

# 2021 Annual Drug Report

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JANUARY 2022



## SDEU Teams

Anchorage Airport Interdiction Team  
Fairbanks Area-wide Narcotics Team  
Kodiak Area-wide Narcotics Team  
Mat-Su Narcotics Enforcement Team  
Southcentral Area-wide Narcotics Team  
Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs  
Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team

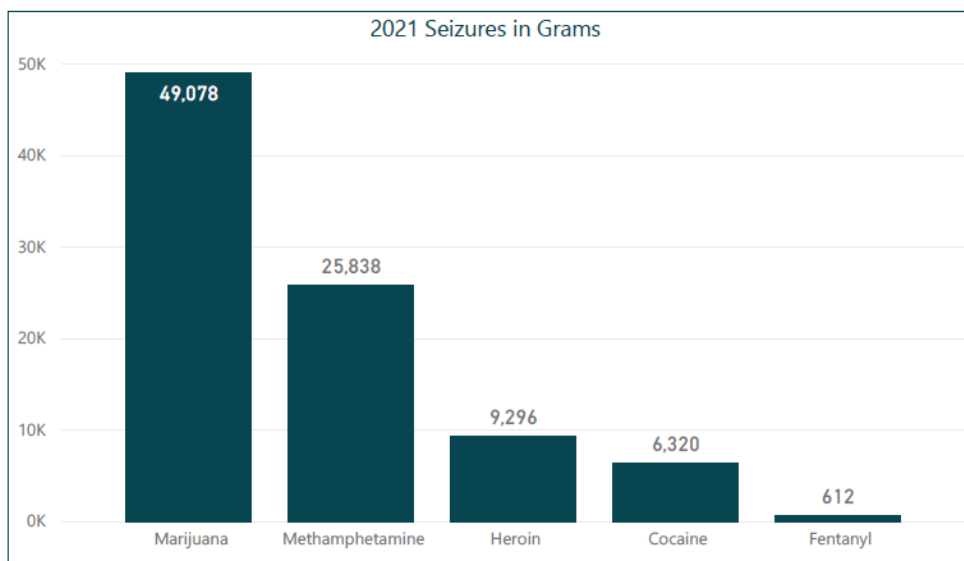
#### The number of arrests made

In 2021, Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit (SDEU) made 146 unique drug and alcohol arrests.<sup>1</sup> 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.

#### The kind, amount, and value of narcotic drugs and alcoholic beverages seized

2021 drug seizures not listed in the following chart:

- **Heroin:** 60 mL
- **Marijuana Edibles:** 396.9 gallons and 2 D.U.<sup>2</sup>
- **Marijuana BC Bud:** 1 D.U.
- **Marijuana:** 73 D.U.
- **THC Liquid:** 99 D.U.
- **Fentanyl:** 7,311 D.U.<sup>3</sup>



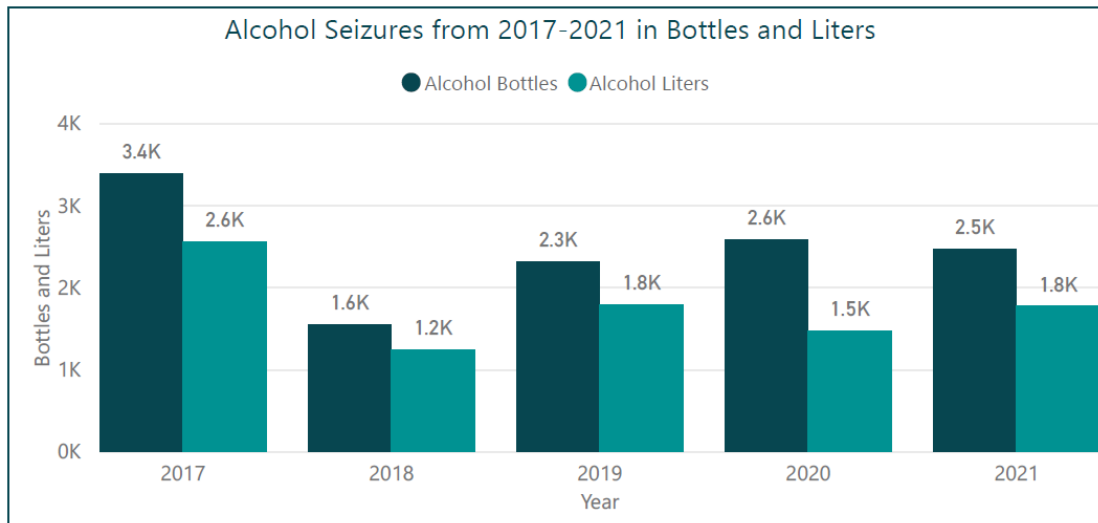
Marijuana seizures include THQ Liquid, THC Resin, Edibles, BC Bud, and Marijuana. Seizures reported in ounces and pounds were converted to grams.

<sup>1</sup> Data provided by Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) as of January 11, 2021. 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.

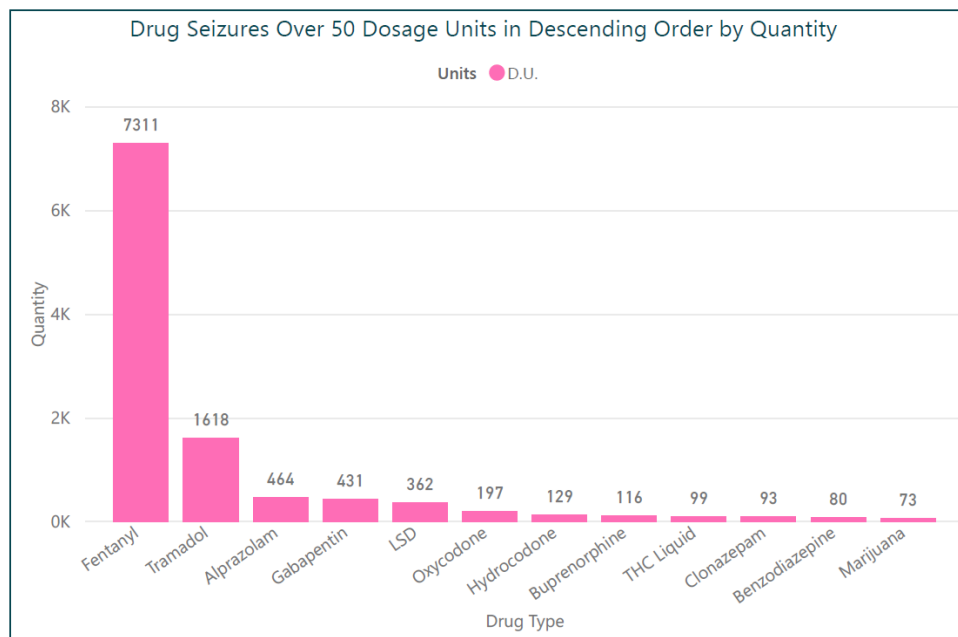
<sup>2</sup> Dosage Unit (D.U.) is the number of pills seized.

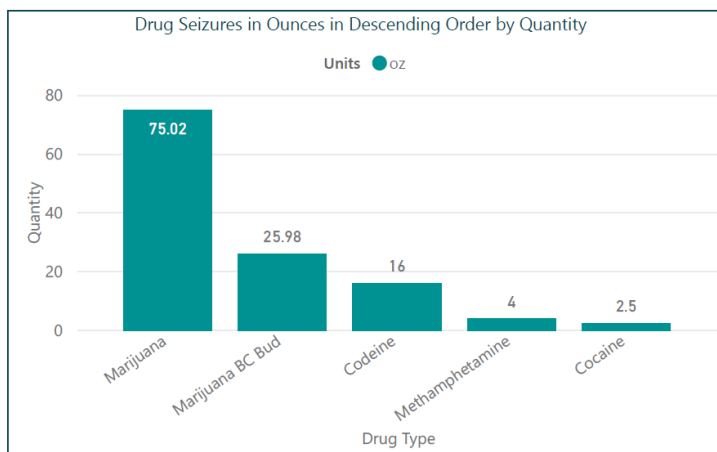
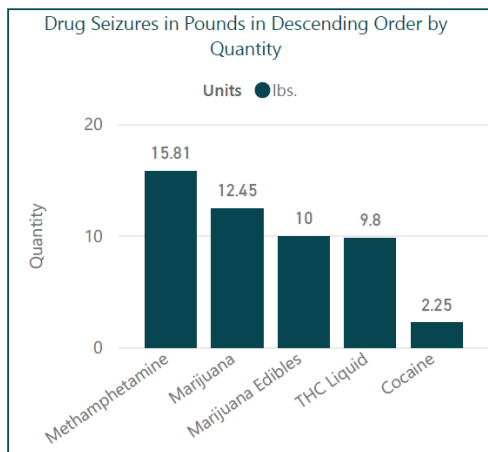
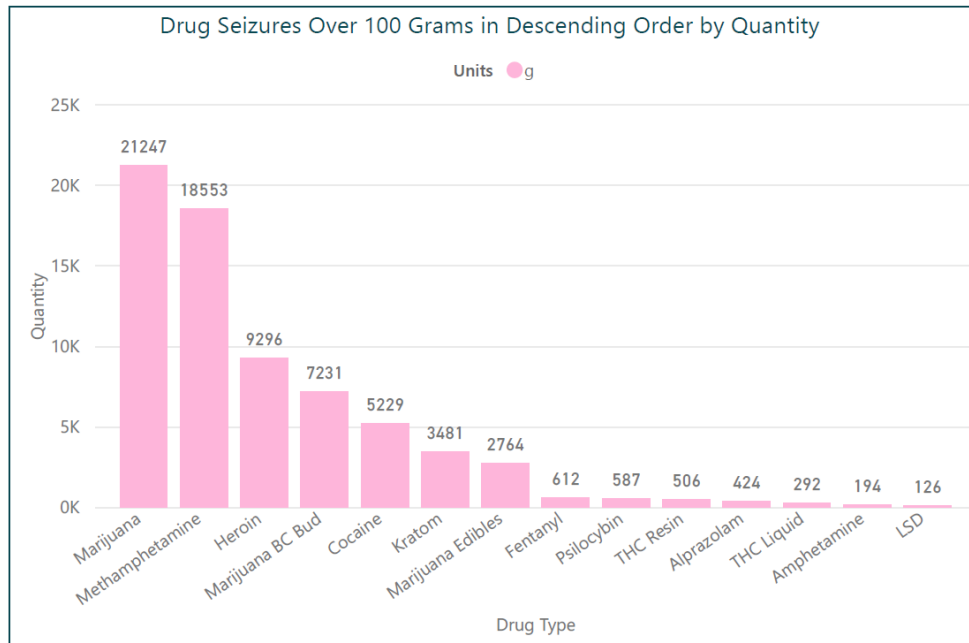
<sup>3</sup> As little as two milligrams of fentanyl can be lethal. United States Drug Enforcement Administration (July 2, 2018). *Fentanyl*. Accessed January 26, 2020, <https://www.dea.gov/galleries/drug-images/fentanyl>.

From 2020 to 2021, there was a 0.04% change to the number of alcohol bottles seized and a 20% change increase in the number of liters seized.



There were 176 marijuana-related drug seizures (marijuana, marijuana BC bud, marijuana edibles, THC liquid, and THC resin), 56 cocaine and crack drug seizures, 194 heroin seizures, 29 fentanyl seizures, and 270 alcohol seizures.





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### Drug and Alcohol Prices

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.

In 2021,<sup>5</sup> an ounce of methamphetamine cost \$600 in Wasilla and \$700 in Kenai. An ounce of cocaine cost both \$2,750 and \$1,800 in Anchorage and \$2,400 in Kenai, and two ounces of cocaine cost \$3,600 in Anchorage. SDEU reported 750 mL of distilled spirits cost \$300 in Wainwright.

<sup>4</sup> Seizure data provided by Alaska HIDTA monthly reports

<sup>5</sup> Drug price data provided by Alaska HIDTA monthly reports

Below are drug prices for methamphetamine in grams, heroin in grams and ounces, and cocaine in grams by community in 2021:

#### 2021 Reported Prices for Heroin in Grams

Community	Type	Price	Quantity	Measurement
Sitka	Heroin	\$23,330	23	Grams (g)
Juneau	Heroin	\$6,740	33	Grams (g)
Petersburg	Heroin	\$6,000	6	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$5,800	101	Grams (g)
Palmer	Heroin	\$3,000	47	Grams (g)
Wasilla	Heroin	\$3,000	46	Grams (g)
Sand Point	Heroin	\$2,000	1	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,800	22	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,800	26	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,700	27	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,500	26	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,500	51	Grams (g)
King Cove	Heroin	\$1,500	1	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,450	130	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,400	25	Grams (g)
Juneau	Heroin	\$1,348	3	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,200	6	Grams (g)
Port Heiden	Heroin	\$1,000	1	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$850	13	Grams (g)
Dillingham	Heroin	\$800	1	Grams (g)
Kodiak	Heroin	\$700	1	Grams (g)
Kodiak	Heroin	\$650	1	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$600	105	Grams (g)
Kodiak	Heroin	\$600	1	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$450	6	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$450	6	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$450	7	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$450	9	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$400	4	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$400	7	Grams (g)
Fairbanks	Heroin	\$320	2	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$200	2	Grams (g)
Sand Point	Heroin	\$200	0	Grams (g)
Fairbanks	Heroin	\$165	1	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$120	1	Grams (g)
Dillingham	Heroin	\$100	0	Grams (g)
Port Heiden	Heroin	\$100	0	Grams (g)
Petersburg	Heroin	\$95	0	Grams (g)

#### 2021 Reported Prices for Heroin in Ounces

Community	Type	Price	Quantity	Measurement
Valley	Heroin	\$5,000	1	Ounces (oz)
Fairbanks	Heroin	\$4,800	3	Ounces (oz)
Fairbanks	Heroin	\$3,200	2	Ounces (oz)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$3,000	2	Ounces (oz)
Wasilla	Heroin	\$1,600	1	Ounces (oz)
Anchorage	Heroin	\$1,500	1	Ounces (oz)
Valley	Heroin	\$1,400	1	Ounces (oz)

#### 2021 Reported Prices for Cocaine in Grams

Community	Type	Price	Quantity	Measurement
Kenai	Cocaine	\$4,000	61	Grams (g)
Kenai	Cocaine	\$2,300	29	Grams (g)
Kenai	Cocaine	\$2,200	30	Grams (g)
Kenai	Cocaine	\$2,200	31	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$1,800	28	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$1,400	30	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$1,200	58	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$440	3	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$400	7	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$400	8	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$350	4	Grams (g)
Anchorage	Cocaine	\$350	5	Grams (g)

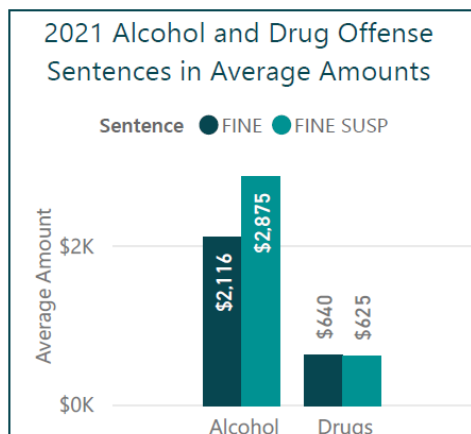
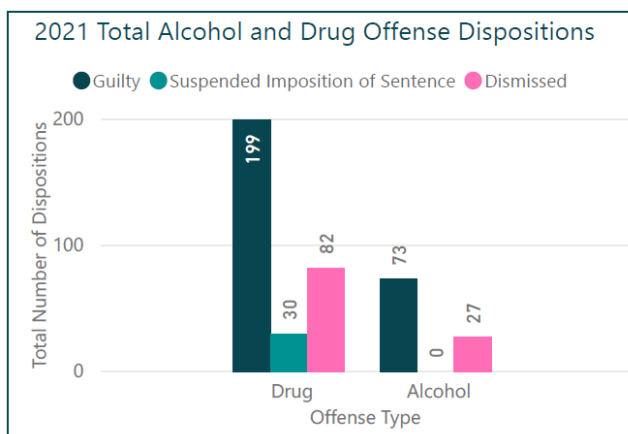
#### 2021 Reported Prices for Methamphetamine in Grams

Community	Type	Price	Quantity	Measurement
Anchorage	Methamphetamine	\$19,550	1,228	Grams (g)
Juneau	Methamphetamine	\$9,720	63	Grams (g)
Sitka	Methamphetamine	\$2,545	25	Grams (g)
Petersburg	Methamphetamine	\$2,100	9	Grams (g)
Sand Point	Methamphetamine	\$1,650	1	Grams (g)
Soldotna	Methamphetamine	\$750	31	Grams (g)
Fairbanks	Methamphetamine	\$595	19	Grams (g)
King Cove	Methamphetamine	\$500	1	Grams (g)
Nome	Methamphetamine	\$450	2	Grams (g)
Dillingham	Methamphetamine	\$400	1	Grams (g)
Kodiak	Methamphetamine	\$350	1	Grams (g)

### The sentences received by narcotic drug and alcohol offenders

In 2021, of the 100 alcohol-related offenses, there were 73 guilty and 27 dismissed alcohol-related dispositions. Of the 311 drug-related offenses, there were 199 guilty, 30 suspended imposition of sentencing, and 82 dismissed drug-related dispositions.

The following charts depict 2021 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.



**2021 Alcohol and Drug Offense Sentences in Average Number of Days and Years**

Offense	Disposition	Sentence	Average Number of Days	Average Number of Years
Alcohol	GUILTY	JAIL	44.32	
Alcohol	GUILTY	JAIL SUSP	46.36	
Alcohol	GUILTY	PROBATION		1.00
Drugs	SUSP IMPOS SENTENCE	COM WORK	5.00	
Drugs	GUILTY	JAIL	116.37	3.13
Drugs	SUSP IMPOS SENTENCE	JAIL	53.80	
Drugs	GUILTY	JAIL SUSP	130.66	2.33
Drugs	GUILTY	LIC RST/SU	90.00	
Drugs	GUILTY	PROBATION	180.00	2.37
Drugs	SUSP IMPOS SENTENCE	PROBATION		2.22

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<sup>6</sup> Data provided by Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) as of January 11, 2021. 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.

#### An overall view of the narcotic drug and illicit alcohol problem in the state

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

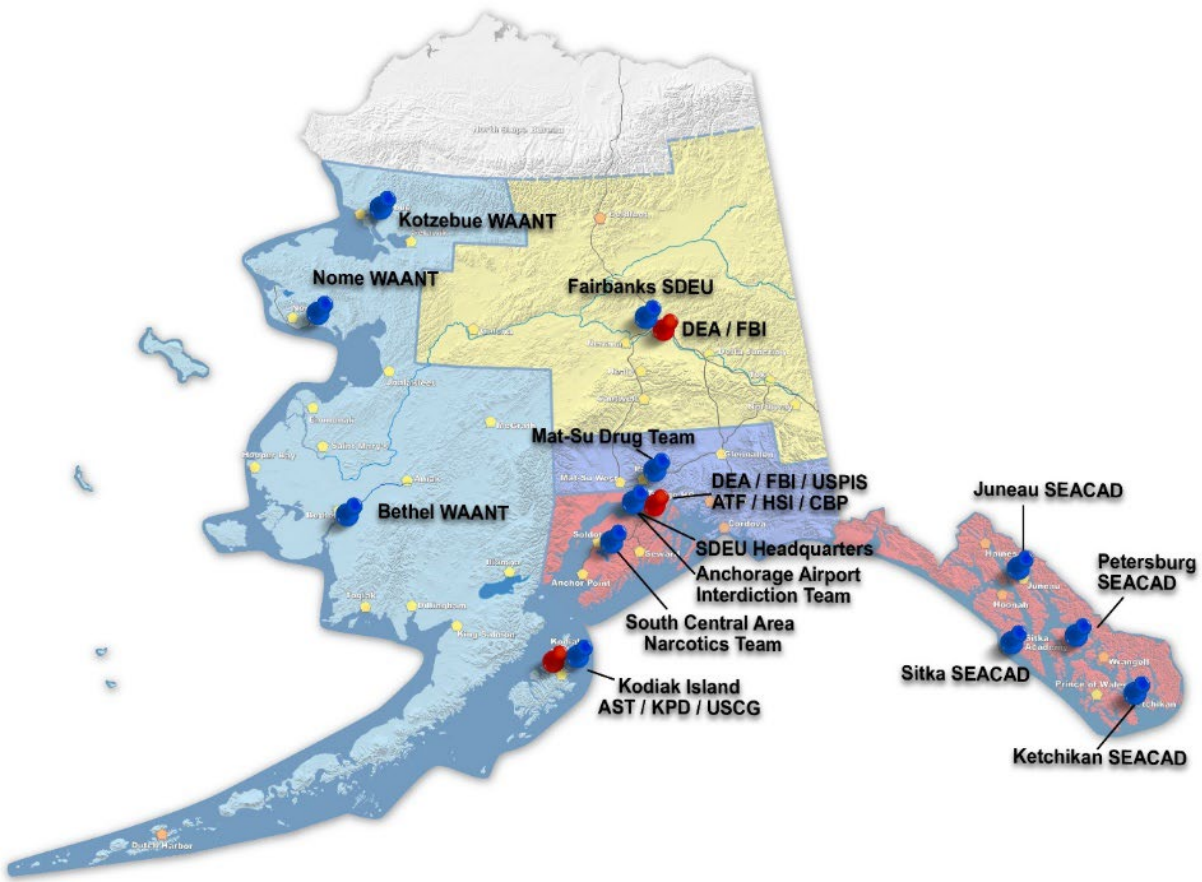
Unorganized individuals continue to import illegal alcoholic beverages into one of the 108 local option communities in Alaska that either ban the sale of alcohol, sale by specific type of license only, sale by municipality operated license only, ban sale and importation, or ban the sale, importation,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

Methamphetamine, opioids, 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.

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.

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



SDEU Map Depicting Team Boundaries, Locations, and Other Agency Participation



## 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.

## Appendix B

### Anchorage Airport Interdiction Team (AAIT)

AAIT focuses on drug interdictions at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport. AAIT is comprised of members of the Alaska State Troopers (AST), Anchorage Airport Police, Anchorage Police Department (APD), North Slope Borough Police, Sand Point Police, FBI, and DEA.

### Fairbanks Area-wide Narcotics Team (FANT)

FANT focuses on drug interdictions and investigations in the Interior Region, Utqiagvik, and east to Canada. FANT is comprised of AST, Fairbanks Police Department, and the North Pole Police Department. FANT works closely with the FBI; DEA; United States Marshals; BATFE; and local, state, and military agencies within the region.

### Kodiak Area-wide Narcotics Team (KANT)

KANT focuses on drug interdictions and investigations in the Kodiak Island area. KANT is comprised of AST, Kodiak Police Department, and CGIS. An AST investigator is cross-deputized with the FBI and the team works closely with federal law enforcement agencies.

### Mat-Su Drug Narcotics Enforcement Team

The Mat-Su team focuses on drug interdictions and investigations in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The team is comprised of AST and works jointly with APD, FBI, DEA, BATFE, and the Department of Homeland Security Investigations.

### Southcentral Area-wide Narcotics Team (SCAN)

SCAN focuses on drug interdictions and investigations on the Kenai Peninsula. SCAN is comprised of AST and the Kenai Police Department, and works closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

### Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs (SEACAD)

SEACAD focuses on drug interdictions and investigations in Southeast Alaska. SEACAD provides investigative support to Petersburg, Wrangell, Craig, Klawock, Yakutat, Juneau, Hoonah, Sitka, Haines, Skagway, Cordova, and Ketchikan 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)

WAANT focuses predominately on alcohol enforcement in Western Alaska, as well as drug interdictions and investigations. WAANT is comprised of AST, Kotzebue Police, Bethel Police, and Kodiak Police, and works closely with the United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS). Beginning in 2007, WAANT investigators are cross deputized with (USPIS).

## 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.

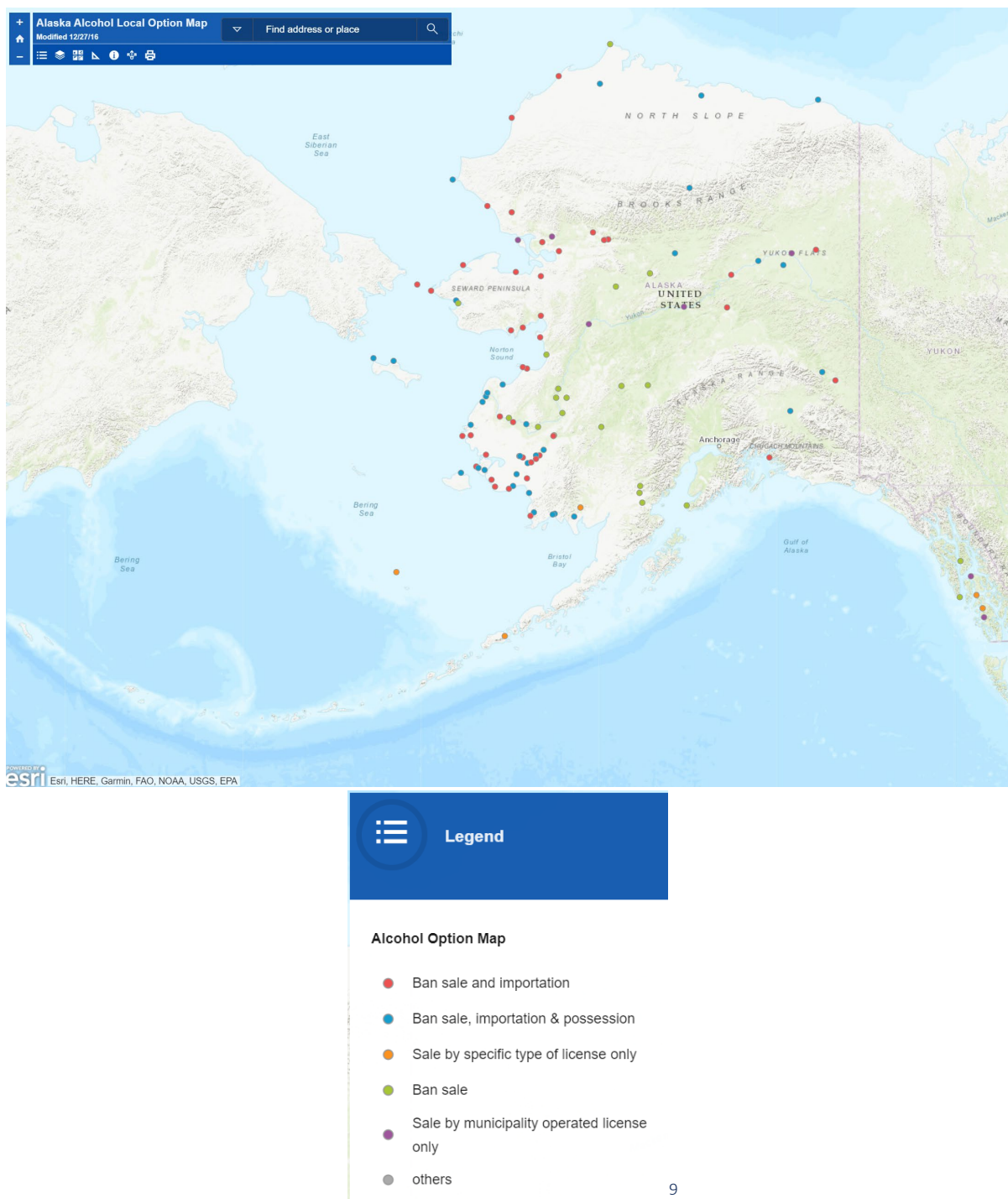
## FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES<sup>8</sup>

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500–4999 grams mixture	<b>First Offense:</b> 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.  <b>Second Offense:</b> 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	<b>First Offense:</b> 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.  <b>Second Offense:</b> 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.  <b>2 or More Prior Offenses:</b> 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	<b>First Offense:</b> 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.  <b>Second Offense:</b> 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	<b>First Offense:</b> 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. <b>Second Offense:</b> 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	<b>First Offense:</b> Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.  <b>Second Offense:</b> 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	<b>First Offense:</b> Not more than 1 yr. Fine not more than \$100,000 if an individual, \$250,000 if not an individual. <b>Second Offense:</b> Not more than 4 yrs. Fine not more than \$200,000 if an individual, \$500,000 if not an individual.		

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration. (2017). *Drugs of Abuse* [PDF]. Accessed January 21, 2020.

## Appendix D

### Alaska Alcohol Local Option Map



<sup>9</sup> Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office. *Current Map of local option communities*. Accessed January 15, 2021.