

## Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring Network

### Surveillance of Drug Abuse Trends in the State of Ohio

January-June 2012

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Orman Hall, Director

#### Toledo Region

- Likely increased availability of bath salts, heroin and synthetic marijuana; likely decreased availability of Ecstasy
- DEA and BCI reported increase in number of bath salts cases; bath salts chemically altered and re-branded
- Despite decreased availability of Ecstasy, Ecstasy-like substances (2CE and 2CB) available
- DEA reported finding several mobile methamphetamine labs, manufacture through “one-pot” and “shake-and-bake” methods

#### Cleveland Region

- Increased availability of heroin; likely increased availability of Ecstasy, high-grade marijuana and methamphetamine; likely decreased availability of bath salts
- In Cleveland, heroin is now commonly available through anonymous transactions, as well as through established user networks
- Community professionals and participants reiterated and underscored abuse progression from prescription opioid abuse to heroin among younger users
- Purest form of Ecstasy (aka “Molly”) becoming more available as knowledge of drug grows

#### Dayton Region

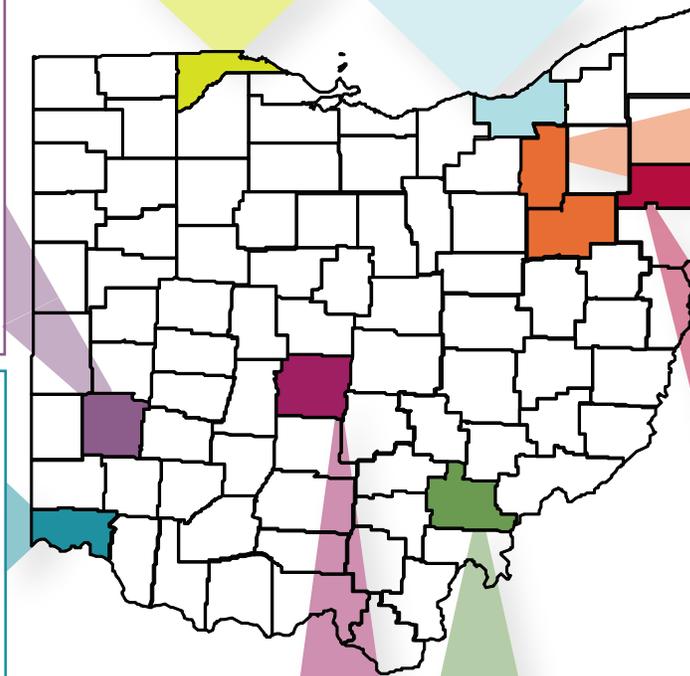
- Decreased availability of Ecstasy; likely increased availability of heroin and Suboxone®; likely decreased availability of crack cocaine
- Numerous participants reported heroin has reached “epidemic” proportions; even those who have not used personally reported friends and family who have
- Free “testers” of heroin remain available in Dayton which makes it difficult for users to avoid the drug

#### Akron-Canton Region

- Increased availability of methamphetamine, prescription opioids and Suboxone®; likely increased availability of crack cocaine and heroin
- Methamphetamine thought to have increased due to more people with knowledge of “one-pot” or “shake-and-bake” method of manufacture
- Prescription opioids now present in 50 percent of all drug-related deaths according to coroner’s office

#### Cincinnati Region

- Increased availability of heroin and Suboxone®; likely increased availability of bath salts, methamphetamine and synthetic marijuana; likely decreased availability of powdered cocaine
- Participants reported age of first-time heroin use as decreasing, with those as young as 12 years beginning use
- Current availability of methamphetamine is high in rural counties such as Brown and Clermont, and on Cincinnati’s east side



#### Youngstown Region

- Increased availability of prescription opioids; likely increased availability of heroin, methamphetamine and Suboxone®; likely decreased availability of bath salts and synthetic marijuana
- Opana®, Roxicet®, Ultram® and Vicodin® more available; prescription opioids now present in 77.8 percent of all drug-related deaths according to the coroner’s office
- Throughout the region, professionals reported heroin to be the primary drug problem

#### Columbus Region

- Increased availability of bath salts; likely increased availability of heroin, methamphetamine, Suboxone® and synthetic marijuana
- Participants stressed bath salts and synthetic marijuana as highly available and easily obtained at the same stores that previously sold them before the law banning them took effect
- Participants noted an increase in all forms of heroin, attributing increases to users transitioning from prescription opioids, as well as general increase in heroin popularity

#### Athens Region

- Increased availability of heroin and Suboxone®; likely increased availability of bath salts and methamphetamine; likely decreased availability of crack cocaine and synthetic marijuana
- Treatment facilities have experienced an increase in number of clients seeking treatment for heroin use
- Professionals reported users still coming into emergency rooms high on bath salts
- BCI reported an increase in bath salts cases; as soon as one substance is banned, another chemical analogue takes its place