Salt Lake City, Utah Profile of Drug Indicators

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Salt Lake City, Utah

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, funding, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics

Total Population, 1990: 159,936

Race/Ethnicity

White: 139,177
Black: 2,752
American Indian/Eskimo/Aleut: 2,541
Asian or Pacific Islander: 7,566
Other: 7,900
Hispanic (included in distribution above): 15,508

Total Population, 1998 estimate: 172,880

Politics

Mayor: Deedee Corradini (Vice President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors)
Council Members: Carlton Christensen Joanne Milner Tom Rogan
Roger Thompson M. Bryce Jolley Deeda Seed
Keith Christensen
Chief of Police: Ruben B. Ortega

Programs/Initiatives

- The Salt Lake City Budget for fiscal year 1998-99 totals $130,722,800.
- Salt Lake Area Gang Project was established to identify, control, and prevent criminal gang activity and to provide intelligence data and investigative assistance to law enforcement agencies. The Project also provides youths with information on viable alternatives to gang membership and educates the public about the destructiveness of the gang lifestyle.
- The University of Utah, Neighborhood Action Coalition, Salt Lake City, Utah, was a 1998 Drug Free Communities Support Program recipient. The coalition will target the use of illegal drugs and inhalants, as well as alcohol and tobacco use, among youth in two high-risk neighborhoods, Taylorsville and West Valley City.
- Salt Lake City is a Weed and Seed site that includes the west-side neighborhoods of Poplar Grove, Glendale, and Fairpark. These neighborhoods are among Salt Lake’s most ethnically diverse communities. The availability of low-income rental housing has attracted a steady immigration of Vietnamese, Laotian, Hispanic and Pacific Islander families. In addition, it is a refugee relocation site for Eastern Europe, causing a rapid increase in refugee populations from Russia, Bosnia, Serbia, etc. Ethnic parents in the target neighborhoods are reportedly extremely concerned by their children’s rejection of traditional values, rate of school dropouts, and gang affiliations.
Notable Weed and Seed Programs:8
- The Neighborhood Mediation Center provides conflict resolution/mediation services directly in the neighborhoods.
- Outreach to New Americans developed by the city and the national Crime Prevention Council is designed to increase levels of cooperation, trust and communication between minority communities, the city and law enforcement.
- Community Action Teams serve the Weed and Seed target area. There are two multi-disciplinary problem-solving groups that meet weekly to case manage chronic offenders.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime
- Index of Crime, 1997-19989

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>1998 Jan-June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>2,911</td>
<td>1,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>14,346</td>
<td>6,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>2,990</td>
<td>999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Property Crime</td>
<td>79,401</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Violent Crime</td>
<td>4,170</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index Crime Total</td>
<td>83,571</td>
<td>9,261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In 1996, there were a reported 2,031 gang-related crimes committed in Salt Lake City (excluding graffiti). A very high proportion of youth (per capita - 84 per 100 adults versus 62 per 100 adults nationally) contributes to the high juvenile crime rate.10

- *Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring*11
Salt Lake City ADAM sample size: 231 Males
51 Females

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Percent Positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Drug</td>
<td>60.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opiates</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCP</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Drugs</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Salt Lake City has developed a serious problem with drug houses. Area drug arrests were up 25% in 1997 and Methamphetamine Labs saw an 82% increase over the
previous year. Over 175 search warrants for drug houses were processed in 1997, the majority in the Weed and Seed area. The Weed and Seed district includes the Poplar Grove, Glendale, and Fairpark neighborhoods. These are west-side neighborhoods and Interstate 15 along with railroad tracks separate the west and east sides of the city.¹²

- **Percentage of drug offenses charged at arrest, all drug charges, 1984-1998**¹³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Heroin</th>
<th>Cocaine</th>
<th>Marijuana</th>
<th>Amphetamines</th>
<th>Possess Narcotics</th>
<th>All Others*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>61.2%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>62.9%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Others includes Hallucinogens, Opium, Synthetics and Barbiturates.

**Drugs**¹⁴

- Salt Lake City police Department indicates that marijuana continues to be the most widely abused drug in their area. However, its use does not present the same problems as the use of other drugs, such as methamphetamine.
- According to Utah State DSA statistics, 57% clients were admitted in Salt Lake City for methamphetamine use as their primary substance of abuse for fiscal year 1998.
- According to the DEA-Metro Narcotics Task Force in Salt Lake City, in 1998 the task force responded to and/or investigated 225 clandestine methamphetamine laboratory cases. Of those 225, all but 14 were “box” or “suitcase” type labs. In addition, recent statistics provided by the DEA, show the Salt Lake City metropolitan area as number two in the nation for methamphetamine labs, second only behind St. Louis, Missouri.
- The Salt Lake City Police Department reports that cocaine remains the predominant drug of choice. However, methamphetamine distribution, production, and consumption are at an all time high in the Salt Lake metro area.
Consequences of Use\textsuperscript{15}

- Distribution of drug abuse deaths, 1996

\begin{tabular}{|l|c|c|}
\hline
Selected Drug Groups & Number & Percent \\
\hline
Alcohol-in-comb & 26 & 41.3 \\
Amitriptyline (Elavil) & 6 & 9.5 \\
Cocaine & 17 & 27.0 \\
Codeine & 10 & 15.9 \\
d-Propoxyphene (Darvon) & 4 & 6.3 \\
Diazepam (Valium) & 7 & 11.1 \\
Diphenhydramine (Benadryl) & 1 & 1.6 \\
Heroin/Morphine & 18 & 28.6 \\
Marijuana/Hashish & -- & -- \\
Methadone & 6 & 9.5 \\
Methamphetamine/Speed & 1 & 1.6 \\
PCP/PCP combinations & -- & -- \\
All other drugs & 52 & 82.5 \\
\hline
Total Drug Mentions & 148 & 234.9 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

- Two participating DAWN Medical Examiners reported a total of 842 cases. There were 75 drug abuse cases, a total of 166 drug mentions and 75 drug-abuse deaths in the Metropolitan Statistical Area of Salt Lake City – Ogden, Utah.

Enforcement

Salt Lake City has a total of 564 police employees, of which 407 are officers and 157 are civilians.\textsuperscript{16}

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{1} U.S. Census Bureau Web site: http://www.census.gov
\item \textsuperscript{2} Salt Lake City Web site: http://www.ci.slc.ut.us/
\item \textsuperscript{3} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{4} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{5} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{6} Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site: http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/
\item \textsuperscript{7} U. S. Department of Justice, Executive Office of Weed and Seed Web site: http://www.weedseed.org/
\item \textsuperscript{8} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{10} U. S. Department of Justice, Executive Office of Weed and Seed Web site: http://www.weedseed.org/
\item \textsuperscript{12} U. S. Department of Justice, Executive Office of Weed and Seed Web site: http://www.weedseed.org/
\item \textsuperscript{13} Salt Lake City Corporation, Police Department, Community Support Division, special data run.
\item \textsuperscript{14} Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, \textit{Utah Excerpts from 1999 Rocky Mountain HIDTA Threat Assessment}.
\item \textsuperscript{15} U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, \textit{Drug Abuse Warning Network Annual Medical Examiner Data 1996}, July 1998.
\end{itemize}