



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Kirk D. Thompson
Director

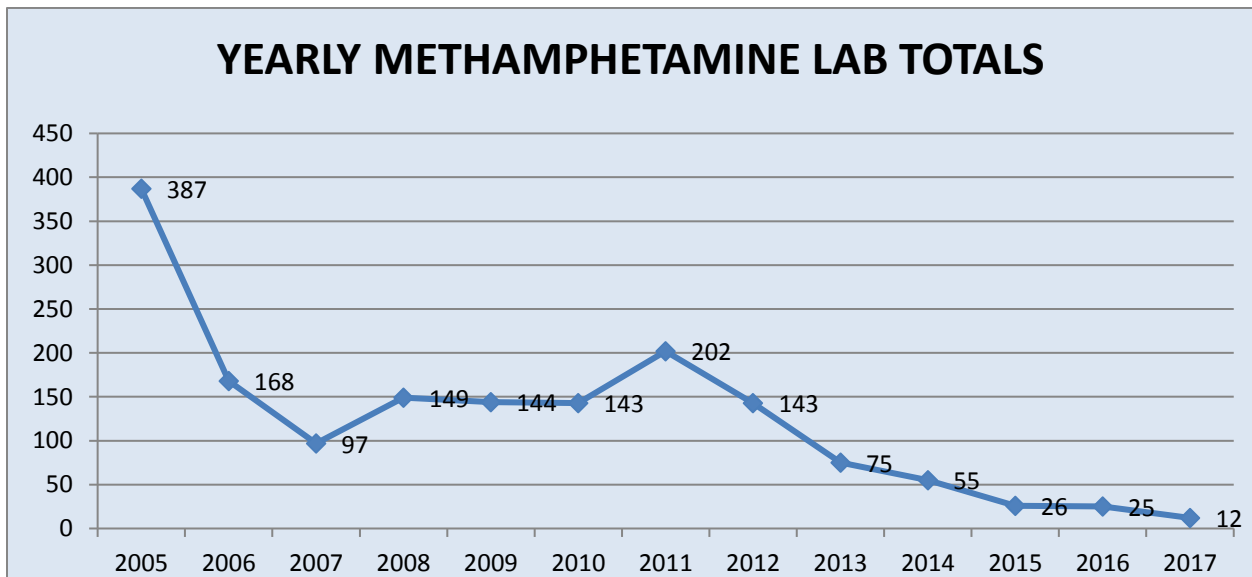
Derek Schmidt
Attorney General

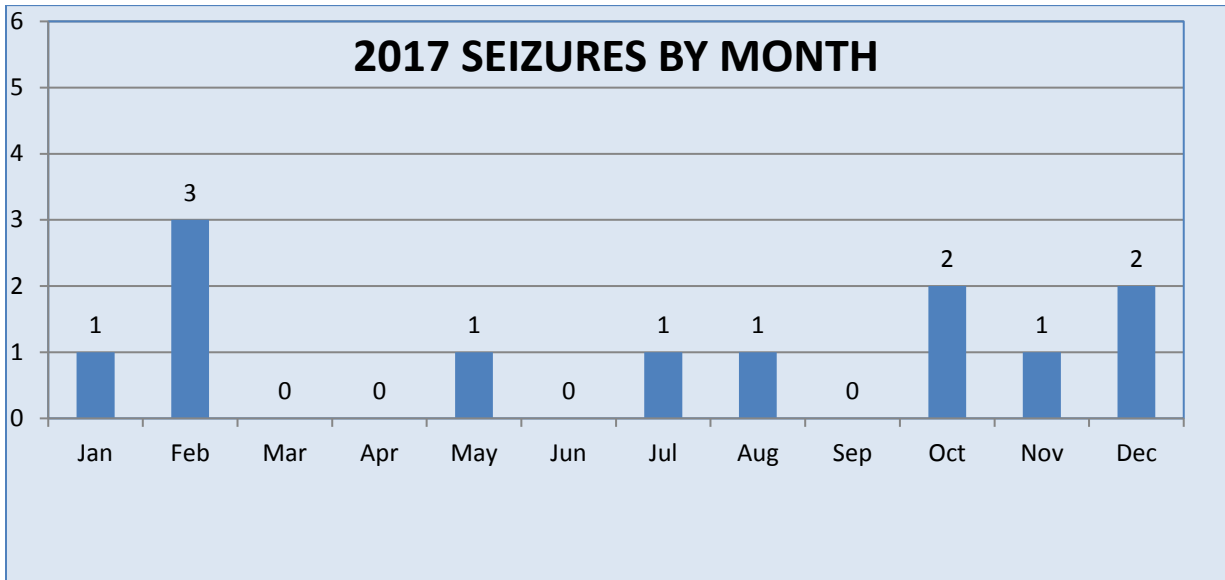
Methamphetamine Recommendation Report
Calendar Year 2017
January 30, 2018
(As required by K.S.A. 75-722)

In 2005, the Kansas Legislature passed S.B. 27, the Sheriff Matt Samuels Act, to restrict access to the precursor chemicals ephedrine and pseudoephedrine used to manufacture methamphetamine. Section 4 of the Act, now K.S.A. 75-722, requires the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) to gather information and consult with local law enforcement agencies regarding trends seen in the manufacture of methamphetamine; and, after consulting with the state board of pharmacy, develop recommendations concerning the control of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

Methamphetamine in Kansas

Kansas law enforcement reported 12 methamphetamine lab incidents in calendar year 2017, thirteen fewer than in 2016.





2017 Methamphetamine Seizures Incidents Include Chemical Only, Equipment Only, Dumpsites and Lab Seizures



12 Total Incidents

Methamphetamine Lab Incidents

Of the 12 labs seized in Kansas in 2017, five are categorized as one-pot methamphetamine laboratories. The one-pot method of production converts pseudoephedrine to methamphetamine using ammonium nitrate, sodium hydroxide, water, petroleum distillates, and lithium metal. This method of manufacturing, typically completed in a small plastic bottle, is portable and can easily be concealed. Four anhydrous ammonia/lithium labs were seized in Kansas in 2017, compared to two in 2016. Other types of labs seized in Kansas in 2017 were red phosphorus/iodine and conversion labs. Information reported by law enforcement agencies to the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) indicates most of the methamphetamine laboratories seized throughout the United States in 2017 were one-pot laboratories.

The number of methamphetamine lab seizures in Kansas as well as the United States continues to decline. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports that the number of domestic methamphetamine lab seizures has decreased from 10,520 in 2010 to 2,989 in 2016. According to the DEA most of the methamphetamine available in the U.S. is produced in Mexico by drug trafficking organizations and smuggled across the border. This methamphetamine is produced in large quantities at high purity levels. Should domestic production of methamphetamine continue to decline, it is likely that it will still be readily available due to this low-cost, high-purity alternative originating in Mexico.

Methamphetamine Precursor Electronic Logs

In April 2011, the Kansas Board of Pharmacy implemented the National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx) as the State's electronic precursor monitoring program. The KBI continues to be the State Administrator for Kansas law enforcement, serving as the liaison for training and law enforcement access. Kansas has 66 active law enforcement officers across the state registered to access the electronic logbook.

The NPLEx system maintains a single database of all pseudoephedrine purchases, providing pharmacists with access to customer purchasing history before proceeding with a sale. A stop sale mechanism notifies the pharmacist if a customer attempts a purchase in excess of the legal limit. Information captured in the electronic system is made available to law enforcement agencies and can be used to generate investigative leads and support criminal prosecutions.

Allen County, Neosho County, Labette County, Bourbon County, Crawford County, Cherokee County and the City of Parsons have passed local laws requiring prescriptions for pseudoephedrine/ephedrine. As a result of these laws, the pharmacies in these areas no longer report purchases to the NPLEx system. These areas report to the Kansas Board of Pharmacy Kansas Tracking and Reporting of Controlled Substances (K-TRACS) system. Law enforcement can no longer check these areas for purchases without a court order.

NPLEx records show, during the calendar year of 2017, approximately 607,629 purchases of cold medication containing pseudoephedrine were made compared to 621,022 in 2016. This resulted in 1,385,464 total grams of pseudoephedrine purchased in 2017 compared to

1,421,629 grams sold in 2016. Pharmacists denied the sale of approximately 46,017 grams of cold medicine containing pseudoephedrine in 2017 compared to 54,014 grams in 2016. The number of purchases made, the total number of grams of pseudoephedrine sold as well as the number of grams blocked all decreased in 2017 compared to 2016.

Methamphetamine Waste Disposal Program (MWDP)

The KBI has fully implemented the DEA-funded Authorized Central Storage (ACS) program. The KBI facilitated proper disposal of hazardous waste associated with methamphetamine laboratories for 100% of the labs reported to EPIC. Through this program, approximately 134 pounds of regulated hazardous waste was properly disposed of in 2017. The DEA pays for the disposal of this waste.

The KBI provided training to 64 local, state and federal police officers related to methamphetamine laboratories in 2017.

The KBI does incur costs for agents' time, fuel, vehicle maintenance, utilities at each container site, and equipment costs to manage, train, and operate this program. The KBI requests continued funding for this valuable program.