



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

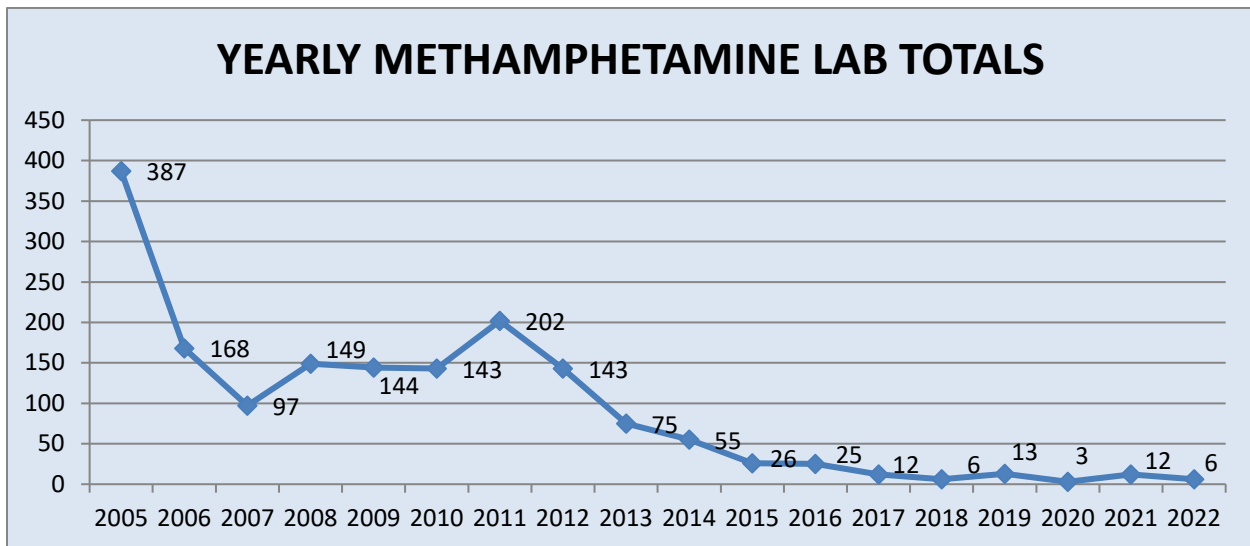
Kris W. Kobach
Attorney General

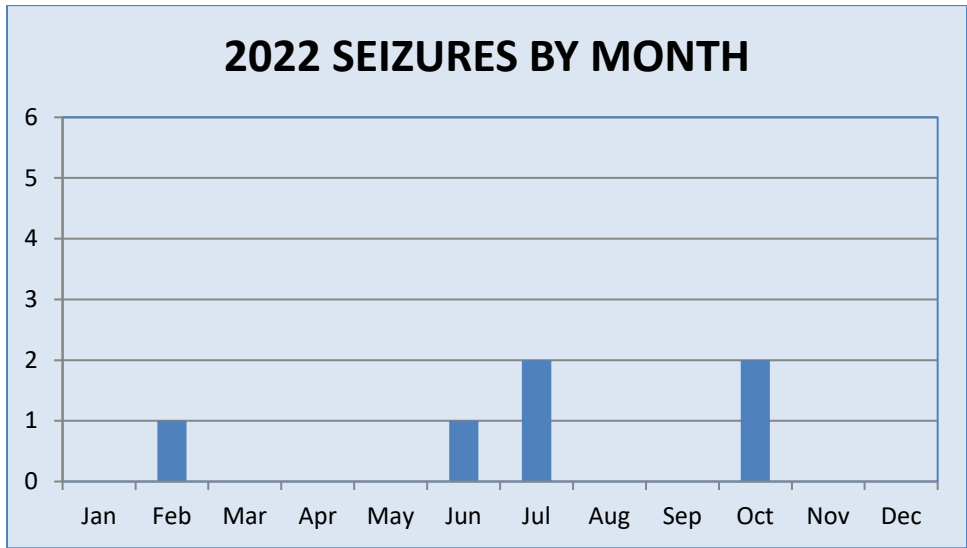
Methamphetamine Recommendation Report
Calendar Year 2022
January 23, 2023
(As required by K.S.A. 75-722)

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 six methamphetamine lab incidents in calendar year 2022, six fewer than in 2021.

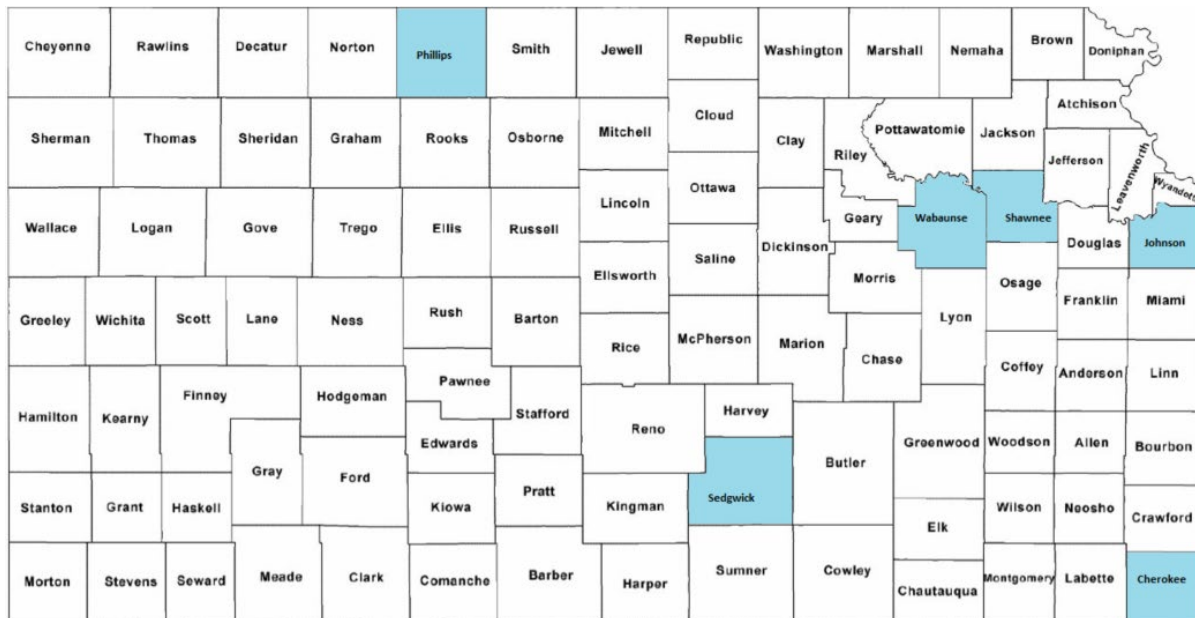




SEIZURE LOCATION

	Date	County	Address	Type of Lab
MWDP319	2/25/2022	Wabaunsee	Center and Washington, Alta Vista, KS, 66834	1 Pot
MWDP320	6/6/2022	Johnson	12612 W 69th, Shawnee KS	DMT/Mushroom
MWDP321	7/12/2022	Shawnee	1620 SW Tyler, Topeka, KS	Evidence Clean Out
MWDP322	7/16/2022	Phillips	819 Third Ave. West, Glade, KS	Nazi
MWDP323	10/18/2022	Sedgwick	1911 1/2 S. Everett, Wichita, KS	Fentanyl Pill Milling
MWDP324	10/19/2022	Cherokee	8641 SE 90th, Galena, KS	Red Phosphorus

2022 Methamphetamine Seizures Incidents Include Chemical Only, Equipment Only, Dumpsites and Lab Seizures



6 Total Incidents

Methamphetamine Lab Incidents

Of the six labs seized in Kansas in 2022, one was categorized as a one-pot methamphetamine laboratory. 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.

One red phosphorus lab, which uses red phosphorus and hydriodic acid to produce methamphetamine, was seized in 2022.

One “Nazi” lab, which uses pseudoephedrine, anhydrous ammonia, and sodium or lithium metal, was seized in 2022.

One fentanyl pill mill was seized in 2022. Fentanyl pills are produced through a milling operation by taking fentanyl and adding it to other products, such as lactose or manitol. The mixture is then pressed into a pill form utilizing one of the numerous types of pill presses.

One DMT/mushroom lab was seized in 2022. Dimethyltryptamine (DMT) is located within numerous plants that grow wild, to include grasses (e.g: Phalaris arundinacea) and barks (e.g: mimosa hostilis, and various acacia species). The plant's substance is normally pulverized and sent through a series of steps to remove the DMT from the plant and turn it into a usable form.

The KBI assisted with one law enforcement evidence facility clean out in 2022.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (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 114 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. Due to 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 2022, approximately 488,588 purchases of cold medication containing pseudoephedrine were made compared to 469,616 in 2021. This resulted in 1,111,027 total grams of pseudoephedrine purchased in 2022 compared to 1,107,794 grams sold in 2021. Pharmacists denied the sale of approximately 54,398 grams of cold medicine containing pseudoephedrine in 2022 compared to 48,121 grams in 2021. The number of purchases made, the number of grams purchased, and the number of grams blocked all increased in 2022 compared to 2021.

Methamphetamine Prices in Kansas

The price for purchasing methamphetamine on the street drastically dropped from 2014 to 2019 due to the increased production and importation of Mexican methamphetamine. Due to this increased availability of imported methamphetamine, the demand for domestically produced methamphetamine has declined. In 2020, travel restrictions enacted by governments during the pandemic reduced the availability of methamphetamine and increased the price paid by consumers. In 2021, prices dropped as governments removed travel restrictions. Prices in 2022 remained the same as in 2021.

	Ounce	Pound	Kilogram
2022	\$500.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,500.00
2021	\$500.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,500.00
2020	\$675.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
2014 Price	\$1,075.00	\$14,000.00	N/A

Prices represent the average price paid for methamphetamine throughout Kansas.

Methamphetamine Waste Disposal Program (MWDP)

The KBI has fully implemented the DEA-funded Authorized Central Storage (ACS) program. The KBI did not complete a clean out of the ACS container in 2022.

The KBI provided training to approximately 58 local, state and federal police officers related to methamphetamine laboratories in 2022.

The KBI is 100% compliant with the DEA reporting requirements.

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.

Changes to the KBI Clandestine Laboratory Response Team (CLRT).

In 2020, the KBI changed several aspects to the Clandestine Laboratory Response Team (CLRT). Due to recent years of downward methamphetamine laboratories within the State of Kansas, the KBI did not see the need to have every KBI Agent trained to be able to work and process a methamphetamine laboratory. The KBI created a smaller team of 10 KBI Agents to include the Special Operations Division, Crime Scene Response Team, and KBI laboratory personnel. The Agents are spread across the State of Kansas to try to lower the response time if needed.

Under the new CLRT team, the KBI is not only able to respond to methamphetamine laboratories, but also chemical suicides, death or other investigations in highly contaminated areas, and assess for chemical/biological/explosive environments. CLRT is trained to respond to more advanced laboratories to include fentanyl labs, or laboratories that are more exotic. The training is a higher level of protection to aid in the response to these types of labs.