part of court filing
 - Compromise: draw ATN before final judgment



CHR DATA ISSUES

•SID

- Suggestion: Institute modified version of electronic ticketing
 - When ATN/CTN requested, address, demographics, license # and Officer's name are not entered
 - Create electronic USAC for recording at SBI - simply add this information to the ATN/CTN request



CHR DATA ISSUES

•USACs – current practice

- USAC processing is time-consuming and expensive (printing costs, mailing insert, etc)
- LEAs must ensure SBI receives copy for event info (in absence of fingerprint card)
- Upon receipt, State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) checks USAC v. ATN information, calls agency to resolve discrepancies
- SBI completes data entry for official entry into CHR; dissemination governed by statute



CHR DATA ISSUES

Modified version of electronic ticketing

•Benefits

- Enables LEA dissemination of electronic USAC info (public dissemination only when SBI receives court filing transaction)
- Dispatchers/record clerks already pull considerable info into Open Query; incorporates reuse of data instead of retyping
- Reduces USAC printing costs
- USAC hard copies are fading; original document being lost to the ravages of time
- Send to DA Central,- available immediately to prosecutors
 - DAs can retrieve any time, in any format from their system – DPS broker project is key



CHR DATA ISSUES

Modified version of electronic ticketing

- Task: will need to develop process to handle discrepancies when E-USAC filing and subsequent court filing are different
 - CHRI already has 1-2 work flow processes which could be adapted to handle this efficiently



NEXT STEPS – CAPACITY BUILDING & PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS

Purpose of enhancing capacity is occurring:

- DPS is 'back entering' missing SID & Disposition information
 - SAC will compare this data with UCR figures
- Compare CHRI criminal drug arrests numbers to those in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) database
- Examine why relatively small number of LEAs account for most of the arrests with a missing SID
- ATN/CTN – Encourage agencies to use them



NEXT STEPS – CAPACITY BUILDING

- Developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to ensure ongoing access to MDPS CHR data
- Developing audit capacity transfer guide



QUESTIONS

George Shaler
(207) 228-8344
gshaler@usm.maine.edu

