

The Controlled Substances Act

Chapter 13 of Title 21 of the US Code provides the foundation for the nation's laws related to illegal substances and drugs. It is commonly known as the Controlled Substances Act, or "CSA" and divides drugs into five "schedules" (I, II, III, IV, and V) based on the degree of severity of addiction and abuse, medical usage, and dependence associated with it.

- » **Schedule I:** The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse, has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and lacks the accepted safety for use of the drug or other substance under medical supervision.
- » **Schedule II:** The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse, but has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States or a currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions. However, abuse of the drug or other substances may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.
- » **Schedule III:** The drug or other substance has a potential for abuse less than the drugs or other substances in schedules I and II; it has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. However, abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence.
- » **Schedule IV:** The drug or other substance has a low potential for abuse relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule III. It has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. Abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule III.
- » **Schedule V:** The drug or other substance has a low potential for abuse relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule IV. It has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. Abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule IV.

Most of the drugs that are common in the illegal drug trade are found in Schedule I (including MDMA, LSD, heroin, GHB, cannabis) or Schedule II (cocaine, methamphetamine, amphetamine, phencyclidine [PCP], and opium/opiates such as morphine and oxycodone).

Get Involved!

No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. The District of Columbia's community policing strategy provides many ways for police and communities to work together to prevent crime and build safer neighborhoods. These include regular Police Service Area meetings in your community, citizen patrols and more. To learn more about community policing activities in your neighborhood, call your local police district:

1st District	Main:.....(202) 698-0555..... TTY: 727-8506
	Substation:.....(202) 698-0068..... TTY: 543-2352
2nd District	Main:.....(202) 715-7300..... TTY: 364-3961
3rd District	Main:.....(202) 673-6815..... TTY: 518-0008
	Substation:.....(202) 576-8222..... TTY: 576-9640
4th District	Main:.....(202) 715-7400..... TTY: 722-1791
5th District	Main:.....(202) 698-0150..... TTY: 727-5437
6th District	Main:.....(202) 698-0880..... TTY: 398-5397
	Substation:.....(202) 698-2088..... TTY: 281-3945
7th District	Main:.....(202) 698-1500..... TTY: 889-3574

Know Something About a Crime? Don't Keep It a Secret

If you have important information to share with the police, the Anonymous Crime Tip Line and Text Tip Line enables you to give MPD vital information anonymously. Just dial (888) 919-2746 (CRIME) or text to 50411 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your name will not be used, only the information you provide. Your information could lead to a cash reward. For more details, see www.mpdc.dc.gov/tipline.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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PUBLIC VICE AND DRUG TRENDS



Understanding the Risks and Dangers of Cocaine

Recognizing the health hazards and community impacts of cocaine



Don't be a dope. Cocaine can hook, hurt, even kill you.

Dangerous substances like cocaine and other narcotic drugs are often accompanied by clever marketing or attractive names. But don't be tempted. Cocaine can have extremely dangerous health effects and long-term impacts on your future.

What is Cocaine?

Cocaine is a common stimulant derived from the *Erythroxylum coca* plant. It is best known for its massive popularity in powdered and freebase (crack) forms. A Schedule II drug, cocaine is an intense, euphoria-producing stimulant drug with strong addictive potential.

Origin and Description

Cocaine is usually distributed as a white, crystalline powder. Cocaine is often diluted ("cut") with a variety of substances, the most common being sugars and local anesthetics. Cocaine is "cut" to stretch the amount of the product and increase profits for dealers. In contrast, cocaine base (crack) looks like small, irregularly shaped chunks (or "rocks") of a whitish solid.



Cocaine is derived from coca leaves grown in Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia. The cocaine manufacturing process takes place in remote jungle labs where the raw product

undergoes a series of chemical transformations. Once cultivated and processed, cocaine is mostly smuggled by air to distribution points in the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America.

Cocaine is known by many names. Common street names include "Smack," "Horse," "Junk," "Black Tar," "Powder," "Dope," and "Blow."

What Does Cocaine Look Like?

Cocaine hydrochloride (HCl) appears as a white to off-white powder and may be compressed. Cocaine base (crack) usually appears as an off-white or tan colored rock-like substance with a wax like appearance.

How is Cocaine Used?

Cocaine can be snorted, injected, or smoked. "Crack" cocaine, also called "rock," is a form of freebase that comes in small lumps and makes a crackling sound when heated. It is relatively inexpensive, but must be repeated often to maintain a high.



Crack cocaine magnifies the effects of cocaine and is considered to be more highly and more quickly addictive than snorted cocaine.

What Are the Side Effects?

Cocaine is a Central Nervous System stimulant which can affect the human body in different ways. Common side effects of cocaine include dilated pupils, increased heart rate, elevated respiratory rate, and increased body temperature.

The intensity of cocaine's euphoric effects depends on how quickly the drug reaches the brain, which depends on the dose and method of abuse. Following smoking or intravenous injection, cocaine reaches the brain in seconds, with a rapid buildup in levels. This results in a rapid-onset, intense euphoric effect known as a "rush."

By contrast, the euphoria caused by snorting cocaine is less intense and does not happen as quickly due to the slower build-up of the drug in the brain. Other effects include increased alertness and excitation, as well as restlessness, irritability, and anxiety in some users. Tolerance to cocaine's effects develops rapidly, causing users to take higher and higher doses. Taking high doses of cocaine or prolonged use, such as bingeing, usually causes paranoia. The crash that follows euphoria is characterized by mental and physical exhaustion, sleep, and depression lasting several days. Following the crash, users experience a craving to use cocaine again.

What Are the Dangers of Cocaine Use?

Physiological effects of cocaine include increased blood pressure and heart rate, dilated pupils, insomnia and loss of appetite. The widespread abuse of highly pure street cocaine has led to many severe adverse health consequences such as cardiac arrhythmias, ischemic heart conditions, sudden cardiac arrest, convulsions, strokes and death. In some users, the long-term use of inhaled cocaine has led to a unique respiratory syndrome, and chronic snorting of cocaine has led to the erosion of the upper nasal cavity.

Overdose effects include agitation, increased body temperature, hallucinations, convulsions, and possible death

Cocaine Prices in the Washington Area

A typical street dose of Cocaine is 50 – 70 mg (.05 – .07 g). The drug is commonly sold in these increments:

- » Street dose (50-70 mg): \$10 – \$20
- » 1/8 ounce (3.5 g): \$150
- » 1/4 ounce (7 g): \$400
- » 1/2 ounce (14 g): \$450 – \$600
- » 1 ounce (28 g): \$900 – \$1,200
- » "31 grams" (31 g): \$1,000 – \$1,300
- » "62 gram" (62 g): \$1,500 – 2,600
- » 1/8 kilo (128 g): \$4,500
- » 1/4 kilo (256 g): \$4,500
- » 1 kilo/"key" (1,000 g): \$20,000 – \$30,000

The purity of crack cocaine in the Washington, DC area remains in the 60 to 80 percent range. Crack cocaine is usually sold in grams, ounces, and kilograms.

Recognizing the Signs of Cocaine Use

Repeated cocaine use will often be accompanied by some predictable paraphernalia associated with its use. If you see these items around your home or in your neighborhood, the chances are good that cocaine is being used.

- » Small ziplock baggies
- » Razor blades
- » Disposable latex gloves
- » Digital scales
- » Pyrex bowl and filters
- » Various "cutting" agents, such as baking soda
- » Glass pipe, copper filter, and lighter